



# Knowing Christ

Our Destiny

## Our Lord and God

- A. <sup>NAS</sup> **John 20:27** Then He said to Thomas, "**Reach here your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand, and put it into My side;** and *be not unbelieving, but believing.*" <sup>28</sup> Thomas answered and said to Him, "**My Lord and my God!**" <sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen Me, have you believed? Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed."
- B. <sup>NAS</sup> **John 20:30** **Many other signs therefore Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples,** which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup> but *these have been written that you may believe* that **Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God;** and that believing you may have life in His name.

➤ **Sign** → *Call to faith* → **Identify of Jesus** → Faith in Jesus

## Because Jesus is Our Lord and God...

- i. He provides for our needs 21:12-14
- ii. He comforts and restores us in our failures and weaknesses 21:15-17
- iii. He controls our destiny 21:18-23

## i. Jesus Provides for Our Needs

- <sup>NAS</sup> **John 21:12** Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples ventured to question Him, "Who are You?" knowing that it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup> Jesus came and took the bread, and gave them, and the fish likewise. <sup>14</sup> This is now the third time that Jesus was manifested to the disciples, after He was raised from the dead.
  - "knowing" – lit., *seeing*, so interpret as *perceiving*
  - "was manifested" - to make manifest or visible or known what has been hidden or unknown
- Provision
  1. Practical needs – food
  2. Spiritual needs – strengthening faith

## Providing for Practical Needs

- <sup>NAS</sup> **Matthew 6:25** "For this reason I say to you, do not be anxious for your life, as to what you shall eat, or what you shall drink; nor for your body, as to what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body than clothing? ... <sup>31</sup> "Do not be anxious then, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'With what shall we clothe ourselves?' <sup>32</sup> "For all these things the Gentiles eagerly seek; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. <sup>33</sup> "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added to you.

## Providing for Spiritual Needs

- **NAS Hebrews 12:1** Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance, and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.
- **NAS Philippians 1:6** For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.
- **NAS 1 Peter 5:10** And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you.

## ii. Jesus Comforts and Restores Us

- <sup>NAS</sup> **John 21:15** So when they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, **do you love Me more than these?**" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Tend My lambs." <sup>16</sup> He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of John, **do you love Me?**" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Shepherd My sheep." <sup>17</sup> He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, **do you love Me?**" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Tend My sheep."

## Grace to Help

- **NAS Hebrews 4:14** Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. <sup>15</sup> For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. <sup>16</sup> Let us therefore draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and may find grace to help in time of need.
- **NAS Philippians 4:6** Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, shall guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

### iii. He Controls Our Destiny

- <sup>NAS</sup> **John 21:18** "Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were younger, you used to gird yourself, and walk wherever you wished; but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will gird you, and bring you where you do not wish to go." <sup>19</sup> Now this He said, signifying by what kind of death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He said to him, "Follow Me!" <sup>20</sup> Peter, turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them; ...<sup>21</sup> Peter therefore seeing him said to Jesus, "Lord, and what about this man?" <sup>22</sup> Jesus said to him, "If I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow Me!" <sup>23</sup> This saying therefore went out among the brethren that that disciple would not die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but only, "If I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you?"

## Our Sovereign Lord

- **NAS Jeremiah 29:10** "For thus says the LORD, 'When seventy years have been completed for Babylon, I will visit you and fulfill My good word to you, to bring you back to this place. <sup>11</sup> 'For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.
- **NAS Isaiah 46:9** "Remember the former things long past, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me, <sup>10</sup> Declaring the end from the beginning And from ancient times things which have not been done, Saying, 'My purpose will be established, And I will accomplish all My good pleasure';
- **NIV Psalm 33:11** But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.

## Our Gracious Lord

- <sup>NAS</sup> **Jeremiah 29:12** 'Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. <sup>13</sup> 'And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. <sup>14</sup> 'And I will be found by you,' declares the LORD ...
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Luke 11:9** "And I say to you, ask, and it shall be given to you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you. <sup>10</sup> "For everyone who asks, receives; and he who seeks, finds; and to him who knocks, it shall be opened. <sup>11</sup> "Now suppose one of you fathers is asked by his son for a fish; he will not give him a snake instead of a fish, will he? <sup>12</sup> "Or if he is asked for an egg, he will not give him a scorpion, will he? <sup>13</sup> "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?"

# Application

## Chosen for His Glory

- **NAS John 15:16** "You did not choose Me, but I chose you, and appointed you, that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask of the Father in My name, He may give to you
- **NIV Galatians 1:15** But when God, who set me apart from birth and called me by his grace, was pleased <sup>16</sup> to reveal his Son in me so that I might preach him among the Gentiles ...
- **NAS 1 Peter 2:9** But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

## Glory in the Lord

- **NAS Romans 12:3** For through the grace given to me I say to every man among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.
- **NAS 1 Corinthians 1:30** But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption, <sup>31</sup> that, just as it is written, "Let him who boasts, boast in the Lord."

## Destined for His Glory

- **NAS Romans 8:26** And in the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words; <sup>27</sup> and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.
  - *God works with us*
- **NAS Romans 8:28** And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. <sup>29</sup> For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first-born among many brethren; <sup>30</sup> and whom He predestined, these He also called; and whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.
  - *God works for us*

## Heirs of Glory

- **NAS John 1:12** But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name,
- **NAS Romans 8:16** The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup> and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him in order that we may also be glorified with Him.
- **NAS 1 Peter 1:3** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

## Living for His Glory

- NAS **John 14:21** "He who has My commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves Me; and he who loves Me shall be loved by My Father, and I will love him, and will disclose Myself to him."
- NAS **1 John 5:3** For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome.
- NAS **Ephesians 2:10** For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.
- NAS **Philippians 2:12** ... work out your salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup> for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.

# Conclusions

## Because Jesus is Our Lord and God...

- i. He provides for our needs 21:12-14
  - ii. He comforts and restores us in our failures and weaknesses 21:15-17
  - iii. He controls our destiny 21:18-23
- <sup>NAS</sup> **John 3:16** "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.

## The Final Word

- **NAS 1 John 4:9** By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins... <sup>13</sup> By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit... <sup>15</sup> Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. <sup>16</sup> And we have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and the one who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. <sup>17</sup> By this, love is perfected with us, that we may have confidence in the day of judgment; because as He is, so also are we in this world. <sup>18</sup> There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves punishment, and the one who fears is not perfected in love.