

The Bishop's Corner

Keep your crown

Praise the Lord Saints,

“I know thy works: behold I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name. Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown. Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.” (Rev 3:8, 11-12)

Let's get our minds set on heaven, so we can have everlasting life. We need to always wait on God and our eternal life. Our hope in heaven gives us faith, and we don't want to miss heaven. If we miss something on earth, it is not everlasting. When we have hope in heaven, we can endure all things, but we don't do it by ourselves; we have the Holy Spirit to help us.

No one will be able to give God a reason why he or she could not get saved and stay saved. With Christ, we have an open door that no man can close (Rev 3:8). We have the strength of the Holy Ghost, who reminds us of the goodness of the Lord to help us stand in Him and endure to the end. If we deny Christ, we cannot be saved (Matt 10:33). We can't let anyone talk us out of returning to God and going to church. We need to be faithful in the few things that God has given us because we will be rewarded for our work and labor in the Lord, so we need to keep our eyes on God.

“After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; and cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb” (Rev 7:9-10).

These are the people that John saw in heaven. We must believe that we are one of those people. The whole world could be saved because of the finished work of the cross. Jesus saves to the uttermost, all those who come to him (Heb 7:25). Jesus has not come back yet because God has compassion, and He is still saving people (II Pet 3:11). God has given us an open door to be saved, and we can't let anyone take our crown. God is standing, waiting with open arms to receive us.

God bless you,

Bishop Charles D. Smith
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