

“The Blessed UNshakable Hope”

August 20, 2023



Our blessed hope is . . .

- not just tied to how great the _____ will be,
Revelation 21:3-4, 22:20; 1 Corinthians 16:22-24
- but tied to how great a _____ we have!
 - His character: He's coming back as He _____!
2 Peter 3:13; John 14:1-3, 18-19
 - His power: He's coming back _____ and _____!
Acts 1:10-11, Philippians 3:20-21, 1 Peter 1:13, Hebrews 9:27-28, Mark 14:61b-62.
 - His wisdom: He's coming back at the _____ and soon!
Matthew 24:36-37, James 5:8-9, Luke 18:7-8, Revelation 1:3

We believe in the personal, bodily and glorious return of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The coming of Christ, at a time known only to God, demands constant expectancy and, as our blessed hope, motivates the believer to godly living, sacrificial service and energetic mission.

If we trust His promises . . .

- We expect persecution . . . but will _____,
Matthew 24:9-10; Mark 13:9-13
- We forecast false Christs . . . but will _____,
Matthew 24:11, 23-24
- We foresee scoffers . . . but will be _____ & trust,
2 Peter 3:3-4, 8-9
- We anticipate delay . . . & _____ one another.
1 Thessalonians 5:6-11

If we DO NOT trust His promises . . .

- We will try to cling to the illusion of _____ our lives.
- We may have to have our grasping fingers forced open so that we “hold _____” the things of this world, as we “hold _____” to our blessed hope.

Let us “love His appearing” (2 Timothy 4:8),
renewing our minds and hearts with . . .

Romans 8:18
Jude 2:4
1 Corinthians 1:8

BONUS RESOURCE:

The Evangelical Free Church Boards of Directors and of Ministerial Standing recently put out a very helpful statement on many issues of our day. Find it at <https://www.efca.org/where-we-stand-in-the-efca-denials-and-affirmations>