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To Live is Christ, Now and Forever!!!



By Steven J. Hogan

~ A Saturday Morning Post #276 ~

If you are a true Christian, if you have repented of your sins and have believed that Jesus Christ died to pay for your sins, and was raised from the dead, then you are a child of God, forgiven of your sins, and have eternal life. And God has planned out many great things for you in this life, and many, many, many great and glorious things for you in the future, in the ages to come.

After your life on earth, you will have a perfect body, you will be in your heavenly home, you will be with other believers, and you will be richly rewarded. What is vastly more important than any of these things is that you will be with Jesus Christ, the One who saved you from sin and death, who loves you far more than anyone else, and who can’t wait to see you. Your entire and eternal future is centered on Jesus Christ! To live is Christ! What, specifically, does this mean for you?

* **You will be with Christ.** *"I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may also be"* (John 14:3). You will physically, joyfully, and forever be with Jesus Christ, your Lord, Savior, Husband, and best Friend. 1 Thessalonians 4:17

* **You will live together with Christ.** *"... obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep, we will live together with Him"* (1 Thess. 5:10). You will not be far away from Christ but will live together with Him in the holy city, the new Jerusalem, your heavenly home. Revelation 21:1-2

* **You will see Jesus Christ.** *"I know that my redeemer lives, and at the last He will take His stand on the earth... from my flesh I shall see God: whom I myself shall behold, and whom my eyes will see and not another. My heart faints within Me"* (Job 19:24-27). What will it be like when you first see Jesus Christ, when you gaze upon the face of God? You will be thrilled to see Him, you will be filled with joy, you will see His love for you, and you will love Him like never before. 1 Corinthians 13:12

* **You will see Christ's glory.** *"Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory, which You have given Me."* (John 17:24). When we say Christ's glory, we are talking about His character – His love, power, holiness, goodness, mercy, truth, wisdom, splendor, majesty, etc. You will be in awe and so amazed when you witness the glorious character and person of Christ. John 17:3-5

* **You will be seen with Christ.** *"When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you will also be revealed with Him in glory"* (Col. 3:4). You will personally be with Christ, but also publicly be seen with Him. Christ wants the whole world to know that you are part of His family, that you are royalty, and that you are loved by Him. John 14:9

* **You will be perfectly holy in the presence of Christ.** *"God chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him*" (Eph. 1:4). You will always be holy in the presence of Christ, and it's all because He died for you on the cross, thereby, perfectly satisfying God's justice. To God be all the glory! Jude 24-25

* **You will witness the reign of Christ.** *"God is the King of all the earth; sing praises with a skillful Psalm. God reigns over the nations, God sits on His holy throne"* (Psalm 47:7-8). We live in a world with many evil and terrible leaders, but you will soon see Christ the King righteously ruling over the world. You will observe His justice and mercy in people's lives, and hear praise coming from their lips. Psalm 67

* **You will reign with Christ.** *"They will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years"* (Rev. 20:6). As believers, we are a kingdom of priests, we are royalty, and thus, we will have the position and power to reign with Christ, to assist Him in His rule over the world, and to bring great glory to Him. Revelation 1:6, 5:10

* **You will be like Christ.** *"We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is"* (1 John 3:2). You will receive a new body, one like Christ's, one that is powerful, immortal, spiritual, and glorious. This will enable you to fully experience and enjoy eternal life, to have intimate fellowship with Him and many others, and to perfectly love and serve Him. 1 Corinthians 15:42-44

* **You will personally worship Christ.** *"I will extol You, my God, O King, and I will bless Your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless You* (Psalm 145:1-2). You worship Christ now, but not perfectly so. In the future you will excitedly, continually, and wholeheartedly be worshiping and praising the Lord Jesus Christ. Psalm 72:18-19

* **You will be perfectly loved by Christ.** *"Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love"* (John 15:9). None of us experience Christ's marvelous love like we should. But in the future, you will abide, you will remain in the fulness of His love which, unbelievably, is the same love that God the Father has for Him. Psalm 86:12-13

* **You will perfectly love Christ.** *"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength"* (Mark 12:30). You don't always and fully love Christ, but when you get to heaven you will, and perfectly so. You will greatly, joyfully, and excitedly love your Savior. Psalm 9:1-2

* **You will always obey Christ.** *"I will always obey Your law forever and ever"* (Psalm 119:44). Jesus Christ is your Lord and you are His servant, and you obey Him now but not all the time. In the future, you will enthusiastically, continually, and completely obey all His commands. How satisfying and God-glorifying that will be! Psalm 119:1-8

* **You will be taught by Christ.** *"Let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us His ways so that we can walk in His paths"* (Isaiah 2:3). Think how encouraging it will be to listen to Jesus Christ, the greatest teacher of all time, for you will learn the ways of God and more clearly understand the word of God. Psalm 119:12

You will see Christ always exalted in your life. *"To live is Christ"* (Phil. 1:21). Jesus Christ is the heart of your life, but because of sin that doesn't always happen. But in the future, Christ will always be the center of your life. Day after day and forever and ever Christ will be seen and exalted in and through your life. Every thing you do or say, every place you go, every person you are with, will directly relate to Christ, to His life, purpose, and glory. Philippians 1:20-24

* **You will be married to Christ.** *"Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage supper of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready"* (Rev. 19:7). You are married to Jesus Christ. But at the beginning of the next age, not long from now, Christ will prepare for you the most magnificent marriage supper ever. All dressed up in fine linen and looking gloriously beautiful, you will have the time of your life with your most loving, caring, and devoted Husband. Ephesians 5:23-27

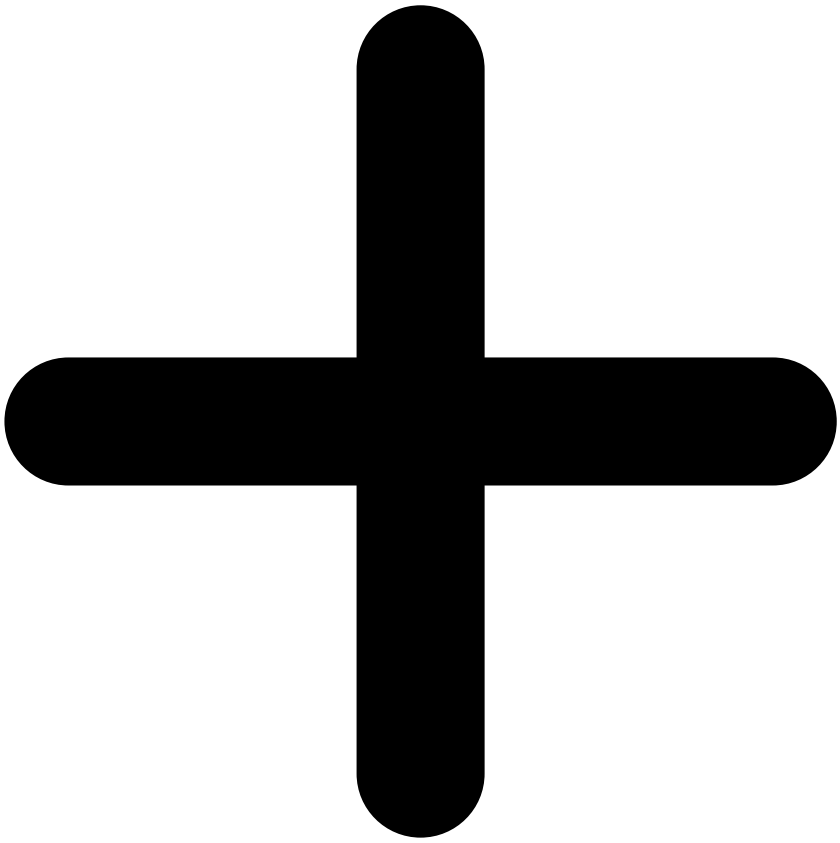
Your life as a Christian is completely centered on the person of Jesus Christ, now and forever. And your life as a Christian is a love story. Jesus has always loved you but now you know His love, and you love Him. But when you are in heaven, you will fully know His love, and you will fully love Him. Just think, you have eternal life – Christ knows you and you know Him, and He loves you and you love Him, now and forever. *"To the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen."* Jude 25

P.S. The most important thing in life is your relationship with Jesus Christ. Jesus said, *"Only a few things are necessary, really only one"* (Luke 10:42). Here is a post and an article on this most relevant subject – *"The Rapture, a Love Story"* and *"Thinking of Jesus Christ".*

I CAN'T WAIT TO BE WITH JESUS CHRIST

MY FUTURE IS ALL ABOUT CHRIST, MY LOVER

TO LIVE IS CHRIST – NOW AND FOREVER



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