Jesus Walks Among the Lampstands

Jesus' Assessment of Sardis Part C Lesson #16 The Christ Title The Commendation The Complaint The Correction The Consequence

"To be dressed in white."

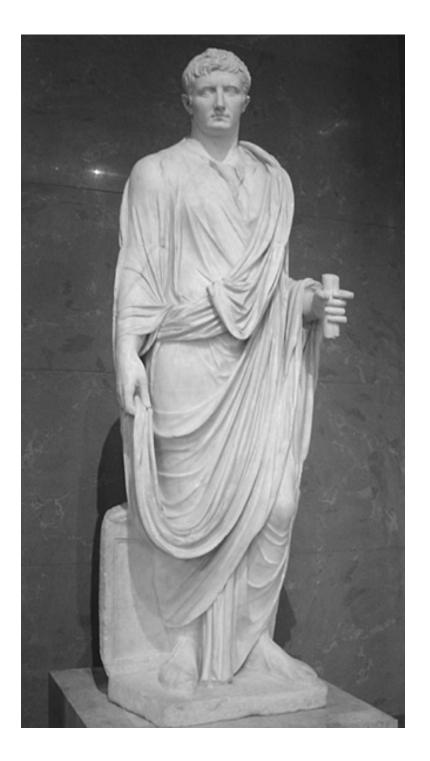
"Never blot out his name from the book of life." "Acknowledge his name before my Father and His angels." Clothes are a metaphor for one's moral and spiritual condition.

Revelation 7:9

"⁹ After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches were in their hands."

Revelation 7:13-14

"¹³ Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, 'These who are clothed in the white robes, who are they, and where have they come from?' ¹⁴ I said to him, 'My lord, you know.' And he said to me, 'These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.""



Some misinterpreted the text to mean eternal security is dependent on our spiritual effort. Yet, we are secure because of God's hand upon us.

<u>Isaiah 54:10</u>

"¹⁰ 'For the mountains may be removed and the hills may shake, But <u>My</u> <u>lovingkindness will not be removed</u> from you, And My covenant of peace <u>will not be shaken</u>,' Says the Lord <u>who</u> <u>has compassion on you</u>."

Jeremiah 32:40

"⁴⁰ I will make an <u>everlasting</u> <u>covenant</u> with them that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; and <u>I will put the fear of Me in</u> <u>their hearts so that they will not turn</u> <u>away from Me</u>."

Matthew 18:12-14

"¹² What do you think? If any man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go and search for the one that is straying? ¹³ If it turns out that he finds it, truly I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine which have not gone astray. ¹⁴ So it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones perish."

John 6:37-40

"³⁷ All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out. ³⁸ For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. ³⁹ This is the will of Him who sent Me, that of all that He has given Me I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day. ⁴⁰ For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day."

John 10:27-30

"27 'My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; ²⁸ and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. ²⁹ My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. ³⁰ I and the Father are one."

I Thessalonians 5:23-24

"²³ Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be <u>preserved</u> <u>complete</u>, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ <u>Faithful is</u> <u>He who calls you, and He also will bring</u> <u>it to pass</u>."

<u>I Peter 1:3-5</u>

"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, ⁴ to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵ who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."

The Westminster Confession Chapter 17 states:

1. Those whom God has accepted in his Son and has effectually called and sanctified by his Spirit can never completely or finally fall out of their state of grace. Rather, they shall definitely continue in that state to the end and are eternally saved. 2. This endurance of the saints does not depend on their own free will but on God's unchangeable decree of election, flowing from his voluntary, unchangeable love. It also depends on the effectiveness of the merit and intercession of Jesus Christ, on the indwelling Spirit and indwelling seed of God in the saints, and on the nature of the covenant of grace. All these establish the certainty and infallibility of their preservation.

3. Nevertheless, the temptation of Satan, the world, and their old carnal nature, along with neglect of the means of their preservation, may lead believers to commit serious sins and to continue in them for a time. They consequently displease God and grieve his Holy Spirit, have some of the fruit of God's grace and his comforts taken away from them, have their hearts hardened and their consciences wounded, hurt and offend others, and bring temporal judgments on themselves.

Ephesians 2:8

"⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God."

The call to "wake up" is a call for vigilance.







