

8/25/2024

### WHAT'S IN THE FUTURE...?

- Lee de Forest: said in 1926
- Thomas J. Watson: said in 1943
- A recording company expert said years ago

### WE DO KNOW THE FUTURE!

One thing I get concerned about...is that believers forget, (struggle with) their present reality, and, as a result, also have no future expectation, and so live in the present without the hope of the future! And that's NOT what God wants.



### 3 FACTS ABOUT YOU AND THEN YOUR FUTURE...

#### I. We are now the children of God (v. 2a)

A. Our assurance – what John's been talking about, our behavior, day by day shows... and the world can't comprehend it, can't understand it, even hates it. (3:1a)

**John 15:18** - "If the world hates you, know that it has hated Me before it hated you. **19**...but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you."

**John 3:20** – "All who do evil hate the light and refuse to go near it for fear their sins will be exposed."

† † †

#### WHY DON'T CHRISTIANS BELIEVE THAT GOD IS DOING A WORK IN THEIR LIFE TODAY?!

God IS:

**Philippians 1:6** – "And I am certain (*confident*) that God, who began the good work within you, will continue His work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns."

† † †

B. We are a work in progress – emphasized by νῦν - "now"

#### II. We are, future, going to fully grasp

A. Eschatological future (v. 2b)

🗨️ See the box on the other side 🗨️

**1 Corinthians 15:52** – "It will happen suddenly, quicker than the blink of an eye. At the sound of the last trumpet, the dead will be raised. **We will all be changed**, so we will never die again."

**1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17** – "For the Lord *himself* will descend from heaven with a cry of command (shout), with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord."

**Philippians 3:21** – "Who will transform our lowly body **to be like His glorious body**, by the power that enables Him even to subject all things to Himself."

B. We cannot fully understand (2b)

**Romans 8:16-17 – 16** "The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, **17** and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with Him in order that we may also be glorified with Him."

#### III. We are presently motivated to be pure (v. 3)

A. Our expectation – **1 Peter 4:13** – "But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad (exceeding joy) **when** his glory is revealed."

B. Our hope – not the definition we often think: - *it's not wishful optimism*  
ἐλπιδά – "this hope" all who have this hope, this eager expectation – it's settled certainty & confident expectation: based on the promises of God!

#### CONCLUSION:

- Child of God: **think** on what we shall be (v. 2)
- Note what it does to us! - Pure living!
- We have confidence and can say...it will be worth it all!
- Dear friend keep going, keep running
- If you have this hope – be pure, even as He is pure!