

# JESUS OUR JOY: CHRIST OUR HOPE



<sup>17</sup> Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern.

<sup>18</sup> For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ:

<sup>19</sup> whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame—who set their mind on earthly things.

Philippians 3: 17-19 (*NKJV*)

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“I have often prayed daily, and to the end, that  
I may live as in a tent pitched between the Cross  
and the Grave of our Lord” *Bishop Handley Moule*



20 For our citizenship is in heaven,  
from which we also eagerly wait for  
the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,  
21 who will transform our lowly body  
that it may be conformed to His  
glorious body, according to the  
working by which He is able even to  
subdue all things to Himself.

Philippians 3: 20-21 (NKJV)

# *Hope and the Ability of the Lord*

“by the power which enables Him even to subject all things to himself.”

Philippians 3:21 (NKJV)

- The power is available, the power is resident in his divine nature.
- The power that Lord possesses is effective power – it is a significant, working power that aims right on target, it cannot be deflected from its aim.
- The power from the Lord is the invincible power enabling Him even to “subject all things to Himself”

The power of Jesus Christ underwrites the promise of His coming again!

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Philippians 3: 20-21 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, my beloved and longed-for brethren, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, beloved.

<sup>2</sup> I implore Euodia and I implore Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord.

<sup>3</sup> And I urge you also, true companion, help these women who labored with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the Book of Life.

Philippians 4: 1-3 (NKJV)

# *Suggestions to Foster Unity*

- Each must make the first move in order to begin the healing process.
- “Conditional” apologies are in order. For example:  
“I do not understand where I have wronged you, but I can see that you feel that I have hurt you. Please forgive me.”
- In the Lord, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, we can find strength to ask for the bitterness in our hearts to be removed.

We can understand one another, express concern for one another and pray for one another – because of what Jesus has done for us and through the power of His presence in our lives.



These are the things we are never to forget. The love of Jesus, with its constraining power, is to be kept fresh in our memory. Christ has instituted this service that it may speak to our senses of the love of God that has been expressed in our behalf. There can be no union between our souls and God except through Christ. The union and love between brother and brother must be cemented and rendered eternal by the love of Jesus. And nothing less than the death of Christ could make His love efficacious (*effective – the one and only remedy*) for us. It is only because of His death that we can look with joy to His second coming. His sacrifice is the center of our hope.

Upon this we must fix our faith. E.G.White, *Desire of Ages* (p.660)

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