

We Shall Behold Him
(Job 19: 25-27; Psalm 17: 15)

The song, “We Shall Behold Him” is a confirmation of His promises found in several passages of the Scriptures. It brings joy to my heart when I think and sing this song. There is a longing for our Savior so deeply that when I sing this song, it becomes for a moment, a reality with indescribable joy, with certainty of faith, which is the assurance of the things hope for, the proof of things we do not see and the conviction of their reality (Heb. 11:1). So it is a fact that we shall behold Him someday with our glorified body. And as He is so shall we be! In his sufferings, Job expressed this certainty of his faith: I know that my Redeemer lives, and at last He will stand upon the earth. And after my skin, even this body, has been destroyed, then from my flesh or without it I shall see God. Whom I, even I, shall see for myself and on my side! **And my eyes shall behold Him, and not as a stranger** (Job 19: 25-27a)! These prophetic words confirm that Job believed in life after death and that he had a relationship with God, as he said I will see Him not as a stranger. We cannot imagine the glorious splendor of His holiness now, but when the time comes for us to behold Him we shall be as He is - sinless, perfect.

King David also expressed his belief concerning life after death. He said, As for me, I will continue beholding Your face in righteousness; **I shall be fully satisfied, when I awake** [to find myself] **beholding Your form**[and having sweet communion with You] (Psalms 17: 15). This is the hope of all believer; a hope with faith that life here is just a passing moment, while we wait for Him to reveal Himself to us, for He loves the righteous deeds; the upright shall behold His face (Psalm 11:7). In one of his epistle, the apostle John said, Look at how great a love the Father has given us, that we should be called God’s children. And we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it didn’t know Him. Dear friends, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet been revealed. We know that when He appears, **we will be like Him, because we will see Him as He is**. And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself just as He is pure (I John 3:1-3). Yes, we will be able to behold Him because we are His children, sanctified through His Word and molded to be like His Son. When God offered His Son as a sacrifice for the sin of the world, He opened His hands to all who would receive Him and gave them eternal life. So the destination of the believer will be heaven, where God is. When we reach heaven with our glorified body, we will be able to behold Him, Who loved us and gave Himself for us. This hope must motivate us to purity as He is pure. As children of God we must conform our desires to His desires of holiness if we are to behold Him and be like Him. In this earthly temporary residence we long for our permanent place in heaven where our Lord and Savior is. His desire is that we be with Him, for He loved us before the foundation of the world and has set us apart for Himself. Our relationship with Him connects us to Him in an ever growing desire to be with Him. There is no greater joy to know that we will behold Him face to face; we will see Him as He is. This hope keeps us marching to eternity one day at the time, as we wait for the horizon to brighten with His glory and His trumpet calling us up, or until He calls us home through death. Any way it will glorious to us. Right now we reflect the glory of the Lord with unveiled faces and are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory (II Cor. 3:18a). When the time comes that we shall behold His face, the work He is doing in us will be complete; it will be finished. As King David said, “We will be satisfied beholding His form”.

We will no longer remember our sufferings, as we now share His glory. The hope of our salvation transports us to the reality of heaven and strengthens us in our pilgrimage through the desert and valley as we keep looking ahead to our heavenly home, where our Lord and Savior resides.

John, Peter and James saw YAHSHUA in His glory in the mount of transfiguration with their naked eyes for a short time, for they were down with sleep, but when they awoke, they saw His glory (Luke 9:32a). Isaiah saw the Lord "sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and the skirts of His train filled the temple. Above Him stood the seraphim; each had six wings; with two covered his face, and with two covered his feet, and with two flew; and one cried to another and said, Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory! And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who cried, and the house was filled with smoke"(Isaiah 6: 1-6). Isaiah's experience made him realize how sinful he was and led him to repentance. But when we shall behold Him it will be glorious, for we will no longer be in this state of sin; as He is so we shall be in our glorified body! In the Island of Patmos, the apostle John saw the Lord clothed with a robe which reached to His feet and with a girdle of gold about His breast; His head and His hair were white like white wool, as snow and His eyes like a flame of fire; His feet glowed like burnished bronze as it is refined in a furnace, and His voice was like the sound of many waters; in His right hand He held seven stars and from His mouth there came forth a sharp two-edged sword, and His face was like the sun shining in full power at midday. When John saw Him, he fell at His feet as if dead. But He laid His right hand on him and said, Do not be afraid! I am the First and the Last, and the Ever-living One; I died, but see, I am alive forever more; I possess the keys of death and Hades (Rev. 1:12-18). The beloved disciple didn't recognize the Lord, for now He appeared to him as the sovereign and powerful Lord, ready to judge the world. Moses talked to God face to face; He experienced His presence many times and in a burning bush, when He told him to remove his shoes, for the place where he was, was holy ground. Abraham saw the Lord and the Lord ate with him when He came to bring judgment on Sodom and Gomorra. Several more had experiences seeing the Lord, but none of them beheld the glorified Lord. But we shall behold Him face to face in all of His glory, in holiness with our new and glorified body at the end of our journey on earth. "Even so, come Lord YAHSHUA"! We long to behold YOU!