



OUR BRIGHT AND MORNING STAR OUR RESURRECTION HOPE!

Every day we must decide whether Hope is stronger than despair and whether Love is stronger than death. Jesus says to those despairing and without hope, IT IS FINISHED! Jesus says to the brokenhearted, IT IS FINISHED! Resurrection has the power to expose death for what it is and the promise for LOVE to come again! That's what the Resurrection story is about. It is our story too!

It is NOT the end, Easter is the BEGINNING because the Love of God will come, again and again to raise us out of death. We have a sure Hope. It may seem like a

distant now, but as we sit in the quiet and the darkness, we can hear it calling us to rise - IT IS THE HOPE OF THE BRIGHT AND MORNING STAR!

THE BRIGHT AND MORNING STAR

The True Morning Star's identity has forever been established through the Incarnation, Death and RESURRECTION of Christ. It no longer belongs to the usurper, the satan. 'How you have fallen from heaven, morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations!' Jesus is THE true BRIGHT AND MORNING STAR whose name is written across history. 'He is light and in Him is no darkness at all!' His brilliance is not only forever evident in all Creation and in the mysteries of the starry heavens, but this Bright and Morning Star shines in you, Beloved!

HOLD TIGHT

Right now there IS a present sound (the PEY) of His army storming the gates and overturning strongholds and assaulting the enemy's territory. God is resurrecting the true expression of His Bride across the face of the earth. We are seeing and hearing a coming wave from the Throne of Heaven. Hold tight beloved, the darkest moment is just before the DAWN! 'And stand at the crossroads and LOOK, and ASK for the ancient paths. Where the good way lies, and walk in it, and find rest for your souls.' (Jer. 6:16) For He is the MORNING STAR and THE DOE OF THE DAWN who will triumphantly guide us into this new day!

The OVERCOMERS

And to you, over-comers, Jesus says (in Rev.2:25-9,) 'Cling tightly to all that you have until I appear. To everyone who is victorious and continues to do my works to the very end I will give you authority over the nations to shepherd them with a royal sceptre.... I will give the MORNING STAR to the one who experiences victory.... So

the one whose heart is open let him listen carefully to what the Spirit is presently saying to all the churches.'

If we look with our spiritual eyes we can see the brilliance of the BRIGHT AND MORNING STAR in this world of darkness, shining with all His believers and pressing forward to restore the desolation of generations and take back the disinherited nations from the enemy. For those who are not faint-hearted the rewards will be great. Jesus' ministry was about the RESTORATION OF ALL THINGS. And we have all been invited to take part in this ongoing work with our families, our friends, communities and the nations! Like Jesus we are called to re-establish His dominion and tear down the false idols - firstly in our lives and then in the nations.

CAESAREA-PHILIPPI & MT HERMON

Recently I visited Caesarea-Philippi which is situated at the base of Mount Hermon in the north of Israel. It was once known as The Gates of Hell, a realm of the dead and a place of human sacrifice to the goat-man Pan. But it was there that God established Jesus' identity as the only, true sacrifice - the Lamb of God and Son of the living God.

And it was there that Jesus said, 'He would build His church and the Gates of hell would not prevail against it.' 'Gates are defensive structures. The Kingdom of God is the aggressor - and it is the gates of hell that are under assault!'

Following shortly after this Peter, James and John were witnesses to the TRANSFIGURATION of Jesus on Mount Hermon with Moses and Elijah. This marked an important transition in Jesus' life where He throws down the gauntlet and

begins to move toward Jerusalem and His death. It was to be the Cross that launched the full force of the God's kingdom. But why Mount Hermon?

In Enoch 1 we read that Mount Hermon was where the sons of God rebelled against Yahweh. Anne Hamilton suggests in her latest book 'Bent World, Bright Wings' that 'the possible meaning of Hermon is anathema with the dual meaning of forever accursed as well as dedicated to God.' She goes on to say, 'Make no mistake, beloved one of Jesus, He healed history that day when He climbed Mount Hermon. He stitched up a great rent which had torn apart the entire world from the time the watcher-angels had descended there, on that very peak. But His healing was both once and future: the time will come again when the angels of the nations will gather their locust-swarm forces, to swing down from the north to attack His bride. But, as He promised, these dark principalities will not prevail. He calls us to work with Him to mend. We are called to 'tikkun olam', not simply mending the world but mending the age.'

'Our inheritance of the nations with Jesus at the end of days (age) is in a glorified, resurrected, divine state.' (2 Peter 1:) 'Even now we are sharers of the divine nature but one day we will be like Jesus and rule with Him over the nations.'
(Rev. 3:21)

'Believers will ultimately reverse the dis-inheritance of the nations along with the curse of death that extended from Eden's failure. Jesus, the Messiah, inherits the everlasting Kingdom - and then shares it with His children. The destiny of the believer is not only a place in God's home, but dominion with Jesus among the holy ones.' (Michael Heiser, Unseen Realm)

'We will be made like Him and brought into the divine family.' (1 John 3)

ONE WITH HIM IN HIS GLORY!

'Christ's resurrection from the dead is OUR resurrection too. This is why we are to yearn for all that is above, for that's where Christ sits enthroned at the place of all power, honour and authority! Yes, feast on all the treasures of the Heavenly realm and fill your thoughts with Heavenly realities, and not with the distractions of the natural realm.

Your crucifixion with Christ has severed the tie to this life, and now your true life is hidden away in God as you live within the Anointed One. And every time Christ Himself is seen for who He really is, who you really are will also be revealed, for you are now ONE with Him in His glory!

(Col. 3:1-3)

END

And on this RESURRECTION Sunday let's keep on encouraging one another when our hearts are overwhelmed and hopes are dashed. Our RISEN Christ, The Conquering King of LOVE, is with us, within us, and within the love between us; and within the unexpected.