

King James Bible Study Correspondence Course

An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries
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GLORIFICATION

Lesson 7

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This promise was indicated by the Lord Jesus in His great high priestly prayer as recorded in John 17:22,23. In that prayer Jesus prayed, *"And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me."* The Bible teaches that this moment of unity and likeness will take place when we shall see Him and be changed into His glorious likeness. Only then will that unity be attained which Jesus prayed for in His prayer of John 17.

Church leaders today are trying to establish a world church, pleading for unity while denying the fundamental doctrines of the Christian faith. The Holy Spirit warned us in 2 Peter, that these men would come. *"But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction."* 2 Peter 2:1. Only once since the church was established by the Lord Jesus Christ was there such a unity. In Acts 2:1 it is written, *"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place."* (KJV)

It was not long, however, until Satan brought division, first by Ananias and his wife (Acts 5), and then by the Grecians because their widows were being neglected (Acts 6:1). Satan, by devious ways and tricks, has kept the professing church in a divided state ever since. Satan will not be successful in preventing the fulfillment of Jesus' prayer in John 17, for it is written, *"When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day."* 2 Thessalonians 1:10.

- **Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit**

"For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us." Romans 8:18. In Colossians, is revealed when this glory was to be realized. *"When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory."*

Colossians 3:4. Earlier in that same letter we are told. *"To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:"* Colossians 1:27.

- **High Calling**

The apostle Peter, wrote saying of the "power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ," said that they were *"eyewitnesses of his majesty."* He also wrote, *"But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you. To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."* 1 Peter 5:10-11. What a **High Calling**

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that will be in the day of its fulfillment. Think of it, not merely called unto glory but "*called unto his eternal glory*". How a sinner, destitute of any righteousness of his own, could be made a partaker of the glory that belongs to the Lord Jesus Christ, is beyond the comprehension of the natural mind of man. "*But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.*" 1 Corinthians 2:9,10.

- **Assurance beyond measure**

The aged apostle John no doubt began to realize that he too was soon to go the way of all flesh. He determined by the Spirit that all who should come after him might not be frightened by death. The book of 1John taught believers that when Jesus comes for his own, this great miracle of being made like unto Jesus will take place. Read again those precious words, "*Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.*" 1 John 3:2. Anything we are called upon to experience, endure or suffer is not to be "*For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.*" Romans 8:18.

How sure can the believer be that this transaction will be completed as planned? The Word of God has given a clear and positive answer to this question. **The SURETY of its accomplishment is the "sealing" of the Holy Spirit.** Twice in the book of Ephesians, the apostle speaks of this "sealing." In both instances, the sealing is "*In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.*"

Ephesians 1:13-14, See also Ephesians 4:30. In the business world, a contract is made binding by a down payment or "earnest money." Our God, in His wisdom and mercy, has used a familiar transaction of the business world to ASSURE all believers that **He will make good on what he has promised in the redemption of the body of every born again believer.** What a glorious day that will be for His redeemed ones.

- **Why a Glorified Body**

It can be shown from the Scriptures that the redemption of the physical body into the likeness of Jesus' glorified body was included in His redemptive work on the cross.

The first purpose of the glorified body is to complete the work the Lord has begun in all believers. In writing to the Philippians, the Bible says: "*Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:*" Philippians 1:6. The great Captain of our salvation will bring us: "*For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.*" Hebrews 2:10. In the process of performing this tremendous change, the

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Lord is presently working in the life of each believer. *"For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure."*

Philippians 2:13. This work is described in Ephesians 5:26-27 as *"That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish."* (KJV) As we heed the Word of God, it makes possible the work of the Holy Spirit to change us progressively into the likeness of Christ. In 2 Corinthians 3:18 states, *"But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord."* (KJV)

- **Fear not**

The second purpose of the glorification of the body is to remove all anxiety and fear concerning the dying of the body. Ever since Adam was driven from the Garden of Eden, the sentence of death instilling fear has been upon his descendants. The reason for this fear was ignorance of what might follow the death of the body. All mankind has this fear. It was not until the Lord Jesus Christ came in His Incarnation that there was a change. The Bible comforts us with this testimony: *"But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:"* 2 Timothy 1:10. In Hebrews 2:14,15 the Bible declares that the purpose of Christ's death was that: *"Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage."* (KJV)

The Lord Jesus, on that last night with the twelve, as He faced death on the cross, gave them words of comfort that have been treasured by the children of God in every age. These words are recorded for us in John 14:1-3 where Jesus said, *"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."* (KJV) The scriptures go on to comfort us with these words 2 Corinthians 5:1, *"For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."* (KJV)

The child of God, being fully instructed by the Word of God, has no need to fear death or what lies beyond. As the scripture remind us *"absent from the body, present with the Lord."* 2 Corinthians 5:8.

- **Destroy the works of the devil**

The third purpose of the glorification of the body is to destroy the works of the devil, and death is one of those works. The first epistle states, *..."for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil."* I John 3:8b. We have learned that Satan has this

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power. Hebrews 2:14,15. We have also learned that his power has limitations as shown in Job 2:6. Satan by his subtlety deceived Eve. This led to Adam's transgression, which brought the sentence of death upon the whole creation. When the last Adam (the Lord Jesus Christ) came, He, by His obedience, wrought victory over sin, death and the grave. This victory must be accepted by faith. All around us people die, and we too will die if Jesus continues to tarry. We are assured of victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. *"Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself."* Philippians 3:21.

- **God's Grace**

The fourth purpose of the glorification of the body is to display the grace of God in the coming ages. *"That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus."* Ephesians 2:7. Those who will share in this coming glory are those whom He purchased with His own blood or as stated in Acts 20:28b, *"...the church of God which he hath purchased with his own blood."* It is here that the doctrine of predestination comes to its full development. Every believer will be presented as a son of God, for it is written, *"Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved."* Ephesians 1:5-6. The Holy Spirit, having sealed every believer into the body of Christ, will in that day, deliver all the redeemed to Christ and He in turn will present them: *"Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,"* Jude 24. Predestination, therefore, points to that time in the plan and purpose of God when every born again believer will be presented as a son of God. 1 John 3: 1. When that day comes, then that which was promised will be realized on the day of our presentation to God the Father. At that moment, in God's time, the prayer of the Lord Jesus in John 17:24 will become a reality, for there Jesus prayed, *"Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world."* (KJV)

This will be the time of His "inheritance in the saints." That moment is called, *"The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,"* Ephesians 1:18,19.

- **God power faileth not**

The power that will bring this promise to a glorious fulfillment is the same power that raised the Lord Jesus Christ from the dead. It is written, *"But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you."* Romans 8:11. In this Scripture it is the living body, the one that will be alive at the

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moment of the catching away. See I Thessalonians 4:16-18 & 1 Corinthians 15:51. The body, which is in the grave, is spoken of in 1 Corinthians 6:14, "*And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by his own power.*" Later, the scriptures elaborate of this point as shown in "*So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption: It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power: It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.*" 1 Corinthians 15:42-44). Then, to settle once for all what that body will be like, the scripture says: "*And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.*" 1 Corinthians 15:49.

- **The doctrine of resurrection**

The Bible says in the explanation of the resurrection truth, compares the natural seed that was sown with the natural body that was sown and with the new body which the believer will have in the resurrection see I Corinthians 15:43,44. This introduces the "**as and also**" of this explanation, "*And as we have borne the image of the earthly, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly*" I Corinthians 15:49. It will be the Lord Jesus Himself who shall bring about this wonderful change. See how the scriptures unfold this marvelous mystery: "*Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?*"

- **God's faithful promises**

We are given another reason that guarantees this glorified body. It is the ability of Him who has begun a good work in us Philippians 1:6 to complete what He has begun. Just before Jesus left the eleven on the Mount of Olives, He commissioned them and said, "... *All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.*"

Matthew 28:18b. That power was demonstrated many times during His earthly ministry when He healed the sick, cleansed the lepers, and raised the dead. Having ascended up to the right hand of the Father, He awaits the day, "*And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.*" 2 Thessalonians 1:10. In that day "*Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.*" Romans 8:21-23.

- **His solid guarantee**

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There is a fourth reason for this guarantee and it is the WORD itself. In John 10:35b, Jesus declared that "..., *and the scripture cannot be broken;*" God's Word is the foundation, the **rock** upon which all the believer's hopes are anchored. Jesus knew that the Scriptures could not be broken. Do we have that same assurance? Do we believe that He cannot break His Word, that He will not allow one promise to fail? If not, then we are like those described in I Corinthians 15:19, "*If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.*" (KJV) We should all thank God His Word can never be broken and will abide forever see Matthew 24:35. The Lord Jesus, from the announcement of His birth until the moment He said, "*It is finished*" was to fulfill the Scriptures Luke 24:25-27. The believer, therefore, has the authority of the written Word and the Incarnate Word to support his hope of the first resurrection, when his body will be changed into the glorious likeness of his Lord.

- **Perfection of this glorified body**

The believer, having known only the limitations of his present body, its proneness to weakness, infirmity and death, is thrilled at the prospect before him. This great change could take place in the "*twinkling of an eye.*" He will be, in every sense pertaining to his body, like unto his Lord. The highest motivation to live a holy, godly life in this present world, is this hope. see I John 3:3. The perfection of the glorified body will mean a finished transaction for all believers. The Holy Spirit will deliver the whole company of believers, redeemed by the blood of the Lamb, into the hands of the Lord Jesus Christ. "*And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.*" John 14:3. The book of Jude, added to this perfection saying: "*Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.*" Jude 24.

- **Complete transformation**

The perfection of the glorified body will mean a complete transformation. Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit Paul wrote to the Corinthian believers saying: "*And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.*" 1 Corinthians 15:49-50. In this description, he describes the body that has died and has returned to dust and the body (mortal) which is still living at the moment of this great transformation. Previous verses in this chapter make it clear that this is not a process going on during the lifetime of the believer, but an instantaneous change. This will occur when the Lord Jesus shall call His own unto Himself. Any doubt is removed by the information imparted in 1 Thessalonians 4:16,17 also review 1 John 3:2. This means that the glorified Christ will change the body whether returned to dust or alive at that precise moment into His own glorious likeness. At that moment in God's time, the prayer of Paul in 1 Thessalonians 5:23 will become a reality; "*...I pray God your whole spirit*

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and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." (KJV)

- **Translation of the saints**

The perfection of the glorified body is promised to take place at the translation of the saints to be with Christ. This is blessed truth of the believer now. This is seen in Colossians 1:12,13, after speaking of our thankfulness to *"Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: (KJV)*

However, the believer's translation is still future. We await the time when Jesus shall come to receive His own unto Himself to be with Him forever. This will fulfill His promise in John 14:1-3 and His prayer in John 17:22-24. In this present life, we are challenged to live a life that displays the gospel of the grace of God Philippians 1:27, looking forward to that day when He will complete and glorify that which He has redeemed see Romans 8:23 and Ephesians 1:13,14. As our present salvation does not rest on anything that we have done or may do, so the redemption of the body is likewise a work of grace, wholly dependent on the promise and power of God. He will fulfill His Word to all those who have received His Son as their Saviour.

- **The final Transfiguration**

The perfection of the glorified body will mean transfiguration. The apostle Peter tells us of his own experience. 2 Peter 1:16b and 1 Peter 5: 1b. He, like Paul, knew that the time of this glory was to be when the chief Shepherd appeared

1 Peter 5:4. We know that our present bodies are subject to all forms of difficulty, weaknesses, failures, and ultimately to death. They cannot meet or conform to that coming likeness which is to be the inheritance of every born again believer. This transfiguration is still in the future and is a part of "the blessed hope." Before drawing this study to a close, let us review some of the words the Holy Spirit has used in our study. Ephesians 5:27 *"not having spot or wrinkle"*

Philippians 3:21 *"glorious body"*

Colossians 1:22 *"unblameable and unreprouvable"*

1 Thessalonians 3:13 *"unblameable in holiness"*

Jude 24 *"faultless"*

1 John 3:2 *"we shall be like him"*

In that split second of time **expectation** will give place to **reality**; the prayer of Jesus in John 17:23 will have been answered; the present work of the Holy Spirit will have been completed Ephesians 1:13,14; the promise of Romans 8:17,18 will be fulfilled; and the expectation of Colossians 3:4 will become satisfaction in the presence of Him *"And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood," Revelation 1:5.*

In the light of what the believer is to be, the Bible makes strong commands for the child of God to ***begin living like a child of God***, here and now. In other words,

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the knowledge of and faith in this coming glory of the saints is to be a most powerful motivation for holy living. This challenge and command is given in Romans 13:14, ***"But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof."***

We close this study with these words from : Revelation 22:20-21

"He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen."

Notes

KJV

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GLORIFICATION

Lesson 7

Name _____

1. Before Jesus can return for His redeemed, what must be fulfilled?
2. The redemptive work of Christ included:
3. This coming change in the believer's body will be:
4. In His high priestly prayer, Jesus included:
5. We learn of what God has promised for that coming day by:
6. The body that will be ours in that coming day will:
7. Redemption will be completed by:
8. The fear of death will be taken away by:
9. Jesus in John 14:1-3 told His disciples:
10. The works of the devil are clearly revealed by:
11. The doctrine of predestination comes to it's full development in:
12. When the catching away occurs:
13. When this glorious change occurs, it will be brought about:
14. The Word of God teaches us to change our life style by:
15. The perfection of the glorified body will be:
16. We have been assured of this coming glory because we:
17. Does God offer the believer anything beyond this life?
18. Does the Bible reveal anything about what we are to be?
19. Did Jesus ever teach of a life to come far better than the present?

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20. How many of the apostles wrote of this coming glory?
21. Is the doctrine of predestination involved in this coming glory?
22. What part has justification to do with this coming glory?
23. Will the physical body share in the work of redemption?
24. Will all believers have to die to share in this glory?
25. How are believers being prepared for this coming glory?
26. If this truth is believed, will it alter the conduct of the believer?
"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord" 1 Corinthians 15:58.

True/false

- The hope of this coming glory is dependent on one's faithfulness until death.
- The redemptive work of Christ will include the earthly creation.
- The Lord Jesus prayed for all believers to share His glory.
- The Apostle John comforted believers with the hope of being like the Lord Jesus.
- God is not able to complete the work He has begun in us.
- Christ in His redemptive work overcame Satan.
- Predestination concerns the coming glory of the believer.
- All who are in the grave will be resurrected at the same time.
- Our hope for this body of perfection is assured by the written Word and the Incarnate Word.
- This future transformation into Christ's likeness will be an instantaneous miracle.
- Our faith in this coming glory will have little effect on how we live in this life.



Scripture Memorization: John 17:22,23; 2 Thessalonians 1:10;
Romans 8:18 Write these verses on the back of this page they must be in KJV

Any questions?