

## GLORIOUS DESTINY

My glorious destiny is secure as long as I remain in the Church of Jesus Christ.

### KEY POINTS

- ❖ Ephesians 5:15-32 outlines some crucial concepts for us to remember as Christians.
- ❖ Verse 17 warns against “dissipation” – empty over-indulgence that leads to a meaningless life.
- ❖ In this passage, the apostle Paul also highlights that:
  - We are the “body” of Christ.
  - We have become “one flesh” with Christ.
  - In a mysterious fashion, marriage is an analogy of Christ and the Church.
- ❖ In 1 Corinthians 12:27, Paul also wrote: “Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually.”
- ❖ These are crucial points to remember as we progress in this lesson.
- ❖ The word most commonly translated “church” is “ekklesia”. In a Christian context, it has three main meanings:
  - an assembly of Christians gathered for worship in a religious meeting;
  - a company of Christians, or [a company] of those... hoping for eternal salvation through Jesus Christ;
  - the whole body of Christians scattered throughout the earth.
- ❖ The foundation of this ekklesia is Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God. His Church is invincible and victorious. The strongest force of evil (the gates of hell) cannot withstand it. (See Matthew 16:13-18.)
- ❖ The Church is of infinite value, having been purchased with the blood of Jesus Christ. Jesus redeemed us.
- ❖ In other words, He paid the price for our freedom from eternal judgment and spiritual death by shedding His own blood and dying in our place. (See Acts 20:28.)
- ❖ 1 Peter 1:18-19a says, “[Y]ou were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, <sup>19</sup>but with the precious blood of Christ...”
- ❖ The life of Jesus Christ was of infinite value. Yet He willingly gave His life for us, so we could receive His eternal life. In His eyes, the Church is of infinite value, because He purchased it with an invaluable asset!
- ❖ Now, Christ is the head of the body (the Church). He is invincible and He lives forever. Therefore, if we are members of His body (see Eph. 5:30), then the Church is invincible and will exist forever.
- ❖ A husband and wife become “one flesh” through marriage (see Genesis 2:21-24; Matt. 19:4-6; Eph. 5:31). The Church becomes one flesh with Jesus through salvation in this world and marriage in the world to come.
- ❖ Yes, the Church is Christ’s wife – His bride! (See Eph. 5:31-32; Revelation 19:7-8, 21:9.)
- ❖ Ephesians 5:27 tells us that Jesus is working to perfect us so He can present us as a gift to Himself – His glorious Church and bride.

**KEY SCRIPTURES:** Ephesians 5:15-32 (\*23, 27, 30); 1 Corinthians 12:27; Matthew 16:13-18; Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 1:18-19a; Colossians 1:15-18a; Revelation 19:6-9, 21:9-14, 22:1-5; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 1 John 3:1-3

- ❖ In Revelation 19:7-8 and 21:9-14, one of the mysteries of prophesy is seen. The bride of Christ is represented both as a wife and as a city. This leads to another important point: although we may not have a clear and complete picture of all future events, it’s good either way. Or both ways.
- ❖ We just need to stay in the Church, and we’ll find out all the details when we get to the other side. The Church has a Glorious Destiny!
- ❖ The city (New Jerusalem) – “the Lamb’s wife” – is comprised of both Jews and Gentiles. All people on Earth are eligible to be a part of this select body in this select city.
 

And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. <sup>2</sup>In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. <sup>3</sup>And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him. <sup>4</sup>They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup>There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever. (Rev. 22:1-5)
- ❖ The Church of Jesus Christ is holy, blameless, invincible, built upon the foundation of Jesus Himself. It is Christ’s body and bride, His gift to Himself. As Christ exists forever, so will the Church. The Church has an incredible present.
- ❖ But its future...it is *glorious*.

### DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1. Discuss: How does one become part of this “glorious church”? Support with scriptures.
2. Have you drifted away from God? If so, repent and reconnect to His Body, the Church.
3. Are you part of the Church, Christ’s body and bride? If not, be “born” into it today (John 3:5)! Repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ and be filled with His Spirit (Acts 2:38).
4. Give thanks for your glorious future!

### PRAYER TIME

Lord, thank You for Your blessings right here and for our beautiful life to come, in glory, with You.

Start-up: What is the most beautiful and/or remarkable thing you remember seeing in nature?

## WEEK OF SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 2020

### NOTES

Meditate as you read through/listen to this week’s message. If it helps, use symbols for your notes.

✓ (Reminds me/Confirms) 💡 (New idea) 🧠 (Think about)

! (Do this) ❤️ (Speaks to my heart) ↔ (Must share)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### PRAYER NEEDS/THANKSGIVINGS

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Go deeper with your Life Group family.  
 CONNECT-REFLECT-DISSECT THE WORD  
 Your Life Group ~ Your Lifeline

## "WE PRAY" FS FACEBOOK GROUP

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/wepprayatfaithsanctuary/>

**PRAYER FOCUS: Personal spiritual growth**



### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **September**

Friday 5: Faith Family Prayer (Facebook and YouTube)

Sunday 9: First Virtual "Jerusalem Prayer Walk",  
4:00 – 5:00 p.m. (2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays via Zoom)

#### **To register for in-person Sunday services (3 options):**

- 1) Go to [www.faithsanctuary.com](http://www.faithsanctuary.com) > click the "Eventbrite" link in the top menu;
- 2) **Facebook:**  
[www.facebook.com/faithsanctuarytoronto/events](http://www.facebook.com/faithsanctuarytoronto/events); or
- 3) Go to **Eventbrite:** [www.eventbrite.com/e/july-5-2020-sunday-morning-service-tickets-110443601786](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/july-5-2020-sunday-morning-service-tickets-110443601786)

#### **TO SUBMIT A BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT**

Obtain approval from Head of Department and send to [announcements@faithsanctuary.com](mailto:announcements@faithsanctuary.com) by Wednesday @ 4:00 p.m. (If projection is desired send to [media@faithsanctuary.com](mailto:media@faithsanctuary.com).)

#### **FAITH SANCTUARY DONATIONS**

To donate online, please go to [www.faithsanctuary.com/give](http://www.faithsanctuary.com/give)  
For email transfers, please use [donate@faithsanctuary.com](mailto:donate@faithsanctuary.com)

*A glorious God  
A glorious Church  
A glorious Future*

#### **FAITH SANCTUARY ON-LINE SERVICES:**

Bible Study – **10:15 a.m.**  
Morning service – **11:00 a.m.**

- Go to [www.faithsanctuary.com](http://www.faithsanctuary.com) > click "livestream" link (or type in [www.faithsanctuary.com/live](http://www.faithsanctuary.com/live))
- Go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) > search for "Faith Sanctuary"
- Sign in to Facebook > search for "Faith Sanctuary"
- Call **1-844-268-4848** for toll-free telephone access

**In-depth Bible Study: Monday evenings from 6:30-8:00 p.m.** (Facebook and Zoom)

## **FAITH FOUNDATIONS**

### **GOD**

We believe there is only one God: the eternal, holy, loving, all-knowing, all-powerful, omnipresent Spirit, creator of all (Deuteronomy 6:4; 1 Timothy 1:17; Leviticus 19:2; 1 John 4:8; Hebrews 4:13; Revelation 19:6; Jeremiah 23:24; John 4:24; Isaiah 44:24; Colossians 1:16).

### **GOD'S WORD**

We believe the Holy Scriptures—The Bible—is God's true and complete Word to humanity, verified most notably through fulfilled prophecies concerning Jesus Christ (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Isaiah 41:21-23, 42:8-9, 46:9-10; Luke 24:25-27; John 17:17).

### **GOD'S CREATION**

We believe all people were created in the image of God for His pleasure, to be His children, His church and His bride, living in eternal love and fellowship with Him (Revelation 4:1; Genesis 1:27; John 1:12-13; Romans 8:16; Ephesians 5:25-32; Revelation 19:7).

### **HUMANITY'S FALL**

We acknowledge that we have all sinned and failed to fulfill God's plan and purpose for our lives, through willful disobedience to the word of God and our own conscience. All sinful acts lead to separation and alienation from God's pure, holy presence, eventually resulting in both physical and spiritual death (Romans 3:23, 6:23a).

### **THE GOSPEL**

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Almighty God, fully divine and fully human (1 Timothy 3:16). He came to Earth and suffered death by crucifixion, willingly substituting Himself for us in receiving God's judgment against sin (Isaiah 53:5). But God raised Him from death (Acts 5:30), and He now offers eternal life to all who will believe in Him (John 3:14-17, 6:29; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Romans 6:23b; Ephesians 2:4-9). Faith is sparked within us when we hear the gospel, the "good news" that Jesus died, was buried and rose from the dead for our benefit (Romans 10:14-17; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4).

### **OUR FAITH RESPONSE**

Hearing the gospel is intended to lead us to repentance, a divinely inspired change of heart that causes us to turn away from our sins and turn to God (2 Corinthians 7:9-10; 2 Timothy 2:24-26). Faith and repentance lead us to obey the scriptural command to be baptized in Jesus' name for the forgiveness of our sins and to receive His gift of the Holy Spirit. His Spirit gives us the power to live a righteous, godly life, joyfully sharing the good news of our new life in Christ with others (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38, 4:12; 1 Peter 1:22-23).

### **CHRIST'S RETURN**

We believe our Lord Jesus Christ will soon return to Earth to receive His people to Himself and establish His righteous, eternal kingdom (John 14:3; Matthew 25:34).

**AUGUST 30, 2020**

  
**Faith**  
**SANCTUARY**  
Know Jesus, Love Jesus, Share Jesus

*2020 ~the year of vision~ 2020*

**Pastor: Rev. Granville E. McKenzie**

*"Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice... saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God.""  
Revelation 21:2-3 NKJV*

### **SUNDAY SERVICES**

Worship: 8:00 a.m. • 11:00 a.m. • 6:30 p.m.  
Sunday School/Bible Study: 9:45 a.m.

1901 Jane St, Toronto, Ontario M9N 3T9  
Phone: 416-244-4898  
Email: [mail@faithsanctuary.com](mailto:mail@faithsanctuary.com)  
Website: [www.faithsanctuary.com](http://www.faithsanctuary.com)