

The following references will illustrate clearly the facts that have been set out:

'Ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel'. (Matt. 19:28)

'For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.... and if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise'. (Gal. 3:27,29)

Everything for which the best that is in man strives, will be realised in the kingdom of God. The knowledge of God and acceptable worship will be universal, and therefore He will be everywhere to bless and cause to prosper.

'And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more'. (Isa. 2:4)

Since the days of Eden, mankind has not known what it means to enjoy the fulness of the great Creator's blessings, because on account of sin everything remains under His curse; but with all curses removed, the earth will once again become a paradise. To be alive to enjoy that time is the hope of all true Christians.

IS THIS YOUR HOPE? IT CAN BE!

The Christadelphians

Please be assured that anything connected with the Christadelphians is entirely free, and based wholly upon Christ's precept, "freely ye received, freely give". Christadelphians, or as the name implies, brethren in Christ, are a body of people (established initially in the mid-nineteenth century) bound together by a wholehearted belief in the Bible. We do not profess to have received any new revelation, but hold that the Bible itself is able to make one "wise unto salvation" (2 Tim. 3:15-17). Believing in the Divine Authorship of the Bible, we do not accept any interpretation which does not harmonise with its teaching as a whole. Finding that the creeds and practices of those who claim to be Christian are in many ways opposed to this teaching, we feel compelled to stand apart from them. We believe in the personal, visible return of Christ to the earth, to establish his throne and reign thereon, and we seek to share this knowledge with others. However we guarantee that we will not pressurise you in any way, if at any time you wish to discontinue contact.

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The hope of true Christians

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The hope of true Christians

A Christian is one who follows Christ. In order to follow Christ, there must be an acceptance of the beliefs and practices set forth by him. The teaching of Christ was both simple and emphatic and was based upon the Old Testament writings.

To be a Christian, there must be faith in the existence of God and in the fact that the Bible is His inspired revelation of Himself and His purpose in Christ. Where this faith is lacking, there can be no hope of obtaining life at the coming of Christ. It was Jesus who said:

‘And this is life eternal that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent’. (John 17:3)

This knowledge of God and of His purpose, when fully appreciated, leads to an obeying of the commands so clearly set out in the Bible; and such knowledge and obedience together constitute the man or woman a Christian.

The apostle Paul is a God-given example of a true Christian. Read carefully his declarations of faith and hope in all the promises made by God. In the Acts of the Apostles there is a record of his life subsequent to his conversion, a record which clearly demonstrates the confidence Paul had in the gospel of salvation he preached. By the power of his preaching the apostle converted many thousands into true Christians and some of the letters he wrote to them have been preserved for our guidance; these teach us the way of life of a true Christian and the sure and certain hope which springs from it.

The hope of a true Christian is founded upon the whole of God’s purpose with mankind and is absolutely

certain of realisation. It is based upon the following Bible facts:

1. That man is mortal on account of sin, and that it is God’s purpose to destroy sin and its consequences and to fill the earth with His glory.
2. That God’s purpose has been steadily progressing since the day of Adam’s transgression and it required the birth and life of a member of Adam’s race who would be sinless although tempted in every way to sin.
3. That God made covenants with Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and David which declared His intention to establish them and their seed as the centre of this purpose; and that these covenants of promise are the gospel of the kingdom of God.
4. That the seed promised to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and David is Jesus Christ who, as the descendant of each of them, will reign on the restored throne of David in Jerusalem, as king over the whole earth for a thousand years.
5. That the first work to be performed by Christ at his return, is the raising of the dead and the judgment of all those whose knowledge and understanding of the gospel make them responsible to resurrection and judgment.
6. That belief of all the teaching of the Scriptures followed by baptism (a total immersion in water), is the divinely appointed way whereby any person can become joined to Christ and become related to the promises of God.

It will be appreciated that there can be nothing contradictory or uncertain in the hope of a true Christian. One fact follows upon another, with nothing out of harmony. It was because Adam and Eve transgressed in Eden that they, and all their race, became sinful, mortal creatures:

‘Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned’. (Rom. 5:12)

It was because it was impossible for man to redeem himself from death and the grave, that God provided a hope of salvation; but salvation is an individual matter and it is for every person to avail himself of the way of escape.

God’s decision to make it possible for mortal man to obtain immortality is a wonderful act of love, for it required the offering of His only son as the one through whom forgiveness of sins could be received. Jesus likewise showed similar love in voluntarily treading the path set him by his Father. Ultimately the only people living on earth will be those who during their lifetime have believed God, obeyed Him, and hoped in His promises.

It will be obvious then, that the whole Bible plan has to do with the earth. It begins in Eden with the creation of our first parents, and their failure to obey God; it continues through six thousand years, during which time God has made choice of certain men and women through whom His purpose has been developed; and it concludes with the filling of the whole earth with the glory of the great Creator when ‘there shall be no more death’, (Rev. 21:4) and ‘there shall be no more curse’. (Rev. 22:3) ▶▶