



Lights and Perfection, Inc.

Go and make disciples!

E-votional 41

The idea of a faith being tested could not be more prevalent and vivid in Scripture as it is in the book of Revelation. There really is a lot to talk about on the subject, so for the sake of this teaching here, I will attempt to focus on the idea of the testing of our faith as it relates directly to the work done in righteousness by the Holy Spirit and to the coming of Jesus Christ as found in the book of Revelation as well as other places that confirm this in Scripture.

First up is Revelation 1:1;7 (ESV),

1 “The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John.” 7 “Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.”

The idea here is clear. First of all, there is coming a day that is soon to take place. Secondly, this day will be with the appearing of Jesus Christ on the clouds of heaven. Hallelujah! With this being shared, I would like to jump right into the next Scripture found in Daniel 12:2 (ESV),

“And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.”

Earlier in this passage, Daniel wrote about a time when Michael the prince of the people shall arise (Daniel 12:1) (voice of the Archangel and the trumpet sounding 1 Thess. 4:16) and was making reference to a time of trouble (tribulation) that would come to God’s people and also how at that time there would be deliverance for said people. This deliverance is evidenced by the brightness of the coming of the Lord on the clouds of heaven of which Daniel is here speaking about when he refers to some awaking from the dust, some to everlasting life and others to everlasting shame and contempt.

The reason this will have to do with a faith that is tested is primarily because of the idea of the brightness of the Lord’s coming that will expose every sort of deed

done by believers or unbelievers. In other words, the brightness of His coming will bring to light every hidden thing and also test the works that were done as by fire. Here is what Paul had to say about this in 1 Corinthians 3:13 (ESV),

“each one’s work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done.”

For this reason, our faith is being tested. If our faith remains untested it will bear no eternal fruit or rewards. It would be similar to taking the raw material that gold is in and doing nothing with it. It is necessary that the raw material is put into the fire so that the testing of it can bear something of use. That is pure gold by fire. But again, remember, we are talking about the revelation of Jesus Christ, or in other words, the brightness of His coming. Revelation literally means unveiling. One day the clouds of heaven will unveil the coming of the King of glory and we shall see Him as He is. But also, He shall see us as we really are. Nothing is hidden from His sight. I am further reminded of something in 1 Peter 1:7 (ESV),

“so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”

On this day of the unveiling of the Lord Jesus Christ from heaven, we will see what sort of works were done by us in this life, whether they are eternally significant or something that was extremely temporary like hay and straw. The goal is to keep in step with God and the works that He has assigned for us to do in this life and so receive the reward along with a hearty well done, good and faithful servant. What this has to do with a tested faith is simple. If we allow the fire to continually purify us this side of heaven and so keep in alignment with the mind and purposes of God in the here and now, we won’t have to shrink from Him in shame at His coming. This really takes an intentional approach to our walk with Christ.

There is a passage that I reference often and is found in Revelation 3:18-19 (ESV),

“I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness may not be seen, and salve to anoint your eyes, so that you may see. Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous and repent.”

Here it is, Jesus is literally telling those in Laodicea in a figurative way to come to Him to buy from Him gold refined in the fire. Now, when I say literally, I do not mean in the carnal mindset but in the new mindset that we have as new creations

in Christ Jesus. That is that the figurative reality found in this passage is the new literal for born again believers (We walk by faith, not by sight). This is, of course, in reference to the inner work of the Holy Spirit in our lives, the testing by fire that makes even the very works we do pure in nature.

So, the great takeaway here is that Jesus is coming and when He does how will He find us? In the here and now, eagerly pursuing Him for that gold refined by the fire? Or waiting for the Day of His coming to find out?

I am reminded of a song by Hillsong UNITED (2007) called '*Lead me to the Cross*,' that goes,

Lead me to the cross

Where Your love poured out

Bring me to my knees

Lord I lay me down

Rid me of myself

I belong to You

Lead me, lead me to the cross

Lord Jesus, come purify us as Your own special and peculiar people for good works that You have predetermined for us to walk in. We are not our own, we belong to You. We need a powerful reminder from time to time as we grow weak and weary that it is at the cross where we find redemption in our souls. For this reason, test our faith with the Holy Spirit and fire and ensure that our intentions are in line with You always. We need a continual cleansing that only You can do Father. In Jesus name. Amen

In Christ's Love,
Chris and Jeanne
Lights and Perfection, Inc



©2019 Lights and Perfection, Inc. | 5215 Hartford Lane, Wildwood, Florida, United States of America, 34785

Like

Tweet

Web Version

Preferences

Forward

Unsubscribe

Powered by
GoDaddy Email Marketing®