

Lighting the path to the Temple

Psalm 119:105

¹⁰⁵ **Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.**

1. Righteousness and Presence

The great theologian Andrew Murray once said:

“It is the one who is ready to forsake all and follow him, that Christ will reveal himself in the highest and fullest way”.

- I. True righteousness is a gift we do not earn. We receive it through what Jesus did.
- II. True righteousness is the presence of the Holy Spirit in us.
- III. To be full of hope is to be full of the presence of the Holy Spirit. Faith and hope are inseparable. Anyone who says they have faith but shows no hope or fruit of the presence of God, has no faith. We must be full of hope to be used by God.

2. Purpose and Intent

Matthew 5:13-14

13 “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. 14 “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.

Revelation 19:6-10

⁶ Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out, “Hallelujah!

*For the Lord our God
the Almighty reigns.*

*⁷ Let us rejoice and exult
and give him the glory,
for the marriage of the Lamb has come,
and his Bride has made herself ready;*

*⁸ it was granted her to clothe herself
with fine linen, bright and pure”—*

for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

⁹ And the angel said^[a] to me, “Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.” And he said to me, “These are the true words of

God.”¹⁰ Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, “You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God.” For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

Revelation 21:1-4

21 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. **2** And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. **3** And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place^[a] of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people,^[b] and God himself will be with them as their God.^[c] **4** He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

- I. Our redemption and salvation have a purpose and intent.
 - II. Although we benefit, the purpose is to be the light of “the city on a hill” that the world should be drawn to.
 - III. The intent is to expand and prepare the Kingdom here, to prepare his bride for his return to earth and reversing corruption, making ready for the new Eden and the new temple of God's presence.
3. Light, Hope and Faith

1 Samuel 16:7

⁷ But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.”

Romans 4:13-25

¹³ For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵ For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression. ¹⁶ That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷ as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸ In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be.” ¹⁹ He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was

about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness^[a] of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²That is why his faith was “counted to him as righteousness.” ²³But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, ²⁵who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

- I. The light of the Kingdom is the hope in Christ that must be shone into the hearts and minds of the suffering. It is a realization of the love of Christ for them, that kills the root of their suffering if they repent in response to the conviction of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit exposes the root.
 - II. We must show them how God sees them. We must be obedient to the Holy Spirit and tell them what their redemption looks like on the other side of their circumstances.
 - III. God speaks to people and sees them as what they could be and would be in Christ. Hope begins by speaking life and truth. He speaks to them by his word and his spirit.
 - IV. Satan functions by creating lies in the hearts and minds of humanity and enforces the lies with any physical means that have been made available to him because he is the God of this world, through unbelief in Jesus Christ.
 - V. Hope is not wishful thinking. It is the mindset by which we should live and operate. It is the knowledge and reliance upon all that Jesus Christ is and is doing and has done. His love motivates him.
 - VI. Living by faith is to live totally relying on the love of Christ for you.
4. Fruit, Judgement and the Discernment of The Holy Spirit
- I. There is a difference between judgement and discernment by the Holy Spirit, and only he can show us the root.
 - II. Fruit is the result and evidence of one's heart.
 - III. Some fruit is obvious at a glance, but We must see deeper to the root of suffering that grows the fruit. The root must be killed by the hope that is in Jesus Christ.
5. A Temple and The Holy Spirit

- I. We are the temple of God, the place throughout scripture where the presence of God resides with his people. This is the Kingdom on earth now.
- II. The Holy Spirit enters a temple that has been prepared for him. He hovers and broods outside until it has been made ready by repentance. The blood of Jesus prepares the temple through his sacrifice.
- III. As we are the temple made for the Holy Spirit, we must also know that Jesus is the temple we must enter into. He is the chief priest of that temple.

6. God's love for us and Knowing Jesus

John 3:16-21

¹⁶ "For God so loved the world,^[a] that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹ And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. ²⁰ For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. ²¹ But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God."

- I. To know Jesus is to know his love for you and to walk in hope, seeing with the heart by faith. This is walking in the Kingdom of God here on earth.
- II. This all starts by each of us knowing and realizing the love he has for us.

7. The Way and Entering the Temple

John 17:20-26

²⁰ "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, ²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. ²⁴ Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵ O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you,

and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”

1 Corinthians 3:10-23

¹⁰According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled^[a] master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it. ¹¹For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. ¹²Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— ¹³each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. ¹⁴If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.

¹⁶Do you not know that you^[b] are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? ¹⁷If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.

¹⁸Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you thinks that he is wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. ¹⁹For the wisdom of this world is folly with God. For it is written, “He catches the wise in their craftiness,” ²⁰and again, “The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are futile.” ²¹So let no one boast in men. For all things are yours, ²²whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future—all are yours, ²³and you are Christ's, and Christ is God's.

- I. Jesus Christ is the only way. There is no other way!
- II. Everything that your heart desires, everything that you think you will lose if you surrender to Christ, everything that you strive to gain in your life is in the presence of God! It is all in the temple!