

A Journey In Hope

November 26 – Introduction
December 3 – Praying in Hope
December 10 – Giving in Hope
December 17 – Living in Hope

INTRODUCTION – THE FESTIVAL OF CHRIST THE KING

Rejoice in glorious hope
for Christ the Judge shall come
to gather all his saints to their eternal home.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!

Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Charles Wesley para. Philippians 4:4

What do each of those lines mean to you?

1. What does the “glorious hope” mean to you?
 2. What does it mean to you that Christ will return?
 3. What does it mean to you that he will return as judge?
 4. What does it mean to you that we are “saints” with an “eternal home”?
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For followers of Jesus, when our faith is repeatedly marginalized in public life, we can fall into the habit of compartmentalizing our lives. We may love Jesus in our private lives, but we shrink from acknowledging the kingship of Christ in public life. When we celebrate Christ the King, we declare to the world and remind ourselves that Jesus is the Lord of the Church and of the entire universe.

Revelation 1:4-8

⁴John, to the seven churches in the province of Asia:

Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits¹ before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶ and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

⁷ “Look, he is coming with the clouds,”
and “every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him”;
and all peoples on earth “will mourn because of him.”
So shall it be! Amen.

⁸ “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.”

Lo, he comes, with clouds descending, once for our salvation slain;
thousand thousand saints attending swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ the Lord returns to reign.

Now redemption, long expected, comes in solemn splendor near;
all the saints this world rejected thrill the trumpet sound to hear:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
See the day of God appear!

Those dear tokens of his passion still his dazzling body bears,
cause of endless exultation to his ransomed worshipers;
with what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture
gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea, amen! let all adore thee, high on thine eternal throne;
Savior, take the power and glory, claim the kingdom as thine own:
O come quickly! O come quickly! O come quickly!
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

Charles Wesley para Revelation 1:7