

## Life Between the Appearings

- <sup>11</sup> For the grace of God has appeared,  
bringing salvation for all people,  
<sup>12</sup> training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age,  
<sup>13</sup> waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,  
<sup>14</sup> who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and  
to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

<sup>15</sup> Declare these things; exhort and rebuke with all authority. Let no one disregard you.

### *Epiphaneia:*

- appearance, manifestation, glorious display
- to come into view, to be made visible
- visible appearance of something previously invisible; a coming into view of what was previously concealed

### The Appearing of GRACE

- Grace: undeserved favor, something freely given
- The Grace of God = Jesus Christ
  - Grace brought **salvation** and **redemption** (v. 11b, 14a)
    - SALVATION
      - “You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin... The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.” 1 John 3:5, 8
      - “And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” Acts 4:12
    - REDEMPTION
      - “...even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Matthew 20:28
      - “knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ...” 1 Peter 1:18-19
  - Grace brings **sanctification** (v. 12, 14b)
    - Trains the negative: Renounce
      - Repentance: to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions
        - He grants repentance: 2 Timothy 2:25
        - Put to death what is earthly in you: Colossians 3

- Trains the positive: Live
  - Live self-controlled
    - Personal: regarding oneself
  - Live uprightly
    - Relational: regarding others
  - Live godly
    - Spiritual: regarding the Lord
- Purified unto good works

### The Appearing of GLORY

- Glory: Splendor, honor, greatness, dignity, renown, majesty
  - “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and **we have seen his glory**, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.” John 1:14
  
  - We have known His glory in part
    1. Glory veiled in flesh
      - “he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him.” Isaiah 53:2b
    2. Glory in His signs
      - “This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and **manifested his glory**. And his disciples believed in him.” John 2:11
    3. Glory revealed by God
      - “For God, who said, ‘Let light shine out of darkness,’ has shone in our hearts to give the light of **the knowledge of the glory of God** in the face of Jesus Christ.” 2 Corinthians 4:6
  
  - He has always had full glory
    1. Before the world existed
      - “And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you **before the world existed**.” John 17:5
      - “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**.” John 17:24
  
  - We will see His full glory WHEN HE APPEARS AGAIN
    1. We shall be like Him
      - “Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that **when he appears** we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.” 1 John 3:2

2. We will be honored
  - “And **when the chief Shepherd appears**, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.” 1 Peter 5:4
  - “Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved **his appearing**.” 1 Timothy 4:8
3. We will be with Him in glory
  - “**When Christ who is your life appears**, then you also will appear with him in glory.” Colossians 3:4

### **In This Present Age Waiting For Our Blessed Hope**

#### **We Eagerly Wait**

- “so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but **to save those who are eagerly waiting for him**.” Hebrews 9:28

#### **We Abide in Him**

- “And now, little children, **abide in him, so that when he appears** we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming.” 1 John 2:28

#### **His Coming is Guaranteed**

- “He who testifies to these things says, ‘Surely I am coming soon.’ Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!” Revelation 22:20

### **How Can We Pray?**

- Jim Alexander: Pastor of Pastoral Care
- John Haines: Worship Pastor
  
- Pray for these men to point the people of God to worship amidst the valley of waiting.
- Pray for these men to help guide the people’s hearts to reflect upon the work of Christ in His first coming.
- Pray for these men to help guide the people’s hearts to reflect upon the glory of Christ to come in His return.
- Pray for these men to be rooted in the blessed hope to point others to true hope.