

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

IS THERE HOPE FOR THE FUTURE?

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IS THERE HOPE FOR THE FUTURE?

Here are a few questions that need answers as we approach the time of the Antichrist:

- ❖ Are there any victories left for the believer in Christ?
- ❖ Are there any blessings left that we can enjoy in these troubled times?
- ❖ Should we have any hope that there can be joy in the midst of trouble?

You should be able to answer a resounding “YES” to each question with the stipulation that you must come on God’s terms.

BLOW THE TRUMPET IN ZION

Any awakening in the Christian church must come from the Holy Spirit working through believers in Christ. The prophet Joel received instructions from God on how the people in Israel could change the situation in the country by turning to God.

The first step was to warn the people of the coming judgment. **Joel 2:1-11**

Once God had warned them, He stopped and outlined a program that would hold back the judgment of God. **verses 12-14**

God is love and His desire is not to judge and destroy people but extend grace and love to people who are willing to repent!

REPENTANCE

What is repentance and how does God say you are supposed to go about it?

1. Warn and proclaim the need for people to come together and seek the Lord. **verses 15-17**
2. There must be urgency in seeking the Lord. **Isaiah 58:1-2**
3. There must be genuine repentance; you cannot expect God to respond to prayer and fasting if you are not sincere. **verses 3-5**
4. God has laid out what He wants from you. **verses 6-7**
5. God is obligated to respond to your prayer and fasting when you come on His terms. **verses 8-10**



RESTORATION OF WHAT HAS BEEN LOST

The character of God is such that He desires to love and bless those who repent so that He won't have to judge them. **Psalm 103:8-18**

Isaiah did not ask for restoration but it was God who offered it. **Isaiah 58:11-14**

God knew that the people of Israel would not repent as a nation but there would be individuals who would come forward and He would bless those individuals even if the nation was laid waste:

- ❖ Daniel prospered in the midst of Israel's enemy. **Daniel 2:46-49**
- ❖ Daniel's three friends: Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego also prospered in the midst of a hostile nation. **Daniel 3:26-30**
- ❖ Nehemiah was the cupbearer to King Artaxerxes of the Persian Empire. This highly desirable position involved tasting all food and drink prior to being served to the king in order to make sure it wasn't poisoned. The cupbearer was completely trusted by the king. Nehemiah prospered because he sought the Lord with all his heart and Artaxerxes also blessed him. **Nehemiah 1:4-11; 2:1-8**

GOD HAS GIVEN A PROMISE TO ALL HIS CHILDREN

God has promised to restore all that has been lost as long as the earth remains. **Joel 2:23-27**

God has also released the Holy Spirit upon all who are born again and disciples of Jesus in addition to the physical blessings. **Joel 2:28-32**

This promise was released to all believers in Christ on the day of Pentecost. **Acts 2:14-21**

WHERE IS GOD GOING TO BLESS US?

God is not limited in that there must be peace and tranquility before He can begin to bless His people; on the contrary, you will find blessings when times are bad, when there is no hope and when all types of calamities are taking place. It is right there that you will find the banquet table!

Believers in Christ can still be blessed and prosper in the midst of all evil during the tribulation period. The choice is yours. Repentance and a holy life is all that God requires. This does not mean you will live in a mansion but you will have peace as God takes care of you. **Psalm 23:1-6**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

DO YOU HAVE AN EAR TO HEAR WITH?