

**General Topics :: Past - Present - Future****Past - Present - Future, on: 2009/3/4 11:09**

A Brief on "Our Time Perception"  
Past, Present & Future -

Our minds on this earth deal in "time".

The unsaved mind goes everywhere.  
Sometimes "everywhere at once".

A person finding Christ Jesus may initially keep their mind not only on their present "conversion experience" but will also be going through their past - of just how very much that they've been forgiven for. This is a bittersweet experience but also so helpful to "love much".

Once they've begun to walk with HIM, they are in the present - as to learning from HIM what they now have from reading HIS Word and picking up on the new Life of His indwelling Spirit.

The next step, after conversion is to look to their own futures within this "new walk."

As life goes on - the cares of this world and the enemy or flesh will bring their thoughts back to their pasts or to their futures.

The ideal intended in Heaven is to live in this very second - second by second - as it is in Heaven - seated in Heavenly Places with Christ where Eternity is outside of "time".

Paul called this second by second walk - "Walking In The Spirit."

We don't learn this over-night.

We may start with taking it "one day at a time", then move up to hour to hour - to minute by minute - but ultimately - The Holy Spirit is ever leading and guiding and speaking "second by second."

So much can be missed if we allow our minds to "drift" and in the days to come, even the more so - we will need such a walk, that one neither needs to look back anymore nor try to "lean to our own understanding" regarding the future - not even for an hour - HIS WORD is plain enough of what will happen in this present evil world future tense, but our part in it will be determined by HIM, if we're in utter complete dependence on our "Trust"-worthy Good Shepherd. HE may lead you to buy or read this or that or do such & such and not tell you why - or call so & so or pray for them and you not know why - but you just obey.

HE WILL LEAD & GUIDE as HE PROMISED - by HIS WORD and Spirit --- then the days ahead will take care of themselves, by what we listened to each moment -- when we listened and obeyed - second by second. Then the future will be taken care of for us and what comes will be from HIS Hand. Our peace will remain.

Good News - Good Goal! :-)

HE also inhabits the Praises of HIS people ...  
Glory Alleluia!!!

**Re: Past - Present - Future - posted by sojourner7 (), on: 2009/3/4 13:41**

Our past is cast away as far as east is from west, lost in the sea of forgiveness and mercy to be remembered no more. Our present is for us to follow and serve and live for HIM who has delivered, redeemed, and saved us by HIS work on the cross. Our future is secured by the promises of eternal truth, the word of faith, and the hope of the resurrection !!

**Re: , on: 2009/3/4 14:52**

**"Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life" (I Timothy 6:19).**

### **He That Shall Endure Unto the End**

Have you ever felt weary, discouraged, worn out from the battle? Does it seem that nothing goes as planned? Be encouraged, the Bible has much to say about hardship and suffering. Contrary to the popular prosperity gospel that makes everything seem easy, the Christian life is a struggle, filled with trials and temptations. Though the trials are severe, God is always near and it will be worth it all in the end.

Jesus said, ".....he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved" (Matthew 24: 13). As long as we are in Christ and He is in us, nothing can separate us from His love. We cling to the promise that He will never leave us nor forsake us. It is a battle every day and the enemy is fighting hard to bring discouragement, distractions, and destruction. The devil knows that his time is short and he is coming with great wrath to make war with the saints of God. We must be sober and take heed to what the Word of God says, ".....the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them;" (Daniel 7: 21). It is a battle! It is warfare, but we know that we have the victory in Christ! It was sealed and assured at Calvary! But, we must endure unto the end, because the enemy will war and prevail against the children of God, "Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom" (Daniel 7: 22). Until that time, it will be a constant battle and we must have on the whole armor of God.

While much of the church world has its head down, waiting for the next big revival, the enemy is plotting and targeting the saints of God. Many churches are more concerned with how to have the American dream than how to prepare for a mansion in Heaven. Prosperity and material possessions are elevated over seeking first the Kingdom of God. Psychology is taught instead of the Bible. Seminars on financial planning are held rather than preparing for the perilous times that the Bible assures us will come in the last days.

The first thing that Jesus said when asked by the disciples, ".....Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?" (Matthew 24: 3), was, ".....Take heed that no man deceive you" (Matthew 24: 4). If Jesus told this to His own disciples, how much more should we, upon whom the ends of the world are come, take heed! It was also at this same time that Jesus said, "And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved" (Matthew 24: 11-13).

We are living in a time where the influence of evil is everywhere. As Jesus said, iniquity is abounding and the love of many is waxing cold. I believe we are in that time period now! Never has there been so easy access to evil. Television is full of perversion and sadistic violence and pornography is easily accessible on the Internet. People's hearts are turning cold because their minds are being filled with self gratifying lust.

Instead of watching for Christ's coming and preparing for the things prior to His return, many churches are adopting church growth strategies. I was at a business meeting this week and heard some of those in attendance talking about a large church in the area and what it had done to get so big. Somebody mentioned how small his church was and wanted to know what was the, "draw," at the big church. That is the mindset of so many that call themselves Christians today. "What can we do to build bigger churches,?" they say. "What can we do to attract people to come?" If the methods to attract members are not based on the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the hope of eternal life, then it has no foundation and you are making them, ".....twofold more the child of hell than yourselves" (Matthew 23: 15).

Ask yourself, what does the Kingdom of God mean to you. You should come to the conclusion that it means everything, so much so, that you are willing to lose everything because of it. "For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him, saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish" (Luke 14: 28-30). It must be like that pearl of great price, "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it" (Matthew 13: 45-46). As we lose the world, we gain the riches of Christ, "But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ," (Phillipians 3: 7-8).

The Kingdom of God must be everything to us so that nothing will be able to move our faith and trust in Jesus Christ! We must have a determined heart and mind to continue on in the faith through much tribulation to the very end. Jesus made it very clear that endurance and patience are essential for the Kingdom of God.

We should prepare our hearts for sorrows. You may rarely hear this preached, but we need to prepare our hearts. Jesus said, "All these are the beginning of sorrows" (Matthew 24: 8). He talked of false christs, wars and rumours of wars, nation against nation, kingdom against kingdom, famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in divers places. To this, He said, take heed, and tells us it is those that endure unto the end that shall be saved.

Prepare for sorrows! Prepare for trials! Prepare for tribulation, "Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another" (Matthew 24: 9-10). Many today pass over this very sobering word from The Lord Jesus Christ. They say it either doesn't apply to the church, or make no mention of it at all. I recently heard a prophecy teacher say that the antichrist will persecute the Jews. The truth is, the antichrist will persecute anyone that has the testimony of Jesus Christ, "And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ" (Revelation 12: 17). The Book of Revelation tells us, "And it was given unto him to make war with the saints....." (Revelation 13: 7). People better take heed to what Jesus said. The Word of God tells us that, "all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution" (II Timothy 2: 12).

God will indeed judge the nations and a stern warning goes out to all that will not repent. But, the warnings found in end time prophecy are for all to take heed, including the church. And considering the words of Jesus in Matthew 24, it is especially for the church. Jesus, in addressing His disciples in Mark 13, said, "But take heed to yourselves: for they shall deliver you up to councils; and in the synagogues ye shall be beaten: and ye shall be brought before rulers and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them" (Mark 13: 9). "But when they shall lead you, and deliver you up, take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost. Now the brother shall betray the brother to death, and the father the son; and children shall rise up against their parents, and shall cause them to be put to death. And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved" (Mark 13: 11-13) Jesus tells His people to take heed--to prepare for what is coming.

We are to believe His Word and take it literally. You cannot gloss over places in the Word of God because it does not appeal to your flesh. Jesus said, ".....Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him" (John 6: 53-56). After hearing these words, The Bible tells us, "From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him" (John 6: 66).

To serve Jesus Christ means we must give our all. He told His disciples at the last supper, before going to the Cross, ".....Drink ye all of it:" (Matthew 26: 27). To serve Him we must surrender all, "Or what king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand? Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sendeth an ambassage, and desireth conditions of peace. So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple" (Luke 14: 31-33).

Perilous times are coming, "Awake, ye drunkards, and weep; and howl, all ye drinkers of wine, because of the new wine; for it is cut off from your mouth. For a nation is come up upon my land, strong, and without number, whose teeth are the

teeth of a lion, and he hath the cheek teeth of a great lion" (Joel 1: 5-6). Weep and howl for the day of the Lord cometh, "Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the Lord cometh, for it is nigh at hand;" (Joel 2: 1).

Seek The Lord while He may be found! Ask for His grace to stand strong in the days ahead! Fast and pray, "Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly: Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet. Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O Lord, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their God?" (Joel 2: 15-17).

Pray that He will lead you not into temptation, but deliver you from evil! Take hold of His promises that you are an overcomer in Christ Jesus! Praise The Lord at all times. Know and stand upon the Word of God for patience, strength, and endurance, "Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord" (Psalms 27: 14). "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint" (Isaiah 40: 31). "And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope:" (Romans 5: 3-4).

Amidst discouragement, we still must go on. We have to continue in faith in spite of the obstacles and disappointments. The Bible says, "Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" (I Thessalonians 5: 16-18). It was David that said, "How long wilt thou forget me, O Lord? for ever? how long wilt thou hide thy face from me? How long shall I take counsel in my soul, having sorrow in my heart daily? how long shall mine enemy be exalted over me?" (Psalms 13: 1-2).

Sorrows in our lives help prepare us for the beginning of sorrows in the world, "Sorrow is better than laughter: for by the sadness of the countenance the heart is made better" (Ecclesiastes 7: 3). "It is better to go to the house of mourning, than to go to the house of feasting: for that is the end of all men; and the living will lay it to his heart" (Ecclesiastes 7: 2). ".....after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you" (I Peter 5: 10). David, crying out to The Lord, asking how long his trial was going to last, rises up in faith and puts his complete trust in God, "But I have trusted in thy mercy; my heart shall rejoice in thy salvation. I will sing unto the Lord, because he hath dealt bountifully with me" (Psalms 13: 5-6).

We will not endure unto the end in our own strength, but in the power of Christ. Our righteousness, strength, and salvation is only in, by, and through the Blood of Jesus Christ! That is all that we are clothed in! We can't change our past. We can't dictate what happens to us in the future. We are only in the Hands of The Lord. Picture yourself standing before the throne of God, so that when He sees you, He does not see you, but the Blood! In our own righteousness we are nothing. It is as filthy rags. But, in the righteousness of Christ, we stand boldly before the throne of Grace.

Lord Jesus, my strength is not in myself. Aside from You, I am nothing and have no ability to do anything on my own. I cannot save myself nor, in my own strength, do I have the ability to endure unto the very end. It is all in You, Dear Lord. You are my only Source of Strength, my only Refuge, my only Salvation. In You only, can I do anything, and only in You, Dear Lord Jesus, will I be able to stand and continue on in the days ahead. Dear Heavenly Father, give me the strength to stand bold in the days ahead and to stand firm in my faith in You.

Lord, I give you my past. I give you my future. I can't change what I've done. I can only ask You to give me strength for the day and guidance for the rest of my life. I rejoice in Your salvation and I rest in your mercy and grace. I stand firm in Your promise that your mercy endures forever and that you are with me always, even unto the end of the world. Thank you, Dear Heavenly Father. I pray this and ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

"The Lord also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the Lord will be the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel" (Joel 3: 16).

Blessed be the Name of The Lord.

<http://home.midwest.net/~etrnlife/messages.htm>

Re: Past - Present - Future, on: 2009/3/11 11:21

From the same link above ~

***"Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life" (I Timothy 6:19).***

### **Take No Thought for the Morrow**

This world is becoming more perilous each day. Reports say that we are in a recession, severe economic downturn is looming. Gasoline and food prices are skyrocketing. Wheat prices have risen drastically and rice is spiking in the same direction. The threat of terrorism is real, violence is out of control, school shootings are becoming common, extreme weather is becoming normal, and life is changing as we know it.

Just a few days ago, an earthquake registering 5.2 shook our house, waking us, and many others, early in the morning. At the epicenter, near Mt. Carmel, Illinois, moderate damage was reported. This earthquake was felt over the midwest and extended into other parts of the country. When experiencing even a minor tremor such as this, you know that without God shielding you, you are helpless.

War with Iraq continues with very little end in sight and rumors of war with Iran continue to surface. All over the globe, skirmishes remain unsettled as nation is rising against nation. The world may see this as a gloomy picture. For the Christian, we can see that the prophecies in the Bible are being fulfilled. The birth pangs that Jesus talked about are coming to pass, *"For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows"* (Matthew 24: 7-8).

The earth is having labor pains and many in the Body of Christ are experiencing fiery trials. Keeping your mind clear when facing adversity can be difficult. The complexities of the situations are endless and differ for each person. How do we continue on in the face of so many personal and worldwide problems? We start with knowing and trusting in The Word of God. God's Word provides instruction on how to persevere in trial, testing, and uncertainty. We give ourselves daily to prayer. The Bible tells us to pray without ceasing. No matter what we face, we can take comfort knowing that Jesus has everything under control. Many times the answer from The Lord is "Wait, wait on The Lord!" In this, we must learn to lean on and trust in God in every situation. Is this easy? No, it is sometimes not.

If we look at the life of Jesus, we know that He suffered many things. He knew beforehand the agony He would endure, the pain He would suffer, being made an offering for the sin of mankind. Jesus shared with His disciples on several occasions that the Son of Man would be rejected and crucified. He prophesied that He would be betrayed and given into the hands of sinful men, *"Behold, we go up to Jerusalem: and the Son of man shall be betrayed unto the chief priests and unto the scribes, and they shall condemn him to death, And shall deliver him to the Gentiles to mock, and to scourge, and to crucify him: and the third day he shall rise again"* (Matthew 20: 18-19).

He was going to the Cross, but His meat was to do the will of His Father that sent Him, *In the mean while his disciples prayed him, saying, Master, eat. But he said unto them, I have meat to eat that ye know not of. Therefore said the disciples one to another, Hath any man brought him ought to eat? Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work"* (John 4: 31-34). Jesus knew that He would be beaten, spat upon, scourged, have nails driven through His hands and feet, and bear the sins of the world. Yet, He continued on, seeking to do the will of His Father. He did not focus on His own suffering that He knew would come, but only speak of it as being part of the plan for the redemption of mankind.

Stop for a moment and think about the fact that Jesus knew He was going to the Cross! He knew the indescribable agony that awaited Him and the mocking and betrayal that He would be subjected to. He knew that all His disciples would forsake Him and He would be left alone on the Cross, saying, *"...Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"* (Matthew 27: 46).

Jesus is our example, and as we face tribulation in our own lives, we must look to Him and the example that He left for us, *"Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof"* (Matthew 6: 34). This is what Our Lord Jesus said as He walked the earth, knowing full well the trial, temptation, and agony that He was going to suffer—knowing full well that He was going to the Cross! Though H

He knew what was ahead of Him, He went about His Father's business—doing good, healing the sick, speaking the Truth, teaching the scriptures, ministering to others, fellowshiping with others, praying, enduring temptations—all the while knowing He was going to the Cross. His instruction was to not worry about tomorrow, because tomorrow would take care of the things of itself.

Though difficult, this is how He would have us to live our lives today. We must endure in the midst of the trial. We must continue to fight the good fight of faith, knowing full well a crown of righteousness awaits those that are faithful unto the end. Our eyes must always be on Heaven! We must be continually in prayer, forever seeking Christ's face for renewed strength. David said in the Psalms, *"I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living"* (Psalms 27: 13). David is saying that he would have been completely undone had it not been for the hope that he had in The Lord! This is the same hope we must cling to, the same hope we must hope in! It is in this hope that we will be saved!

Jesus shows us how He continued about His Father's business in the midst of the suffering and burden that He carried with Him at all times, *"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke up on you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light"* (Matthew 11: 28-30). He carried the burden of enduring the Cross and provided rest for our souls. He was never seeking His own will, but always that of the Father, *"Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God. Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law; Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second. By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all"* (Hebrews 10: 7-10).

Though Jesus knew the suffering that awaited Him, He, *"...for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds. Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin"* (Hebrews 12: 2-4). Amidst all the opposition that He endured and the sorrow that He carried, Jesus continued on, taking no thought for tomorrow, and providing for us the example to live by, as we, ourselves, go through this life.

We read how Christ was ministering on the Sabbath Day and how the Pharisees opposed Him. After Jesus healed the man with the withered hand, scripture tells us, *"Then the Pharisees went out, and held a council against him, how they might destroy him"* (Matthew 12: 14). What did Jesus do? *"But when Jesus knew it, he withdrew himself from thence: and great multitudes followed him, and he healed them all;"* (vs. 15). Shortly after, He healed another man that was possessed with a devil, blind, and dumb. He told His disciples, *"...Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many"* (Matthew 20: 25-28).

While others callously passed by those that were suffering, Jesus showed compassion, *"And, behold, two blind men sitting by the way side, when they heard that Jesus passed by, cried out, saying, Have mercy on us, O Lord, thou son of David. And the multitude rebuked them, because they should hold their peace: but they cried the more, saying, Have mercy on us, O Lord, thou son of David. And Jesus stood still, and called them, and said, What will ye that I shall do unto you? They say unto him, Lord, that our eyes may be opened. So Jesus had compassion on them, and touched their eyes: and immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed him"* (Matthew 20: 30-34).

When Jesus departed alone because of the beheading of John the Baptist, many followed Him into the desert. There, knowing that He, too, would soon be suffering the death of the Cross, but moved with compassion for the multitude, healed them. It was at this same time that He performed the miracle of feeding the five thousand, beside women and children, by multiplying the bread and fishes. What a Mighty God we serve!

This same Jesus endured the devil's temptations to get Him off the path of going to the Cross, *"From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day. Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee. But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men"* (Matthew 16: 21-23).

Jesus saw His disciples sorrow for Him, *“And while they abode in Galilee, Jesus said unto them, The Son of man shall be betrayed into the hands of men: And they shall kill him, and the third day he shall be raised again. And they were exceedingly sorry (Matthew 17: 22-23). “But now I go my way to him that sent me; and none of you asketh me, Whither goest thou? But because I have said these things unto you, sorrow hath filled your heart” (John 16: 5-6). “Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour” (John 12: 27).*

Jesus, *“...was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin” (Hebrews 4: 15). He executed righteousness, “And Jesus went into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves, And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves” (Matthew 21: 12-13). He was constantly under the watch and scrutiny of the religious leaders of the day, “And when the chief priests and Pharisees had heard his parables, they perceived that he spake of them. But when they sought to lay hands on him, they feared the multitude, because they took him for a prophet” (Matthew 21: 45-46). They tried to figure out, “...how they might entangle him in his talk” (Matthew 22: 15). Jesus, knew their wicked ways, and when they tried to trap Him, they could not, because He was God in flesh, Truth personified. All the Pharisees could do was marvel, and go their own way.*

At the very close of Christ's earthly life, He told His twelve apostles, *“...With desire I have desired to eat of his passover with you before I suffer:” (Luke 22: 15). Jesus so desired to eat the passover with His disciples because it represented the culmination of all that He had come into the world for. All the suffering He had endured, and was yet to endure, was because of what the passover represented--His broken body and shed blood, being given for the sin of mankind.*

That evening, in the Garden of Gethsemane, in the midst of exceeding sorrow, sweating, *“.....as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground,” (Luke 22: 44), Jesus submitted unto the will of His Father, “And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.....He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done.....and he left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words ” (Matthew 26: 39, 42, 44).*

On His way to the Cross, He said, *“...weep not for me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children. For, behold, the days are coming, in the which they shall say, Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bare, and the paps which never gave suck. Then shall they begin to say to the mountains, Fall on us; and to the hills, Cover us. For if they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry? (Luke 23: 28-31). While on the Cross, He said, “...Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do” (Luke 23: 34). He told the thief on the Cross, “Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise” (Luke 23: 43). While still on the Cross, He committed the care of His mother to the Apostle John, by saying, “...Woman, behold thy son!” (John 19: 26). And, hanging on the Cross, He commended His spirit into the Father's hands and triumphantly declared, “...It is finished:” when giving up the ghost (John 19: 30).*

Then, He arose from the grave, just as He said He would! Christ defeated death, hell, and the grave! Because He lives, we can face tomorrow! Because Jesus Christ lives, we have the hope of the resurrection! Because Christ lives, we too shall live eternally, if we are in Him!

Knock and He will open the door unto you! Seek Him while there is yet time!

He left us with this wonderful promise that shall sustain us forever, *“...I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen” (Matthew 28: 20).*

And Amen!