Kingdom Living By Connie Witter - www.conniewitter.com

Week 6 Jesus 2020: King of Kings-Our Hope is in Him!

I. Our hope is in Jesus Alone, and not in Men!

Psalm 146:3-10: "We can never look to men for help; no matter who they are, they can't save us, for even our great leaders fail and fall. They too are just mortals who will one day die. At death the spirits of all depart and their bodies return to dust. In the day of their death all their projects and plans are over. ⁵ But those who hope in the Lord will be happy and pleased! Our help comes from the God of Jacob! ⁶ You keep all your promises. You are the Creator of heaven's glory, earth's grandeur, and ocean's greatness. ⁷ The oppressed get justice with you. The hungry are satisfied with you. Prisoners find their freedom with you. ⁸ You open the eyes of the blind and you fully restore those bent over with shame. You love those who love and honor you. ⁹ You watch over strangers and immigrants and support the fatherless and widows. But you subvert the plans of the ungodly. ¹⁰ Lord, you will reign forever! Zion's God will rule throughout time and eternity! Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!" TPT

- A president or an earthly king is not where we place our hope! Our hope is in Jesus alone!
- Those who hope in Jesus will be happy and pleased- our help comes from Him! <u>Hope means, "A Confident expectation of good"</u>
- He keeps all His promises- 2 Peter 1:3-4; 2 Corinthians 1:20
- The oppressed get justice with Him!
- The hungry are fed with Him!
- Prisoners find freedom in Jesus!
- He opens the eyes of the blind so that they can see the truth that will set them free!
- He fully restores those who are bent over in shame
- He takes care of the immigrants and supports the fatherless and widows
- He subverts the plans of the ungodly- those who do evil and oppose Him. <u>Subvert means:</u> to overthrow; bring to ruin; bring down;
- Jesus Reigns as King of kings forever! He rules over every power in existence!

What is our good Father's plan for us?

Jeremiah 29:11: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." NIV (Isaiah 61:11)

II. Through out the Bible, God's people found themselves oppressed by worldly kings and their freedom threatened. But when they looked to God for help, He ALWAYS delivered them!

Jesus is our ever present Help in time of trouble! He is our victory over all evil!

Example: King Jehosophat- When great evil was coming to rob God's people of freedom, at first King Jehosophat was afraid, but he set his heart to seek the Lord and ask for His help. He said, "We don't know what to do, but our hope is in You". What do you say about this God?"

2 Chronicles 20:5-30: ⁵ And Jehoshaphat stood in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem in the house of the Lord before the new court ⁶ And said, O Lord, God of our fathers, are You not God in heaven? And do You not rule over all the kingdoms of the nations? In Your hand are power and might, so that none is able to withstand You. ⁷ Did not You, O our God, drive out the inhabitants of this land before Your people Israel and give it forever to the descendants of Abraham Your friend? ⁸ They dwelt in it and have built You a sanctuary in it for Your Name, saying, ⁹ If evil comes upon us, the sword of judgment, or pestilence, or famine, we will stand before this house and before You—for Your Name [and the symbol of Your presence] is in this house—and cry to You in our affliction, and You will hear and save. 12 We do not know what to do, but our eyes are upon You.

God Speaks:

¹⁴ Then the Spirit of the Lord came upon Jahaziel son of Zechariah...¹⁵ He said, Hearken, all Judah, you inhabitants of Jerusalem, and you King Jehoshaphat. The Lord says this to you: <u>Be not afraid or dismayed at this great multitude</u>; for the battle is not yours, but God's.

¹⁷You shall not need to fight in this battle; take your positions, stand still, and see the deliverance of the Lord [Who is] with you, O Judah and Jerusalem. Fear not nor be dismayed. Tomorrow go out against them, for the Lord is with you.

The people put their trust and hope in God: This is how we fight our spiritual battles:

²⁰ And they rose early in the morning and went out into the Wilderness of Tekoa; and as they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and you inhabitants of Jerusalem! Believe in the Lord your God and you shall be established; believe and remain steadfast to His prophets and you shall prosper. ²¹ When he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers to sing to the Lord and praise Him in their holy [priestly] garments as they went out before the army, saying, Give thanks to the Lord, for His mercy and loving-kindness endure forever! ²² And when they began to sing and to praise, the Lord set ambushments against the men of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir who had come against Judah, and they were [self-] slaughtered;

- God's people enjoyed great victory over every evil plot and scheme of the enemy!
- The story is not over until the glory of God is manifested! We win because of Jesus!

²⁵When Jehoshaphat and his people came to take the spoil, they found among them much cattle, goods, garments, and precious things which they took for themselves, more than they could carry away, so much they were three days in gathering the spoil. ²⁶ On the fourth day they assembled in the Valley of Beracah. There they blessed the Lord. So the name of the place is still called the Valley of Beracah [blessing]. ²⁷ Then they returned, every man of Judah and Jerusalem, Jehoshaphat leading them, to Jerusalem with joy, for the Lord had made them to rejoice over their enemies. ²⁸ They came to Jerusalem with harps, lyres, and trumpets to the house of the Lord. ²⁹ And the fear of God came upon all the kingdoms of those countries when they heard that the Lord had fought against the enemies of Israel. ³⁰ So the realm of Jehoshaphat was quiet, for his God gave him rest round about.

III. Our King of kings has given us the Victory! Those who hope in him will never be disappointed!

Psalm 33:4-5 ⁴ For God's Word is something to sing about! He is true to his promises, his word can be trusted, and everything he does is reliable and right. ⁵ The Lord loves seeing justice on the earth. Anywhere and everywhere you can find his faithful, unfailing love!

¹⁰ With his breath he scatters the schemes of nations who oppose him; they will never succeed.

¹¹ His destiny-plan for the earth stands sure. His forever-plan remains in place and will never fail.

¹² Blessed and prosperous is that nation who has God as their Lord! They will be the people he has chosen for his own.

¹⁷ Human strength and the weapons of man are false hopes for victory; they may seem mighty but they will always disappoint. ¹⁸ The eyes of the Lord are upon *even the weakest worshipers* who love him— those who wait in hope and expectation for the strong, steady love of God. ¹⁹ God will deliver them from death, even the certain death of famine, with no one to help. ²⁰ The Lord alone is our radiant hope and we trust in him with all our hearts. His wrap-around presence will strengthen us. ²¹ As we trust, we rejoice with an uncontained joy flowing from Yahweh! ²² Let your love and steadfast kindness overshadow us continually, for we trust and we wait upon you! TPT

Psalm 27: 13-14 ¹³ [What, what would have become of me] had I not believed that I would see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living! ¹⁴ Wait *and* hope for *and* expect the Lord; be brave *and* of good courage and let your heart be stout *and* enduring. Yes, wait for *and* hope for *and* expect the Lord. AMPC

14 Here's what I've learned through it all: Don't give up; don't be impatient; be entwined as one with the Lord. Be brave and courageous, and never lose hope. Yes, keep on waiting—for he will never disappoint you! TPT

- God's word is something to sing about! He is true to His promises! He loves seeing justice on the earth! He is our radiant Hope and we can trust Him!
- Put your hope in Jesus! He will never disappoint you! With His breath He scatters the schemes of nations who oppose and they will never succeed!
- He will bring to pass His every promise for your life and the lives of those you care about! Jesus 2020- King of kings and Lord of lords!
- He will cause righteousness, justice, and praise to spring forth before all the nations through the self-fulfilling power of His word! Isaiah 61:11