

RANKIN
WILBOURNE

UNION
WITH
CHRIST

The Way to Know and Enjoy God

Foreword by JOHN ORTBERG

Brief Review

Chapter 9 – A New Purpose

What am I Here For?

UNION with Christ = New Identity

UNION with Christ = New Destiny

UNION with Christ = New Purpose

New Identity = Who We Are in Christ

New Destiny = Image of God Restored

New Purpose = To Be Made Holy

TAKE HOME POINTS

Union with Christ makes Holiness:

- Beautiful & Accessible
- A Quest Worth Pursuing

Union with Christ won't:

- Let you rest in your sin
- Let you despair when you fail

New Chapter

Chapter 10 – A New Hope

What can I hope for?

What is Hope?

Hope

a feeling of expectation and desire
for a certain thing to happen.

a feeling of trust

Initial Questions

What is false hope?

Why is hope so much part of
life's journey?

More Questions

What is hope for a Christian?

(1 Peter 1:13; Ephesians 1:18-19)

How is hope for a Christian related to faith? *(Hebrews 10:39-11:1)*

Christian hope is when God has promised that something is going to happen and you put your trust in that promise. **Christian hope** is a confidence that something will come to pass because God has promised it will come to pass....

Hope is a portion or part of faith. **Faith** and **hope**, in my mind, are overlapping realities: **hope** is **faith** in the future tense. So most of **faith** is **hope**.

-- John Piper

<https://www.desiringgod.org/interviews/what-is-so-important-about-christian-hope>

CHRIST is OUR HOPE
in Life's Journey

- 1. Where is Jesus now?*
- 2. What is He doing?*

Where is Jesus Now?

- *We are not alone.*
 - *Matthew 1:23 “Emmanuel – God is with us”*
- **NOW:** *“In heaven, seated at the right hand of God”*
 - *Matthew 26:64; Mark 16:19; Luke 22:69; Acts 7:56; Ephesians 1:20*
 - *Spiritually present: Matthew 28:20*
 - *Physically in heaven: 1 Peter 3:22*
- *What is the significance that Jesus is at God’s Right Hand?*

What is Jesus Doing?

Why it matters.

Jesus is Seated

Jesus is Enthroned

Jesus is our High Priest, forever

Jesus is our Sympathetic High Priest

Jesus Lives to Make Intercession for Us

Jesus blazed the trail for Us

What is Jesus Doing?

Jesus is Seated ...

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. (Colossians 3:1)

Significance?

John 19:30; Heb. 9:26, 10:10; Col. 2:14; 3:3

What is Jesus Doing?

Jesus is Enthroned

Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Phil. 2:9-11)

Significance?

Acts 2:33-36; Rev. 1:5; Psalm 2

What is Jesus Doing?

Jesus is Our High Priest, **forever**

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. (Heb. 4:14)

...where our forerunner, Jesus, has entered on our behalf.

He has become a high priest forever...(Heb. 6:20)

For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made with human hands that was only a copy of the true one; he entered heaven itself, now to appear for us in God's presence. (Heb. 9:24)

Significance?

Day of Atonement: Leviticus 16

What is Jesus Doing?

Jesus is Our High Priest, **forever**

Jesus as our high priest means that our confidence to approach God does not rest on ourselves.

- *Our confidence is not in our obedience.*
- *Our confidence is not in our faith, our understanding, our feelings, or even our own sincerity.*
- *God's acceptance of you does not depend on the depth of your understanding that acceptance.*

Your faith is absolutely necessary, but it is the OBJECT of your faith, not the STRENGTH of it, that matters most.

(page 200-2001)

What is Jesus Doing?

Jesus is Our **Sympathetic** High Priest

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. (Heb. 4:14)

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. (Heb. 4:15)

Significance?

Hebrews 2:17; 5:8

“Only those who try to resist temptation know how strong it is”

(C.S. Lewis)

What is Jesus Doing?

Jesus Lives to **Make Intercession** for Us

Therefore He [Christ] is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because He always lives to **intercede** for them.

(Heb. 7:25)

Significance?

Romans 7 & 8; Hebrews 4:16; 1 John 1:9

What is Jesus Doing?

Jesus Has **Blazed** the Trail for Us

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. (John 14:3)

Significance?

Hebrews 12:1-3

What is a Christian's Hope?

In the Person & Work of Jesus

Where Jesus Now? | What is Jesus Doing?

Union with Christ

God is for us – work of Christ

God is with us – presence of Christ

My hope is built on nothing less

My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

His oath, His covenant, His blood
support me in the 'whelming flood;
when all around my soul gives way
He then is all my hope and stay.

When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
in ev'ry high and stormy gale
my anchor holds within the veil.

When He shall come with trumpet
 sound,
O may I then in Him be found,
dressed in His righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne.

Refrain

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand.

Refrain

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand.