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THE BEGINNING OUR WAY HERE AND NOW OUR ULTIMATE GOAL

Our Existence in Focus

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THE BEGINNING

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and God was the Word.

He was with God in the beginning. All things were made through Him, and nothing that was made was made without Him.

Life was in Him, and Life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

The true Light, which illuminates every man, was coming into this world.

He was in the world, and the world was made through him, and the world did not recognize him.

He went to his own, and his own did not accept him.

Yet whoever did accept him, those who believed in his name, he gave them the power to become the sons of God.

These are born, not of blood, nor of the will of flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. . . .

And the Word became flesh, and he lived among us, and we saw his glory, glory like that of an only-begotten son from the Father, full of grace and truth. . . .

And from his fullness, we all have received, even grace for grace. For the law was given though Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

No one ever saw God; the only-begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, he himself has described him.

[Jo 1,1-14; 16-18]

HERE AND NOW - ON THE WAY TO OUR HOMELAND

2.1. In the world you will have tribulation

- 21: Thus my heart was grieved, and I was pricked in my reins.
- 22: So foolish was I, and ignorant: I was as a beast before you.
- 23: Nevertheless I am continually with you: you have held me by my right hand.
- 24: You shall guide me with your counsel, and afterward receive me to glory.
- 25: Whom have I in heaven but you? and there is none on earth that I desire beside you.
- 26: My flesh and my heart fails: but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.
- 27: For, see, they that are far from you shall perish: you have destroyed all them that go a whoring from you.
- 28: But it is good for me to draw near to God: I have put my trust in the Lord GOD, that I may declare all your works.

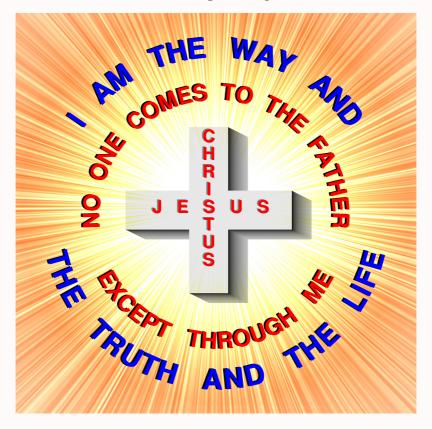
[Ps 73,21-28](akjv)

2.2. Our consolation and help

2.2.1. Our redemption from the distance to God

LET US NOT GET CONFUSED
BY THE GLAMOUR AND MISERY IN THIS WORLD
LET US FIND THE LIGHT

In the deep dark night



Jesus said to him: 'I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father, except through me.

Jo 14,6

2.2.2. Our help in distress

- Do not let your heart be troubled. You believe in God. Believe in me also. [Jo 14,1]
- These things I have spoken to you, so that you may have peace in me. In the world, you will have difficulties. But have confidence: I have overcome the world.

 [Jo 16,33]
- And behold, I am with you always, even to the consummation of the age. [Mt 28,20]
- If anyone loves me, he shall keep my word. And my Father will love him, and we will come to him, and we will make our dwelling place with him.

 [Jo 14.23]
- Jesus said to her, 'Did I not say to you that if you believe, you shall see the glory of God?'
- You have seen me, Thomas, so you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.

 [Joh 20,29]
- I am the Resurrection and the Life. Whoever believes in me, even though he has died, he shall live.
- And everyone who lives and believes in me shall not die for eternity. Do you believe this?

[Jo 11, 25-26]

2.3. In spite of our hardship: Rejoice

Rejoice in the Lord always. Again, I say, rejoice. Let your modesty be known to all men. The Lord is near.

[Phil 4,4-5]

Rejoice with those who are rejoicing. Weep with those who are weeping.

Be of the same mind toward one another: not savoring what is exalted, but consenting in humility. Do not choose to seem wise to yourself.

[Rom 12,15-16]

Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.

Give thanks in everything. For this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for all of you.

[1Thes 5,16-18]

As to the rest, brothers, rejoice, be perfect, be encouraged, have the same mind, have peace. And so the God of peace and love will be with you. [2Cor 13,11]

Blessed are you when they have slandered you, and persecuted you, and spoken all kinds of evil against you, falsely, for my sake:

be glad and exult, for your reward in heaven is plentiful.

For so they persecuted the prophets who were before
you.

[Mt 5,11-12]

2.4. Our going home to our Father in Heaven

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those, who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. Amen.(2)

ARRIVED IN OUR HOMELAND

The glory of the children of God after death

3.1. They shall not hunger nor shall they thirst anymore

They shall not hunger, nor shall they thirst, anymore. Neither shall the sun beat down upon them, nor any heat.

Apc 7,16

3.2. They are equal to the angels and they are children of God

Yet truly, those who shall be held worthy of that age, and of the resurrection from the dead, will neither be married, nor take wives.

For they can no longer die. For they are equal to the Angels, and they are children of God, since they are children of the resurrection.

Lk 20.35-36

3.3. God will wipe away every tear from their eyes

For the Lamb, who is in the midst of the throne, will rule over them, and he will lead them to the fountains of the waters of life. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

Apc 7,17

3.4. They shall see his face

And they shall see his face. And his name shall be on their foreheads.

Apc 22,4

3.5. Night shall be no nore

And night shall be no more. And they will not need the light of a lamp, nor the light of the sun, because the Lord God will illuminate them. And they shall reign forever and ever.

Apc 22,5

3.6. Death will be no more

And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes. And death shall be no more. And neither mourning, nor crying out, nor grief shall be anymore. For the first things have passed away.'

And the One who was sitting upon the throne, said, 'Behold, I make all things new.'

... I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End

Apc 21,4-6

ALLELUJA

THE CHILDREN OF GOD

4.1. What an eye has not seen

The eye has not seen, and the ear has not heard, nor has it entered into the heart of man, what things God has prepared for those who love him.

[1Cor 2.9]

4.2. Our homeland is in Heaven

But our homeland is in heaven and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transfigure the wretched body of ours into the mould of his glorious body, through the working of the power which he has, even to bring all things under his mastery.

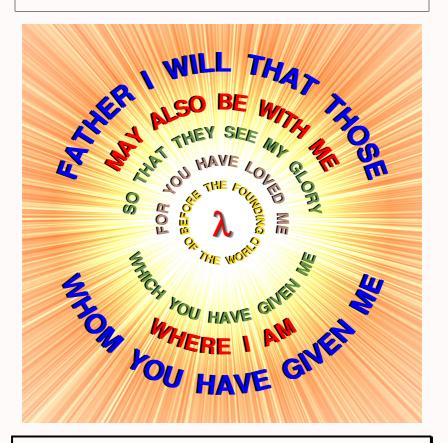
[Phil 3,20-21[2]]

4.3. I in them and YOU in ME

And the glory that you have given to me, I have given to them, so that they may be one, just as we also are one: I am in them, and you are in me. So may they be perfected as one. And may the world know that you have sent me and that you have loved them, just as you have also loved me.

[Jo 17,22-23]

FINALE



Father, I will that where I am, those whom you have given to me may also be with me, so that they may see my glory which you have given to me. For you loved me before the founding of the world.

[Jo 17,24]

SECTION 6

NOTES

The **bible quotations** are taken from 1 of three bibletranslations:

- If no source is specified, the text is taken from the 'Catholic Public Domain Version' of the Bible. The source of this bible translation is found in the internet under the following URL:
 - https://www.alpha-bound.de/kathrel/bible/cpdv/index.html.
- If the text is taken from the 'American King James Version' the source is specified as 'akjv' after the verse number in parentheses. The source of the 'American King James Version' is found in the internet under the URL: https://studybible.info/version/AKJV.
- In one case (Phil 3,20-21) the 'New Jerusalem Bible' was used. The source used is specified in the appendix in section 'References' below at [2].
- (1) 'LOGOS' is used in the original text of the bible. See also [1]
- (2) Liturgy: The text presented is taken from the liturgy of the Roman Catholic Church and corresponds to the Bible at [Mt 6,9-13].
- (3) Bible: See [2]

References

- [1] P. Friedrich Streicher SJ. Das Evangelium nach Matthäus Markus Lukas Johannes. Herder, Freiburg im Breisgau, 1961.
- [2] Henry Wansbrough. The New Jerusalem Bible. Doubleday & Company, Inc., Garden City, New York, 1985.



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