

pearing" of Jesus Christ? (Ti. 2:13). No, it doesn't. I believe that His return is indeed "the blessed hope." Earthly pleasures are only temporary and cannot compare with the joys of heaven. Besides, I am troubled by the sin, sorrow, and suffering all around me.

All Christians are thankful for Jesus' promise, "I will come again and receive you to Myself" (Jn. 14:3). But our own circumstances affect how eagerly we anticipate His return. Whether life for us today is a joy or a struggle, we are to deny "ungodliness and worldly lusts" and to "live soberly, righteously, and godly" (Ti. 2:12).

God wants us to enjoy life. But He also wants us to live each day as if it may be the one in which He will return. Are you looking up? --HVL

*Take the world but give me Jesus--
In His cross my trust shall be;
Till, with clearer, brighter vision,
Face to face my Lord I see. --Crosby*

**Enjoy life,
but anticipate heaven.**



Central Mountains Baptist Church

MAY 3, 2020

Are You Looking Up?

Looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of . . . Jesus Christ. --Titus 2:13

Are you so eager for Christ's return that you hope it will take place today? I wouldn't be honest if I answered an unqualified yes to this question. You see, I'm enjoying life right now. I love what I'm doing. My wife and I are having fun watching our grandsons grow toward manhood. There are still people and places we would like to visit during our retirement years.

Does this mean that I'm not "looking for the blessed hope and glorious ap-





Church Restoration

Get Excited



Bored with the Christian life?

In Titus 2 Paul describes 6 different roles:

1. **Older men**, verses 1-2,
2. **Older women**, verses 3-4 [last time]
3. **Younger women**, verses 1-5, 15
4. **Younger men**, verses 6-8
5. **Employees**, verses 9-10
- 6 **All Christians**, verses 11-14

(Revelation 2:5) ...; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place; unless you repent.

(Revelation 3:19) ... be zealous and repent.

In Titus 2:1-15 Paul gives 5 descriptions of Christians- today 4 to go:

1. **Christlikeness**, [last time]

2. **S** _____, verses 11-13

(John 15:5) "... without Me you can do nothing.

(Romans 8:4-8) that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us ... do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. [5] For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. [6] For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. [7] Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. [8] So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

(Galatians 5:16) I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

(Galatians 5:17) For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.

(Romans 8:9) But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.

(1 Thessalonians 5:19) Do not quench the Spirit.

(Ephesians 4:29-30) Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, ...[30] And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Run out of fuel?

3. **V** _____, verse 12

(Romans 6:12) Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.

(Romans 6:14) For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under



grace.

(Ephesians 6:13) Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

(1 Corinthians 10:13) No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.



4. **E** _____, verse 13

(1 John 3:1) Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! ...

(1 John 3:2) Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

(1 John 3:3) And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

(John 14:1-3) "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. [2] In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. [3] And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

(1 Corinthians 15:51-53) ... we shall all be changed; [52] in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, ..we shall be changed. [53] For ... this mortal must put on immortality.



(2 Corinthians 4:17-18) For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory. [18] while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

(Luke 21:28) ... look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near."

5. **On** _____, verse 14

(Romans 12:11) not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;

(James 5:16) ... pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

(1 Peter 1:22) ... love one another fervently with a pure heart,

(Revelation 3:15-16) "I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. [16] So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth.

(Revelation 3:19-22) As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent.

[20] Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. [21] To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. [22] "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." "



Motivated?