

The Bishop's Corner

A lively hope

Praise the Lord Saints,

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you. Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time” (I Peter 1:3-5)

Our hope is lively, and it is in Christ Jesus, reserved in heaven. We are kept by the power of God, so we should have joy because our hope is in Him. Those baptized in Christ are children of God and there is no respect of persons with Him; we are one in Christ Jesus, and we have the same Spirit as Jesus.

Even though we go through things in this life, we must set our affections on things above and believe that the Lord is going to see us through, and He has everything in control. “Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: that the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ.” (I Peter 1:6-7)

God is a great equalizer, and He knows how to level everything out because He can change things in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye. The devil will always give us some compromise so we can give up on God, but we should say, “God is going to deliver us.” We must let what we do be for the cause of Christ because our salvation is so we can have eternal life.

“Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.” (I Peter 1:9) We are the children of God, but we don't have our immortal bodies because we are working toward eternal life. We are looking for the end of our faith when we will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air.

“For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.” (I Thessalonians 4:16-17)

The greatest move of the Holy Spirit in us was when we were born again, and the next greatest move will be when we are changed from mortal to immortality. Therefore, we must hold on to our faith and keep this lively hope until the end.

God bless you,

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