

You Asked For It 5 – The End Times

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Staying Focused on “Christ in You the Hope of Glory” in These Last Days:

1 John 3:1-3 (KJV) – ¹ Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. ² Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, *when he shall appear*, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. ³ And *every man that hath this hope* in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

- All who are born again and washed in the blood of Christ are called the “sons of God.” We are His sons now! Not when we get to heaven.
- The world doesn’t know us because it didn’t know Him!
- God began a work in us when we became the sons of God but will finish that work “when He shall appear.” At that moment we will be like Him!
- That completed work of Christ in us at His appearing is called throughout scripture as our “hope of glory.” Often we call this hope of glory our “blessed hope.”
- If we stay focused on that “hope” that lives on the inside of us, we will keep ourselves pure from the evil that is in the world.

Every Person Who Receives Christ Becomes A Child Of God:

John 1:10-13 (KJV) – ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. ¹¹ He came unto his own, and his own received him not. ¹² But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even to them that believe on his name*: ¹³ Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

John 3:3 (KJV) – ³ Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

Romans 8:15-16 (KJV) – ¹⁵ For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. ¹⁶ The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God.

1 Peter 1:23 (KJV) – ²³ Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (KJV) – ¹⁷ Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.
Because We Are Sons Of God, The World Does Not Know Us:

John 15:18-21 (KJV) – ¹⁸ If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before *it hated* you. ¹⁹ If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you. ²⁰ Remember the word that I said unto you, the servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also. ²¹ But all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake, because they know not him that sent me.

1 John 3:13 (KJV) – ¹³ Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you.

1 John 4:4-6 (KJV) – ⁴ Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world. ⁵ They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them. ⁶ We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.

Matthew 24:9 (KJV) – ⁹ Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.

The “Hope Of Glory” The Mystery Of The Gospel:

1 John 3:2 (KJV) – ² Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, *when he shall appear*, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

- A. *One day at the return of Christ, we will receive total glorification and be changed to have a glorified body like our Lord! THIS IS THE PURPOSE OF THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH! Notice what the apostle Paul said about the revelation of this New Testament truth!*

Ephesians 3:1-9 (KJV) – ¹ For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles, ² If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward: ³ How that by revelation he made *known unto me the mystery*; (as I wrote afore in few words, ⁴ Whereby, when ye read, ye *may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ*) ⁵ Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; ⁶ *That the Gentiles should be fellow-heirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel:* ⁷ Whereof I was

made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power. ⁸ Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; ⁹ And to make all *men* see what *is the fellowship of the mystery*, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ.

B. *In this next passage we understand a little more about this mystery!*

Colossians 1:25-28 (KJV) – ²⁵ Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God; ²⁶ *Even the mystery* which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: ²⁷ To whom God would make known what is the *riches of the glory of this mystery* among the Gentiles; *which is Christ in you, the hope of glory*: ²⁸ Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.

THERE IT IS! CHRIST IN YOU THE HOPE OF GLORY!

Again in the book of Romans Paul mentioned this same mystery.

Romans 16:25-26 (KJV) – ²⁵ Now to him that is of power to establish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to *the revelation of the mystery*, which was kept secret since the world began, ²⁶ But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith.

The Rapture Of The Church A Mystery Not Revealed In The Old Testament:

Without question, the first thing believers must know about the Rapture of the church is that the Old Testament does not teach this doctrine at all! The Old Testament does teach the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Again the reason the Old Testament does not teach the Rapture of the church is because it is part of the MYSTERY doctrines of the New Testament.

What's more, the Gospels do not teach on Rapture either, though there are some types of it revealed. *In order to learn about the Rapture, one must go to the epistles written to the Church in the New Testament.*

