

THE DOCTRINE OF THE 2ND COMING OF JESUS EXHORTS US TO PRACTICAL GODLINESS: -

Copyright 2016 - <http://lookingfortheLosttruthsofjesus.org>

NOTE: - All Bible texts are taken from the King James Version; and the compiler has supplied all emphasis throughout this Study Document.

“LOOKING FOR THAT BLESSED HOPE, AND THE GLORIOUS APPEARING OF THE GREAT GOD AND OUR SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST.” – TITUS 2:13.

NOTE: - Jesus and his apostles commanded the following Christian virtues to be practiced by those who believe in the 2nd Coming of Jesus and that the end of the world is at hand: -

1. Waiting and watching for the coming of the Lord.
 2. Sober living and watching unto prayer.
 3. Holy behaviour and godliness.
 4. Be diligent to be found spotless and blameless by the Lord.
 5. To continue to abide in Christ.
 6. To know the time in which we are in earth's history.
 7. Putting off the works of darkness and putting on the armour of light and the Lord Jesus Christ.
-
- Luke 12:35 - 37: - “Let your loins be girded about, and [your] lights burning; **And ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding**; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. **Blessed [are] those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching**: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them.”

 - Luke 21:34-36: - “And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and [so] that day come upon you unawares. For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. **Watch ye therefore, and pray always**, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.”

 - 1 Peter 4:7: - “But the end of all things is at hand: **be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer**.”

 - 2 Peter 3:10 - 14: - “But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. [Seeing] then [that] all these things shall be dissolved, **what manner [of persons] ought ye to be in [all] holy conversation and godliness, looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God**, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, **be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless**.”

 - 1 John 2:28: - “And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming.”

- Romans 13:11 - 14: - “And that, **knowing the time**, that now [it is] high time to awake out of sleep: **for now [is] our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.** Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. **But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to [fulfil] the lusts [thereof].**”

NOTE: - The phrase at the end of VS. 11 - “**for now [is] our salvation nearer than when we believed**”, is very clear and easy to be understood, even if the truth it reveals is not easy to accept. In the context of this passage, the apostle Paul is teaching us that as we see the day of Christ’s 2nd Coming approaching we should know that, “**now [is] our salvation nearer than when we believed**”. We do **NOT** actually possess salvation when we first believe in Christ; otherwise Paul could not have stated that our salvation is nearer as the day of the 2nd Coming approaches, than when we believed. This passage of course directly stands in the way of the popular “*I AM SAVED*” teaching. And in fact, the “blessed hope” of the 2nd Coming of Jesus does indeed stand in the way of the “*I AM SAVED*” theory. **Why? Because of the following biblical truth,**

WHEN JESUS COMES THE SECOND TIME, HE BRINGS SALVATION WITH HIM: -

When the saints see Jesus coming in the clouds with power and great glory, they should look up, because their redemption is near at hand.

Luke 21:27 & 28: - “And then shall they see **the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.** And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; **for your redemption draweth nigh.**”

When Jesus comes the second time, he brings salvation with him.

Hebrews 9:28: - “So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him **shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.**”

1 Peter 1:5, 7 - 9: - “Who are kept by the power of God through faith **unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.** ... 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:** Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see [him] not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: **Receiving the end of your faith, [even] the salvation of [your] souls.**”

Isaiah 25:8 & 9: - “**He will swallow up death in victory;** and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken [it]. **And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this [is] our God;** we have waited for him, **and he will save us:** this [is] the LORD; we have waited for him, **we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation.**”

1 Corinthians 15:54: - “So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, **then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.**”

NOTE: - Putting the passages from Isaiah 25:8 & 9 & 1 Corinthians 15:54 together, we can see that when this corruptible and mortal body puts on incorruption and immortality, **then** the saying written in the book of Isaiah, “*Death is swallowed up in victory*”, shall then be fulfilled. And the righteous saints will be waiting for their Lord, who will **save** them, and they “*will be glad and rejoice in his salvation*”, which the Lord will be bringing them at that time.

- Many Christians misconstrue the following passage from the apostle Paul’s pen, to support the “*I AM SAVED*” belief. They claim that, “Because Paul knew that the Lord had a crown of righteousness awaiting for him, we can also have the same assurance of our salvation from the time we first believe in Jesus.”

2 Timothy 4:6 - 8: - “For I am now ready to be offered, **and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished [my] course, I have kept the faith**: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.”

A careful reading of this passage brings out the following truths concerning Paul’s statement of VS. 8: -

- i.) Paul knew that the time of his martyrdom was at hand. In other words, he was writing this at the **very end** of his life.
- ii.) He had fought the good fight.
- iii.) He had finished or completed his Christian course or race. In the following verse Paul exhorts believers to **“let us run with patience the race that is set before us”** – Hebrews 12:1. This verse from Hebrews 12 is exhorting believers to engage in the Christian race that is set before every follower of Christ. But Paul in 2 Timothy 4 was writing as one who had **completed** his race. He was writing this verse at the **end** of his own Christian race.
- iv.) He had kept the faith.

☞ To take the personal statement of Paul in 2 Timothy 4:6 - 8, when Paul is writing at the **end** of his life, after having **successfully finished** his Christian fight and race, and to take the assurance Paul had in VS. 8 of a future immortal crown, in a general way to any professed believer in Jesus, who still have their’ lives in front of them, and who still have to run their own individual Christian race, is a mishandling of the Scriptures.