"The city has no need of the sun, nor of the moon, to shine upon it, for the glory of God has illuminated it, and its lamp is the Lamb"

(Rev. 21:23).

God is coming to dwell on the earth!

His city will be a city of light, His light!

All His children will be there, including Jesus, the Lamp!

The Bible and Our Eternity,

You Forever!

By Fernando Castro-Chavez

"Christ has been raised out from among the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For just as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then those who are Christ's, at his coming" (1 Cor. 15:20-23).

Imagine this, you are a scientist, a molecular biologist, and you are sleeping and dreaming that Jesus Christ is giving you a scientific explication, explaining you how it is necessary that your whole body be changed from being oxygen fed, like today, to being spirit fed, in order for you to do your trip with him to the great and Holy City where God dwells, he said that these current soul life, our blood running through our whole body, can not endure the traveling because of the lack of oxygen in the outer space... among other things, that a transformation is in place! Well, that happened to me, I had that dream, and I since then I decided to study more and more fervently and carefully all things related to the hope. I wish my specialty to be on the hope. Then my research project ended, basically I went out of job. I noticed there the importance of the hope in our lives. The hope is our helmet, our spiritual "bullet-proof" helmet preventing us from putting a bullet on our heads when everything apparently goes wrong in the world, on our world. Then the hope is our anchor, it is our piercing anchor grounded right at the feet of the innermost current dwelling of God, the place holy of holies of his heavenly abode. That's why in my most recent testimony in the midst of the assembly, I witnessed that God, through His written Word, had showed to me that the anchor He gave us, our hope, the anchor of our souls, is pointing upward!

Right now, Satan is very extremely jealous that God and Jesus Christ already outsmarted all of his plans, so he is going to try to deceive the humanity of the future by faking the genuine miracles performed by Jesus and by God, the fake "resurrection" of the Antichrist is going to be achieved by full demonic possession of his body three days after his killing. The other thing that Satan is going to try, at the Apocalypse, to fake the most amazing and wonderful thing that God has ever given to the believing humanity; in the same way that God provides now part of his own nature at the moment of any human believing for his new birth [Rom. 10:9], the Antichrist, through the mark of the beast, is going to attempt to do so...

George N. H. Peters (1825-1909) wrote that Jesus "represents the Second Advent as an event whose time of occurrence is unknown, and hence, in view of this, insists upon a constant daily attitude of watchfulness, lest it come in our day... so as to influence us to regard it imminent, something impending... Hence, we cannot possibly err, when we adopt his exact language, and press it upon ourselves and others as a warning." And his apostles did the same... "for we see them assume the position commanded by the Master, and we desire to imitate their example" (in: "The Imminency of the Second Advent" http://theocratickingdom.info/Studies/Imminency1.html).

What gives sense to all our belief is the resurrection of Jesus Christ; without this, we have nothing! Because he was resurrected, we also are going to live again when he will come for us, because we are the members of his body of immortal siblings and eternal collaborators. Jesus Christ walked resurrected over this earth during forty days in whose he did teach, cook, eat, and moved very fast from one place to another, etc. This was his example of the glory awaiting us, a demonstration of what we are going to be able to do in our immortal bodies when we will walk among the mortals in this earth.

Our understanding of John 14:6 according to the context is amazing:

"Jesus says to him [to his weak in belief apostle Thomas], "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes [erjetai, a literal approach] to the Father except through me" (Jn. 14:6).

Nobody tomorrow or the day after tomorrow goes to the intimate place where God dwells, but only through Jesus. The earlier context says:

"Do not let your heart be troubled. Continue to trust in God and continue to trust in me. In my Father's house are many places to live. If it were not so, I would have told you, for I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and will receive you to myself, that where I am, you may be also. And where I go, you know the way" (Jn. 14:1-4).

Jesus Christ is the door for the access of the Hebrew to the earthly Kingdom that will be restored in the thousand years, and later it was revealed to Paul that Christ Jesus is also the only access to heaven for the Christian born again believer of today. So Jesus is busy today, preparing space for everyone that accepts Jesus as Lord, believing that God raised him from among the death!

Some Scriptures that mention our hope are the next ones:

"Christ Jesus our hope" (1 Tim. 1:1b), "the promise of the life that is in Christ Jesus" (2 Tim. 1:1b), "in hope of eternal [aionion] life in the Age to come, which God, who never lies, promised before the times of the Ages [kronon aionion, times eternal]" (Tit. 1:2). To the collaborators of Paul, the first thing that he reminds them is the hope, the promise of the eternal life that is in Christ Jesus, which God, who never lies, promised from the beginning. So, a great amount of details related to this promise now extended to us by grace are available in the Old Testament!

God designed the plan of salvation, while Jesus Christ obeyed and executed the plan of salvation. Our salvation includes an eternal [aionion] or "Age-abiding glory" (2 Tim. 2:10b)! "We became heirs according to the hope of eternal [aionion] life [in the Age to come]" (Tit. 3:7b).

"Remembering before our God and Father your work prompted by faith, and labor prompted by love, and patience prompted by hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thess. 1:2-3). Here, the example of the Thessalonians is that they acted in the three things that we have now: "faith, hope, love, these three, and the greatest of these is love" (1 Cor. 13:13). However, the hope filled them with patience! A similar formula we read in a second place: "We heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love that you have for all the holy ones because of the hope that is being stored up for you in the heavens" (Col. 1:4-5a). Here we learn that our hope is stored in a totally secure place: the heavens! And, of course, we are going to be there in the heights during at least our first seven years after our reunion with Christ. "Not being moved away from the hope of the Good News that you heard" (Col. 1:23b). The "Good News", the "Gospel" for our age of grace that we are living today is the hope, that we are going to live forever with our Lord Jesus Christ! And "is Christ in you, the hope of glory"! (Col. 1:27b). Because we have the spiritual nature of Christ in us, we have the glorious hope of eternal life, filled with joy, no more tears and no more death!

"We desire that each one of you show the same diligence to have the full assurance of the hope until the end, so that you may not become sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and longsuffering inherit the promises" (Heb. 6:11-12). We need to be diligent to study everything you can about the hope, which is our "full assurance", because believing such information and remaining in patience, we will be able to convince ourselves that we certainly are the inheritors of "the promises", the full inheritance of Christ and of the other believers, because we all, the born again, are joint-heirs.

"Christ is *faithful* as a son over his house, whose house we are if we hold fast our boldness, and the hope of which we boast, firm to the end" (Heb. 3:6). We are not only the body of Christ, we are his house, with instruments and tools for honor (silverware) and other tools for a less desirable honor (toilet). We need to be bold and confident in the hope we have, remaining "firm to the end". "We boast in *the* hope of the glory of God" (Rom. 5:2b). We proudly proclaim our hope, which is "the glory of God" for us. God is glorified by finally fulfilling His initial plan of a saved life for His children, for His own, and we share in full the glory of the victory of Jesus Christ and all that it entails. "Hope does not disappoint us" (Rom. 5:5a). Everything else in life may be disappointing, however, the hope promised to us by God and confirmed by Christ, that will never disappoint us!

"That which remains has permanent glory! Therefore, having such a hope, we use great boldness of speech" (2 Cor. 3:11b-12). Our hope is our eternal life, something "which remains", something with a "permanent glory". With a hope like this, we learn to be completely confident in what we say. And again, part of this hope that we have includes: "a building [an individual, perfect body for each one of us] from God, a house not made with hands, Age-abiding [eternal], in the heavens" (2 Cor. 5:1b), also called "our habitation that is from heaven" (2 Cor. 5:2b), "that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life" (2 Cor. 5:4b), God is who "prepared us for this very thing, who gave to us the spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come" (2 Cor. 5:5).

"God, intending to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeableness of his purpose, guaranteed it with an oath, in order that by two unchangeable things, in *each of* which it is impossible for God to lie, we may have strong encouragement, we who have found refuge in laying hold

of the hope set before us. We have this *hope* as an anchor for the soul, both sure and steadfast, and extending into the inner part of the veil, where, as a forerunner, Jesus entered for us, having become a high priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek" (Heb. 6:17b-20). In Abraham, our father in belief, God made an oath with us or to us or for us, to encourage us. Here we see that the hope is our refuge, the ever present hope that is in front of our noses. This hope of us is an anchor for our souls, sure and steadfast, which penetrates into the most intimate places of God's dwelling, where Christ Jesus is right now, at the right side of God, being Jesus the perfect mediator of humankind! The humans of today and the humans of the New Earth; the anchor is the tool that allows that the boat of our life remains stable independently of the circumstances, preventing our life to be shaken and tossed from one side to another.

"There is a bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God" (Heb. 7:19b). We have that better hope brought by Jesus, better than the one brought by the Law of Moses. With the hope that we have now, "we draw near to God"! And how close is that? As close as Jesus Christ being at the right side of God, the place were we all, born again believers, are going to be, according to the heart and the Word of God.

"The eager anticipation of creation is waiting expectantly for the revealing of the children of God, (for the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of the one who subjected it) in hope that the creation itself will also be freed from the bondage of corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God" (Rom. 8:19-21). Once we receive our inheritance, starting with our eternal life, that will have universal beneficial consequences, not only for us, but for the rest of creation. I think, for example, in the angels that they don't know a lot of things related to our salvation, so even today we teach to them about it, with our words, with our actions, with the building up of the body of Christ: "into which things angels desire to look" (1 Pe. 1:12b), "to the intent that now, to the rulers and the authorities [angels] in the heavenly *places*, might be made known, through the congregation [which is us], the many sided wisdom of God, according to the Age-abiding purpose which he [God] purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access in confidence [to God] through our faith in him [Jesus]" (Ef. 3:10-11), "the revelation of the sacred secret that has been kept silent for long ages *past*" (Rom. 16:25b).

"We were saved, though only in the hope. But hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, then we wait expectantly for it with patience" (Rom. 8:24-25). "As to the hope—rejoicing"! (Rom. 12:12a). Our hope is reason to rejoice! Is something that we do not see now, but "with patience", "we wait expectantly" for it.

"Whatever was written previously was written for our learning, that through patience and through the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope" (Rom. 15:4). Things that were written for our learning in the past, for example in the Old Testament and in the times of Jesus, because of the rejection of Israel as a nation of their Savior and King Jesus Christ, by the extension of the grace of God to us, and related to the hope, also apply to us (although in very superior levels)! How do I, a former gentile according to the Old Testament classification, know that? Because of the context of the same chapter, let's read: "In him [in Jesus] the Gentiles will hope [wrote Isaiah in the O.T.]. Now may the God of hope

fill you with all joy and peace as you continue to believe, so that you may abound in hope by the power of holy spirit" (Rom 15:12b-13). God want us to abound in hope, in our understanding of the hope, this is, and in our believing of that. One of the things that the power of holy spirit provides is abundance of knowledge related to the hope, is like the holy spirit being the magnet attracting the iron particles of the hope written through all the Scriptures! God is called "the God of hope". The hope He is giving us fills us with all joy and peace! As it is written:

"Righteousness is by faith, so that it may be according to grace, to the end that the promise may be certain for all the seed, not only to those of the law, but also to those who share the faith of Abraham—who is the father of us all, just as it is written, I have made you a father of many nations—in the presence of Him whom he believed, that is, God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist" (Rom. 4:16-17). We are descendants of Abraham in belief! The promise that God did to Abraham regarding the inheritance of "the promised land" is now given to us in him! "The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell in it forever" (Ps. 37:29) Are we, the born again ones just? Definitely! Are we the inheritors of the earth? Absolutely! We are the genuine owners of it! "In Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, in order that we might receive the promise of the spirit through faith" (Gal. 3:14b). "Why the law then? It was added because of transgressions, until the seed should come to whom the promise has been made, having been put in place through angels by the hand of a mediator" (Gal. 3:19), "so that the promise might be given by faith in Jesus Christ unto those who believe" (Gal. 3:22b). And we are "those who believe", the recipients of the promise initially given to Abraham! "If you are Christ's, then are you Abraham's seed, heirs according to promise" (Gal. 3:29), "you, brothers, as Isaac was, are children of promise" (Gal. 4:28).

"Through the Good News the Gentiles are co-heirs, and fellowmembers of the body, and fellowpartakers of the promise in Christ Jesus"! (Eph. 3:6).

"When you heard the word of truth, the Good News of your salvation—in whom [Jesus Christ], having also believed, you were sealed with the promised holy spirit, which is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance, until the redemption of *God's own* property, to the praise of his glory" (Eph. 1:13b-14).

"For as many as are the promises of God, in him is the "Yes," therefore, through him is the "Amen!," to the glory of God through us. Now he who establishes us with you in *union with* Christ, and anointed us, is God, who also sealed us, and put the spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come" (2 Cor. 1:20-22). God established the body of Christ, God anointed us as He anointed Christ, we now have the same spirit of God. God also sealed us together and put His spirit in us as a deposit, "guaranteeing" our hope and all that "is to come".

Jesus said: "I have other sheep [we know that now these are the gentiles, and in the future it will include the good angels!] that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will hear my voice. And there will be one flock with one shepherd [now the body of Christ, but in the future, the everlasting Kingdom]" (Jn. 10:16). And why do I say "but in the future"?, because of the amazing statement present in Ephesians:

"[God] made known to us the sacred secret of his will, according to his good pleasure which he purposed in him, *Christ*, until an administration of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens [angels], and the things on the earth [humans]. In him, *I say*, in whom also we were assigned a portion, having been marked out beforehand according to the purpose of the one working all things according to the plan of his will" (Eph. 1:9-11).

"Who is our hope, or joy, or crown of boasting before our Lord Jesus at his coming? Is it not you? For you are our glory and joy" (1 Thess. 2:19-20). At the second coming of our Lord Jesus, he will raise up all his Church, all the ones that believed in him since Pentecost, and this clearly indicates that we all are going to be able to recognize each other, and we will be thankful with those that did lead us to salvation and those that persevered shepherding us and educating us in the Word of God.

"The rest of mankind, who have no hope" (1 Thess. 4:13b). We have a hope, a secured hope clearly described in the next verses of the same chapter: "through Jesus, God will bring from the grave those who have fallen asleep in him" (1 Thess. 4:14b), "then we [born again believers] who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds" (1 Thess. 4:17a). But we also have a more remote or distant hope also clearly described in the Bible, and is our joy to share this hope with others, so our eternity is more or less delineated by God in His Word. We put on us "for a helmet, the hope of salvation" (1 Thess. 5:8b), this is the same helmet described as part of the armor of God in Ephesians (Eph. 6:17a). So the hope keep our head protected, filled with patience, to don't lose it!

"Our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father who loved us and by grace gave us eternal [aionion, Age-abiding] encouragement and good hope" (2 Thess. 2:16b). The comfort or encouragement that both of them, Jesus Christ and God provide us, is eternal, and is good, because it relates to our hope!

"You were at that time without Christ, excluded from the citizenship of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of the promise, having no hope and without God in the world" (Eph. 2:12). This verse is very profound in that it says that today we are not excluded from the citizenship of the heavenly or real Israel, "our citizenship is in heaven, from where also we wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who [Jesus] will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the exertion of the power that he has, even to subject all things to himself" (Phil. 3:20-21), "for neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything, but a new creation is everything. And as many as will keep in line with this standard, peace be upon them, and mercy, even upon the Israel of God" (Gal. 6:15-16), which will be in full operation in the millennium of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ, and which has absolutely nothing to do with the current State of 'Israel'. This means that just because of our new birth, we are citizens of the real Israel, and now we are included in the "covenants of the promise"!, with a clear and distinctive hope and with an amazing God. So, we better start studying those "covenants of the promise" seen in the Old Testament that now apply to us!

"There is one body and one spirit, even as also you were called in one hope of your calling" (Eph. 4:4). This "one body" is the body of Christ of whom all the born again believers belong, the "one spirit" is the divine nature that we receive when we received Jesus as our living Lord, and the "one hope" is the hope of our eternal life and every minute and amazing detail included in the Bible describing it.

"Let what you heard from the beginning abide in you. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father. And this is the promise that he promised us, eternal [aionion, Age-abiding] life in the Age" (1 Jn. 2:24-25). "Beloved, we are children of God now, and what we will be has not yet been revealed [manifested]. We know that when it is revealed [manifested] we will be like him [Jesus Christ], because we will see him [Jesus Christ] just as he [Jesus Christ] is. And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, even as that One is pure" (1 Jn. 3:2-3).

"Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to his great mercy has given us new birth into a living hope by means of the resurrection of Jesus Christ out from among *the* dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by the power of God are being guarded through faith for a salvation *that is* ready to be revealed in *the* last time" (1 Pe. 1:3-5). Our hope is not dead, it is "a living hope" that we do good to know in the more detail as it is possible to be known today.

"He [Jesus] was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but was revealed in *these* last times for your sake, who through him are believers in God, who raised him out from among *the* dead and gave him glory so that your faith and hope are in God" (1 Pe. 1:20-21). Our hope and belief are in God, not in men.

"Sanctify Christ, the Lord, in your hearts, being ready always to give an answer to everyone who asks you for a reason concerning the hope that is in you, yet do it with meekness and respect, having a good conscience..." (1 Pe. 3:15-16a). We need to have the details of our hope at the tip of our tongue, to express it "with meekness and respect", and also with "a good conscience", so we need to know, not being puffed up by our knowledge of it and of its greatness.

We have seen already the great simplicity to prophecy once the good instruction and/or example and the Word of God and the gift of holy spirit dwell within ourselves. This holy spirit, the spiritual nature of Christ in us, is the restrainer! "You know what is now holding him [the son of destruction] back, so that he may be revealed when his time comes [at the Apocalypse]. For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work, only *there* is one [the body of Christ] now holding *things* back until taken out of the way [at our collective gathering together to him]" (2 Thess. 2:6-7).

All these antecedents seemed to me necessary to precede what by necessity will be a prophetic chapter mostly based on prophecy related to the future. Again, this is just the little part that I have been allowed to perceive leaving the doors wide open for continuous marvels and wonders still be revealed to any one reading these words.

"Since we have now been declared righteous by his blood, much more *surely* then we will be saved from the wrath through him" (Rom. 5:9), "and to wait for his Son from the heavens, whom he raised out from the dead, *even* Jesus, our Deliverer from the coming wrath" (1 Tes. 1:10), "for God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Tes. 5:9). Again, in these Scriptures we confirm that something is completely established by God when repeated three times, furthermore, we corroborate that the totality of the grace administration is protected and encouraged with these words of hope.

I was aware of the greatness of the second coming of Christ Jesus to save, to take away his Church, his body, the born-again believers, just before the catastrophe of the Apocalypse (of which we read in the book of Revelation, Daniel, etc.) I knew what 1 Corinthians and 1 and 2 Thessalonians told us about that:

- 1) Jesus Christ is coming to our blue heaven to resurrect and rise up all his brothers and sisters: "this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality" (1 Cor. 15:53); those believers who died [corruptible] right since the day of Pentecost until that moment will rise first, then the rest of believers alive [mortals] at the time of his coming, "for a meeting with the Lord in the air, and in this manner we will always be with the Lord" (1 Thess. 4:17b). This is the one commonly known as "the rapture". We will be with Jesus Christ and with God dwelling in heaven for some seven years; and after:
- 2) Jesus Christ is coming with us to defeat the Antichrist and his hosts and to establish his first earthly Kingdom that will last a thousand years. At the same time of his coming with us, Satan will be chained for the same thousand years in the prison of darkness, "that he should deceive the nations no more, until the thousand years should be finished, after this he must be loosed for a little time" (Rev. 20:3b).

In the free anonymous book in Google books "Heaven not our home but the renovated earth the eternal abode of the redeemed saints" (1878) we read: "The saints, crowned with glory, honour, and immortality, will reign with him [Christ] for ever over the renovated earth". It was until that moment that I realized the great importance of the forty days that Jesus Christ walked among his disciples after his resurrection. Jesus was the living demonstration of the destiny of the born again believers on earth!

First of all it is very important to understand what happens when a person dies. Being the Bible a spiritual book revealed by God, it should include information on such an important subject, and it does, because when somebody dies, "his breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; In that very day his thoughts perish" (Ps. 146:4, ASV); "in death there is no remembrance of You; In the grave who will give You thanks?" (Ps. 6:5); "You are deeply concerned when one of your loyal people faces death" (Ps. 116:15, CEV); and that for the born again believer: "the last enemy to be abolished is death" (1 Cor. 15:26).

Furthermore, the believers of the Old Testament were promised to be raised from the death to enter immediately into the promised Kingdom, for example: "you shall rest [die], and will arise [resurrect] to your inheritance [the Kingdom] at the end of the days" (Dan. 12:13b), "He [God] raises the poor out of the dust [death], and lifts the needy out of the ash heap [death], that He may seat him with princes [at the Kingdom] —With the princes of His people [at the Kingdom]" (Ps. 113:7-8; 1 Sam. 2:8), "He [God] brings down to the grave [death] and brings up [resurrection]" (1 Sam. 2:6b). So, according to the Bible, the death of the believer of all times is like a sleep, because there will be an awakening, a brining up to live forever.

For the people that dies time stops and also their thoughts, until the moment of their resurrection. For them, their death is the immediate moment of their reunion with Christ; but not so for the ones that are still alive, because for them, time and thoughts are still running. That's why death is an enemy for the believer, because it stops him from continuing preaching the wonders of God, living for God and contributing in the growth of the body of Christ, and it is also an enemy for God because it stops the believer from communicating with Him, from worshiping Him, is one member of the body that stops his activities within that body of Christ, until being raised again.

The millennium or thousand years of the Kingdom of Christ over the earth is only like the little tasting of a bigger thing, of what is still about to come once Satan is released for its last rounds, to be finally casted into the lake of fire, to allow for the definitive New Heavens and New Earth to be settled in forever. All the unfulfilled prophecies to Israel will be fulfilled in the millennium, but after that, a totally new and higher reality will be established by God Himself returning, such as in Genesis, we could see him walk and live on earth.

Of E. W. Bullinger I did learn the beautiful symmetry of the Bible: that the same God designing the symmetric patters of a leaf is the same revealing His Word and His master plan for the history of the universe. If I apply those principles, plus other inspired observations of holy men and women through the ages, those that helped me to open my own eyes, the next is what I am able to see thus far, and all this is only in part:

In Genesis we see Cherubims and the revolving sword of fire preventing Adam and Eve to return to Paradise or Eden to eat from the fruit of the three of life while at the end of Revelation we see that 12 angels at the 12 gates of the city of God that descended from heaven are preventing the people from the outside of the Holy City, to enter into it, unless being worthy. Now, the fact that there is one angel per gate, representing each gate one of the tribes of Israel, each angel is going to be in the midst of the always open gates, like a porter in a soccer game, clearly indicates, at least to me, that outside of this City of gold and precious stones, there will continue being, by their free will, some humans that will be deeply evil, and robbers, cheaters, whoremongers, ambitious, depraved, witch-crafters, liars, warlocks, those seeking pleasures against nature, those developing religion based on their own lusts and passions, etc., etc. But also new generations of good people, seeking for answers, and willing to accept the free and immediate offering of Christ and of his God.

Also, in the Genesis we read the names of the four arms or branches of the river that went out of the Paradise (Euphrates, Hiddekel, Pison, Gihon), while at the end of Revelation we see inside the Holy City four arms of water emerging from a common point at the center of the Holy City, from the Throne where God himself and His son Jesus Christ rule; one branch of that river of living waters emerged to the north, another to the south, another to the east, and another to the west. Whoever who willingly and freely drinks of those waters, will immediately receive immortality. And of course, the fruit of the tree of life from Genesis has its expanded parallel in the orchard of threes of life at both sides of each branch of the river of living waters. Again, to eat freely from the fruit of life will provide eternal life immediately to anyone living outside of the Divine City. It makes sense that living waters feed the roots of the trees that produce the living fruit during the whole year.

The kings of the whole earth living outside of that city of grandeur will bring their best gifts to the doors of the beloved City.

Another particular detail revealed in connection with this orchard of life is that the leaves of these trees spreading all over the city of Christ, traveling from the center of its four cardinal points, are for the healing of the nations! This again makes me think that outside of this city that descended from heaven, there will continue for ever and ever, generation after generation, a humanity with the free will to receive healing, which means that outside that perfect city, will still continue pain and suffering and the free will to end with all of that through believing and freely accepting the invitation of God and of His son, not only for a temporary physical healing, but also to eat and drink immortality.

The special interest of God through all times, first to paradise or Eden, then to the Promised land for His people, and then for a place where His own Holy City will be able to comfortably descend from heaven, indicates to me than all through the ages, these are the different descriptions of one and the same piece of land where finally justice will be established, and inside which, and only inside death will exist no more, and that only from the Holy City will be possible to travel through all the universe (remember the stairway to heaven that Jacob saw from that place with angels flowing through it, and the army of angels ascending and descending over the son of man).

Outside of the luminous and rich City of the Divine there will be no more ocean, so all the deepest places of the current Pacific and Atlantic oceans, etc., will be inhabitable for humans and their animals. Apparently, only fresh and drinking water will be available through rivers and lakes in the outside of the City of wonders of the New Earth. Maybe the sun and the moon will continue to exist, I don't know, but evidently, the light emanating from the inside of the bright City of the Saints will be seen throughout the rest of the earth. The fact that the theory of probability and statistics indicate that a logical and possible scenario will be that at any given time of the eternal future, of a presence of at least a 50% of humans potentially willing to accept, by their free will, their immediate salvation and immortality (being our desire their number to be higher), which also indicates that the earth, under such future conditions perfectly planned by God, will never experience a problem of overpopulation.

"I heard a great voice out of the throne saying, "Behold!, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he shall dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them, and be their God, and he will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain, any more; the former things have passed away." And he who sits on the throne said, "Behold!, I make all things new." And he says, "Write, for these words are faithful and true"" (Rev. 21:3-5), and this was prophesied since the Old Testament: "I [God] will set My tabernacle among you, and My soul shall not abhor you. I will walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people" (Lev. 26:11-12)!.

"Those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal [aionion] inheritance in the Age to come" (Heb. 9:15b). "Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he [God] who promised is faithful" (Heb. 10:23), "you have need of patience, that, having done the will of God, you

may receive the promise. For in just a little while (How little! How little!), the Coming One will come, and will not delay" (Heb. 10:36-37).

I wish to quote at least twelve points of some Scriptures after we understood that:

"We will always be with the Lord" (1 Thess. 4:17b):

1) First of all "our citizenship is in heaven, from where also we wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the exertion of the power that he has, even to subject all things to himself" (Phil. 3:20-21). Jesus promises to provide us with a body "like his glorious body". We will have a perfect immortal body fueled by the spirit exactly the same as the body that Christ Jesus now has! That's why we will be able to reach every distance, every place at the reach of Christ because "our citizenship is in heaven". Now, "to be [our body] like his [Jesus] glorious body" includes to "have flesh and bones, as you see me [Jesus] having"! (Lk. 24:39b), but with control over matter as "he vanished out of their sight" (Lk. 24:31b), and was able to cross through solid matter because "when the doors were shut where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst", and again "Jesus comes, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst" (Jn. 20:19b,26b), with a much better facial and physical features in our visible appearance, because "he [Jesus] appeared to two of them in another form [en hetera morphe]" (Mk. 16:12a).

Our new body will be: "raised in incorruption", and "in glory", and "in power", and "raised a spiritual body" (1 Cor. 15:42b,50b,52b, 43b, 44b), "a life-giving spirit", "of heaven", "heavenly" (1 Cor. 15:45b, 47b,48b,49b), "we will all be changed"!; "for this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality" (1 Cor. 15:51b,52c, 53). Right here we see that both the dead believers and the living believers of that time will be fully transformed! "Through Jesus, God will bring from the grave those who have fallen asleep in him" (1 Thess. 4:14b), "the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we [any born again believers] who are alive [at the time of his coming for us], who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds, for a meeting with the Lord in the air, and in this manner we will always be with the Lord. So then, encourage one another with these words"! (1 Thess. 4:16b-18). These are certainly very encouraging words! This is "the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to him" (2 Thess. 2:1b), the most amazing event to-date for us! And that is possible because "he [Jesus] was taken up and a cloud received him out of their [the twelve apostles] sight (Acts 1:9b), Jesus "was taken up from you into heaven", but "shall so come in like manner as you [apostles] saw him going into heaven" (Acts 1:11b). Meanwhile we are restraining the arrival of the Antichrist, "you know what [the gift of holy spirit] is now holding him back"!, "there is one [the nature of Christ in us, the body of Christ] now holding things back until taken out of the way" (2 Thess. 2:6a,7b). And after that "the Lord Jesus will kill [that Antichrist] with the spirit from his mouth, and bring to nothing his operations by the glorious appearance of his coming", "the revelation of the Lord Jesus from heaven, with his powerful angels" (2 Thess. 2:8b, 1:7a), and we will be those powerful angels of Jesus! "Now we see in a mirror, darkly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then will I know fully even as also I was fully known" (1 Cor. 13:12).

- 2) Peter said that "heaven must receive [Christ Jesus] until the times of restoration of all things, about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets that have been from of old" (Acts. 3:21). So, we are going to be there with him in heaven, "until the times of restoration of all things"! We understand that our stay in heaven is going to be a period of seven years, to descend then to earth to defeat the antichrist and his hosts, and for the imprisonment of Satan in darkness for a thousand years. After these years, Satan goes out again for his final defeat, to be cast in the lake of fire. Then God himself with His Holy City, the New Jerusalem, will descend from heaven to establish his abode among men, and we will still be here on earth, helping Jesus Christ, and then helping God in the government of the planet and its citizens.
- 3) "The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, till I make your enemies your footstool"" (Ps. 110:1). God said to Jesus: "Sit at My right hand, till I make your enemies your footstool", and if we are going to be always with Jesus, we are going to be at the right hand of God while the full destructions of the Apocalypse are completed, then at the final point of it, at the end of it, we will descend with him. Things that apparently exist in the heaven where God dwells are, not only the throne of God, but gigantic pearls, produced maybe in that exterior sea that surrounds the universe, twelve of them will be sculpted in heaven with the twelve names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel to produce the great arches of Access of the City of God which will descend from heaven (Rev. 21:12, 21), precious stones, twelve of them, huge, will form the foundations of the walls of that City that is coming from heaven, with the names of the twelve apostles of Jesus sculpted over them (Rev. 21:19-20,14), jasper, and gold pure and very fine, transparent, with which the heavenly City will be formed and its streets (Rev. 21:19,18,21), white linen, not only fine but very fine, sufficient as to be able to dress all the immortal saints and all the angels from heaven (Rev. 19:14), and also the best and most beautiful white horses (Rev. 19:11,14,19,21), etc., etc. Logics will indicate that every good thing that can be done on earth today will be done there, only perfected, best and better, and here too when that very holy Celestial City be posed over our New Earth of the future. The tabernacle of Israel and its Temple in Jerusalem, and other things, were the shadows of things that existed in the heaven of those days, and the same can be said of the provisional Temple of the future seen by Ezekiel, within the Kingdom of the thousand years of Jesus over the earth.
- 4) "And I saw the heavens opened, and behold, a white horse, and he who sat on it called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war... And the armies that are in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white *and* pure" (Rev. 19:11, 14), "and to you who are being afflicted *to grant* relief along with us at the revelation of the Lord Jesus from heaven, with his powerful angels, in flaming fire" (2 Thess. 1:7-8a). This rider on a white horse is Christ Jesus and we will be "the armies that are in heaven", and each one of us also "followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white *and* pure", we are going to receive that relief, when we are also revealed from heaven, because we are going to be "his powerful angels, in flaming fire"!. Remember that Jesus told us that the resurrected ones will be "like angels in heaven" (Mt. 22:30b; Mr. 12:25b).
- 5) "The sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see **the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven** with power and great glory. And he will send forth his angels with a loud trumpet blast, and they will gather together his chosen *ones* from the

four winds, from the ends of the heavens to the ends of it" (Mt. 24:30-31). If Jesus is coming, we are coming also with him! Also, "with power and great glory" we are going to help him to "gather together his chosen *ones* from the four winds", which includes the Hebrews and gentiles of all times until that time, that were outside of the body of Christ but that nonetheless believed in his coming and/or were good according to their consciences (Rom. 2:14-16)! With this context we can see that also the good ones alive at that time will be gathered by us to enter into the Kingdom of Jesus Christ: "So *also* will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two men will be in the field; one is taken, and one is left. ["In that night there will be two men on one bed; the one will be taken, and the other will be left" (Lk. 17:34b).] Two women are grinding with a hand mill; one is taken, and one is left. Therefore, watch, for you do not know on what day your Lord comes" (Mt. 24:39b-42). This is easily understood by remembering in the context that we "will gather together his chosen *ones*". Some of 'the good sheep' entering the Kingdom of Jesus will still be mortal, because "the child shall die one hundred years old" (Is. 65:20c), but they will also be raised to live forever.

- 6) "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. And all the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate them one from another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. And he will put the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to the ones on his right, 'Come, you who have been blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom that has been prepared for you from the foundation of the world... Then he will also say to the ones on the left hand, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the fire of the Age, which has been prepared for the Slanderer and his angels... And these will go away into punishment in the Age to come; but the righteous into life in the Age to come" (Mt. 25:31-46). The arduous work in which "all the nations will be gathered before him", I think will be done with our help, and with the help of the rest of the angels. The order of Jesus given to the bad ones, to the "cursed" ones to "depart from" him, I think that does not include their immediate destruction, because they, and many of their descendants, will be consumed with "fire and sulfur from heaven" (Lk. 17:29-30), "and fire came down out of heaven and devoured them" (Rev. 20:9b) after the thousand years, at the same time that Satan will be finally casted out to the lake of fire, because they were completely deceived by Satan. These bad humans will experience the second death, to be left, after informed of their fate and because of the evil choices of their free will, with absolutely no option of resurrection. And we have the certainty that all the global evils over the earth, after Satan is casted to the lake of fire, "will never ever happen again" (Mt. 24:21b). Yahoo!
- 7) "The prince [Jesus] shall have *a section* on one side and the other of the holy district and the city's property" (Ez. 45:7, 48:21)... "Moreover, apart from the possession of the Levites and the possession of the city *which are* in the midst of what *belongs* to the prince [Jesus], *the area* between the border of Judah and the border of Benjamin shall belong to the prince [Jesus]" (Ez. 48:22). We will be right there with Jesus, also enjoying as joint-heirs all of his properties on earth!
- 8) One of the missions of Jesus in the thousand years of his Kingdom will be to be the legal religious and political leader of humanity, "Yes, he [Jesus] shall build the temple of the LORD. He shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule on His throne; so he shall be a priest on his throne, and the counsel of peace shall be between them both" (Zech. 6:13). The Temple of God will be rebuilt by Jesus Christ in his thousand

year Kingdom. For his first Ministry we read: "The LORD has sworn and will not relent, "You *are* a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek"" (Ps. 110:4). If he is going to fulfill this spiritual role over humanity, and we are going to be always with him, don't you think that we are going to share with him on this assignment as well? Peter says to the born-again believers that they are like Christ, "chosen *and* precious in the sight of God, you also, as living stones, are built up *into* a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ... you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for *God's* own possession, that you may proclaim the glorious attributes of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light" (1 Pe. 2:5,9)! If we are fellowscitizens and coparticipants of all the promises that God did to Israel for the precious blod shed by Christ, jthis also applies to us! jAmen!

After the thousand years, finally the everlasting Kingdom of God and of Christ is going to be established for ever: "they [God and Christ] will reign for ever and ever" (Rev. 22:5b). "To him [Jesus] was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed" (Dan. 7:14), Jesus will submit all the enemies of God and then he himself will offer all his victory to God, for God to be the highest power on earth and of the universe: "then comes the end, when he [Jesus] delivers the kingdom to God, even the Father", "when all things have been subjected to him [Jesus], then the Son [Jesus] will subject himself [Jesus] to him [God] who subjected all things to him [Jesus], that God may be all in all" (1 Cor. 15:24a,28). God is and always has been and will be greater than Jesus: "the Father [God] is greater than I [Jesus]" (Jn. 14:28b).

- 9) From the authority of Jesus we read: "To him [Jesus] *shall be* the obedience of the people" (Gn. 49:10d). Jesus finally will be the King of kings and Lord of lords within his millennial Kingdom, and we are going to be with him! "He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, and from the river to the ends of the earth" (Ps. 72:8). Such dominion "from sea to sea" and "from the river to the ends of the earth" will certainly need a team of trustworthy helpers: us! The nations are going to be obedient to him, and certainly we are going to be helping on this for the obedience of the nations. "The kingdom of the world is become *the kingdom* of our Lord, and of his Christ, and **he will reign for ever and ever**" (Rev. 11:15b). And we with him will "reign for ever and ever." This eternal Kingdom of Christ, of which he will always be in charge: "shall never be destroyed", and "it shall stand forever" (Dn. 2:44). We surely are the ones that are going to help Jesus organize the godly environment of the thousand years of his Kingdom, as we read that: "we will also reign with him [Jesus]"! (2 Tim. 2:12). In the Kingdom of Jesus of the thousand years there will be a Temple in Jerusalem built by him, however, in the everlasting Kingdom of God and of Jesus, there will be no temple at all because they both are going to dwell there: "and I saw no sanctuary in it, for the Lord God the Almighty, and the Lamb, are its sanctuary" (Rev. 21:22). The Lamb is Jesus, of whom we are body and with whom we will be forever.
- 10) Jesus will be also a just judge and "I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them" (Rev. 20:4a), "the Son of Man is about to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then will he repay each *person* according to what he has done" (Mt. 16:27), We, saved now by grace, are going to be those "his angels" who are going to constantly judge the rest of humanity according to their deeds! "He [Jesus] shall judge between the nations, and rebuke many people; they

shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore" (Is. 2:4), we are going to collaborate in the transformation of war instruments into agricultural instruments, "with righteousness he [Jesus] shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth" (Is. 11:4a). "A king [Jesus] will reign in righteousness, and princes will rule with justice" (Is. 32:1), "my arms will judge the peoples; the coastlands will wait upon me, and on my arm they will trust" (Is. 51:5b), "a King [Jesus] shall reign and prosper, and execute judgment and righteousness in the earth" (Jer. 23:5b, 33:15b). "The Father does not judge anyone, but he has given all judgment to the Son [Jesus]" (Jn. 5:22), so Jesus Christ is going to do all the judging, and certainly the members of his body, us, are going to be doing something to help.

Jesus himself, after his resurrection, went to proclaim his victory to the spirits that are chained inside prisons of darkness, the ones that attempted to prevent the coming of Christ through the corruption of the human genome. We are going to rule and to judge the earth and also those angels. Jesus Christ is the head of the angels, "having become as much better than the angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs" (Heb. 1:4) and, because we are members of his body and joint-heirs with him, we are also above the angels, "heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ" (Rom. 8:17b).

"He [God] has set a day in which he is about to justly judge the inhabited world by the man whom he has appointed [Jesus], having given proof to all people by raising him out from among *the* dead" (Acts. 17:31). "Or do you not know that the holy *ones* will judge the world? And if the world is judged by you, are you incompetent to judge the trivial cases? Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more, then, things that pertain to this life?" (1 Cor. 6:2-3). "Angels that did not keep their own domain, but left their proper habitation, he has kept in everlasting bonds under darkness for *the* judgment of *the* great Day" (Jude 6), "God did not spare angels when they sinned, but threw them down into Tartarus, *the dungeon*, and committed them to chains of gloomy darkness to be kept until *the* judgment" (2 Pe. 2:4), "[Christ was] made alive in *the* spirit, in which also he went and heralded *his victory* to the spirits in prison" (1 Pe. 3:19). Once more, we can see here that for three times it is repeated, leaving completely established, the fact that angels or spirits are bound, in prison waiting with all certainty "*the* judgment of *the* great Day", that maybe will be included in the judgment that we are going to execute from the thrones described in Ap. 20:4a.

- 11) Because we are going to be kings and queens with Christ in his coming Kingdom, some of the Crowns [Stephanos] that we are going to enjoy to show our authority, are:
- a) "Blessed is the man who endures temptation, for when he has been approved he will receive the crown of life, which the Lord promised to those who love him" (James 1:12), if we really love our Lord Jesus, we will endure any temptation for him, with not giving up nor giving in; Jesus is the one that promised this "crown of life" to any human (including the born again believers) that loves him and stands for him in the midst of temptation, being the biggest temptation the prospect of death, as it will happen to the future and late believers in the days of the Apocalypse (book of Revelation): "be faithful to death [tardy believers at Smyrna], and I will give you the crown of life" (Rev. 2:10b). I thank God that we, the born again believers, are not going to be there to suffer at such extremes! But it is wonderful to me to realize that this "crown of life" is promised to anyone at any time endures for Christ!, for example,

to the latter believers at Philadelphia, Jesus told them something slightly different and more mild: "Because you kept the word of my patience, I also will keep you from the hour of trial, that *hour* which is to come upon the whole inhabited world, to test those who dwell upon the earth. I come quickly. Hold fast that which you have, so that no one takes your crown" (Rev. 3:10-11), these late believers are going to be more protected than the ones at Smyrna because these ones at Philadelphia "kept the word"! These believers will also receive "the crown of life" (as that was the last crown mentioned in context), and they, like us, even when they are going to exist in the future but not now, by the spirit of prophecy, they are teaching us that the most that we keep the full integrity of the Word of God, the more protected we are of dangers and tribulations!

- b) "Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, exercising oversight, not out of compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you do it, and not for dishonorable gain, but eagerly, not lording it over those allotted to you, but being examples to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd [Jesus] appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away" (1 Pe. 5:2-4), this crown of glory is for some of us more committed to the service of others, those of us that by our free will decided to be pastors or good shepherds of the body of believers, "being examples", so that Jesus will give you "the crown of glory that does not fade away"! A permanent crown that does not age or gets old!
- c) "What is man [you and me], that you are mindful of him? Or the Son of Man [Jesus Christ], that you visit him? You made him [you and me and Jesus before his/ours spiritual indwelling resurrection] lower than the angels for a little while [before his/ours spiritual transformation]. You crowned him [Jesus Christ and us at his coming] with glory and honor, and set him [Jesus Christ our head and us, his body, at his coming] over the works of your hands. You put all things in subjection under his feet [the head and the body of Christ, the first-fruits of His will]" (Heb. 2:6b-8a); here, by the spirit of apostleship, the divine writer declared that another Old Testament prophecy, a song written and arranged by David (Ps. 8:4-6), also applies to us! And that we are adding to our future crown of glory, also "the crown of honor", and now "we see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than angels, (now having been crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death), in order that by the grace of God he should taste death in place of everyone" (Heb. 2:9).

"And the God of peace will crush the Adversary under your feet [of all the born again believers since the day of Pentecost to the day in which Jesus Christ will come to take away his Church, the members of his body, to heaven] swiftly" (Rom. 16:20a).

- **d**) "Everyone who is competing *in the games* exercises self-control *in* all things. Now they *do it* to receive a corruptible crown, but we an incorruptible" (1 Cor. 9:25), we will receive an incorruptible crown if we had "self-control *in* all things"!
- **e**) "Who is our hope, or joy, or crown of boasting before our Lord Jesus at his coming? Is it not you?" (1 Thess. 2:19), "my brothers beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, my beloved" (Phil. 4:1). Are you very happy when somebody that you did talk the Word of God takes a bold stand for Christ? Are they really your beloved? Well, we will receive another "crown of joy" and/or a "crown of boasting" for winning and loving new believers for Christ!

f) "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. In the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me at that day, and not to me only, but also to all those who have loved his appearing" (2 Tim. 4:7-8), Paul revealed to his closest collaborator at the time, Timothy, to proclaim to the rest of the believers that Christ is going to give "the crown of righteousness", "to all those who have loved his appearing"! To all of us keeping the love for his return, loving our hope, which is the right thing to do, all of us will receive this amazing crown!, etc.

12) "The tabernacle of God is with men, and he shall dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them, and be their God" (Rev. 21:3b). God Himself is going to dwell on the New Earth with humanity! The New Jerusalem will be descending from heaven with God in it to dwell in earth forever! God's arrival is amazing, while Jesus Christ and his own are living on the New Earth (where there will be as well "great and high" mountains): "and he carried me away in spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God" (Rev. 21:10), "and I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God" (Rev. 21:2), "I [Jesus] will write upon him [the overcomer in the days of Revelation, told to the future congregation in Philadelphia] the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God (the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from my God), and my [Jesus, the Lamb] own new name" (Rev. 3:12b). Again for three times we have the complete certainty that God is coming to live forever on the New Earth! And also that: "the city has no need of the sun, nor of the moon, to shine upon it, for the glory of God has illuminated it, and its lamp is the Lamb [Jesus]" (Rev. 21:23), and if we are going to be always with Jesus, we are going to be right there, at the center of the Holy City of God that descends from heaven!

After this, the only thing left is to remind the holy ones of this time, that this is only a little taste, and to ask God in the same way as the saints of the first century did ask:

"The eyes of your heart having been enlightened in order that you may know what is the hope of his [God's] calling, what is the riches of the glory of his [God's] inheritance in the holy ones" (Eph. 1:18b). Paul asks God to reveal directly to us additional details related to our hope! Among other things, we need to be real experts in the hope, and in the knowledge of our inheritance, which include "riches" and "glory", which are attributes we will share with Christ himself and with the rest of the born-again ones.

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