

Weekly Devotional - The Ultimate Closer 11-16-22

Scripture - Genesis 1:31; John 19:30; Revelation 21:5; 22:7,20b-21

And GOD saw everything that HE had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the day [Gen. 1:31]. So when JESUS had received the sour wine, HE said, "It is finished!" And bowing HIS Head, HE gave up HIS Spirit. [John 19:30]

Then HE who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." [Revelation 21:5] "Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book." [Rev. 22:7] HE who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming quickly." Amen. Even so, come, LORD JESUS! The grace of our LORD JESUS CHRIST be with you all. Amen. [Revelation 22:20b-21]

Mariano Rivera was known as the closer for the New York Yankees baseball team. He threw the same pitch yet he holds the record for the most saves in Major League Baseball history with 652 saves in his 19 seasons. He is also a 13-time American League All-Star who has 5 World Series rings to his name. Oh, and he was inducted into the baseball Hall of Fame this year.

The ultimate closer is GOD HIMSELF. In Genesis, chapter one, we see GOD creating the material world. GOD the FATHER is the architect of everything that was made. GOD the SON is the Master Builder who brought into existence all the FATHER intended. GOD the HOLY SPIRIT is the Interior Decorator who beautified all that the SON erected. GOD did such a wonderful job in

Creation that HE said all that HE had made was very good. However, as a result of humanity's sin all that GOD made was corrupted, damaged and displaced.

JESUS, GOD'S SON came to earth to right the wrongs resulting from humanity's sins. HE who knew no sin became sin for us to redeem us from the penalty, power, and one day the very presence of sin. JESUS accomplished this on Calvary's cross as HE proclaimed, "It is finished." The spiritual world was made complete! GOD is a Spirit, and they that worship HIM must worship in Spirit and in truth.

The book of Revelation lets us know of the culmination of all things. GOD is preparing a new heaven and a new earth for a prepared people (saints of GOD). JESUS is our conquering King. And HE will reign over, both, the material and spiritual realms once and for all.

If you want to know how we've made it pastoring True Light Christian for these past 25 years it is because of JEHOVAH ROHI. The LORD is my Shepherd - That's Relationship; I shall not want - That's Source; HE leads me beside still waters - That's Rest; HE restores my soul - That's Healing; HE leads me in the paths of Righteousness - That's Direction; For HIS Name's sake - That's Purpose; Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death - That's Testing; I will fear no evil - That's Protection; For the LORD is with me - That's Faithfulness; HIS rod and staff comfort me - That's Discipline & Direction; HE prepares a table before me in the presence of my enemies - That's Hope; HE anoints my head with oil - That's Consecration; My cup overflows - That's Abundance; Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life - That's Blessing; And I will dwell in the House of the LORD -

That's Security; Forever - That's Eternity. *There are 14 personal pronouns in the 23rd Psalm.

May we always have a mind through which CHRIST thinks; a heart through which CHRIST loves; a voice through which CHRIST speaks; a hand through which CHRIST helps; and be a vessel through which CHRIST lives!

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