

## Revere Christ as Lord

1. By Sharing Your Hope
2. For Conquering Hell
3. For Baptism That Saves

- Grace LJC... esp mthrs; happy Mday! Not only; also East6; means for 6 wks celbrtng fact: XP RSN! J: risen Sav/Lrd. For last sev wks, focsng on J as Sav. He: GS & Gate/Shp (2 wks ago); way/trth/life, who prepng rm us in Fr's hs (1st wk). He's our Sav; means died/rose, redmd/frgvs, paid/sins & brngs hvn. But also Lord; and today in 1 Pt 3: RCL. Revere (show revrnc/respect/honor) – RCL. And Lord little diff fr Sav. Lord means J: in control, rules over evthng, in charge evthng; so evthng's going be alrht – Lord. That's esp imp remem when going thru time/suffrng. Bk 1 Pt talks lot re Xian suffrng. **Vs. 17**; & lot othr psgs in bk re suffrng, as well. And when we suffer for being Xian, have remem: J is our risen Lord; he's in control, rules over evthng, and evthng's be alrht. Today as cont celbrt res/J/dead, Pt encrgs: RCL.
- 1<sup>st</sup>, by sharing your hope. I love this psg: **vs. 15**. Ever heard wrd aplgtcs? Kinda sounds like wrd apolgz (say sorry for wrong). Aplgtcs little diff; means: giving defns wht bel; spkng re yr Xian faith (reason bel wht bel) in gntl/rspctfl way to help othrs see point/view; **vs. 15b** – that's aplgtcs. Pt: **“alwys be prpd”** – remnds me offcl motto/USCG, *semper paratus*, alwys prpd. Pt: **“alwys...asks you”** – implies you're living/showing yr faith, publicly; ppl can see yr Xianity on display (esp when sffrng); & ask you re it. **Vs. 15b** – your hope in J, faith/Xp, even when: allows you bear cross; go thru times/suffrng. Ppl notice that, and your Xian resilience attracts ppl to God. So RCL by sharing hope! And only way for you be prep'd give that kind public testmny: be filld w/Gos! You can't share your hope if not filld w/Gos! Whn come ch for wrshp wkly/fthfly, top priority: fills/Gos. Whn recv very bdy/bld/Xp in HC: fills/Gos. Whn gathr tog w/fellw bels for Bbl stdy at ch & when pore self into W/G at home: fills/Gos. And when you're filld w/Gos, then can ovrflw w/Gos & share hope. Woman/ch: Vivian. Died/hvn 4 yrs ago ystrdy. When hsp'tlzd & on dthbed, telling drs/nurses (even med stdnts): not afrd die; knew going hvn; filled w/hope. She shared hope. And some those drs/med stdnts told Vivian before died: bec of you, I'm going start going back to ch. **Vs. 15**. RCL, SH.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>, RCL for cnqrng hell. Apstls Crd – we say J: cncvd HS, brn...burd. What next? Dscndd/hell, which sounds like bad thng, like suffrd in hell. And, of crs, J did suffr in hell – **vs. 18a** – suffrd hell/cross, whn: “My God... frskn me?” But in Crd, when say J descndd/hell, that was not J suffrng hell; cnqrng hell! **Vs. 18b-19** – this psg: re J's descnt/hell. **Aftr...alive** (so 1<sup>st</sup> thng did on ES morn, aftr coming back to life, even before coming out tmb), **went** (into hell) & **made prclmtn** (prchd pwrfl msg, made pwrfl anncmnt) **to imprsnd sprts** (souls imprsnd in & condmnd to hell). And what was that prclmtn? Msg of victry! The risen Xp marchd into halls/hell to spit in face/Stn, say: you thght you had me; look at me now! You thght cld defeat God; look me now! You thght that if you cld kill God's Son then his plan to save humans: dead/buried frvr; look me now! Respect! RCL for cnqrng hell! On 9/2/45 Gen. Douglas MacArthur presided over surrdr of Japan to US, effctvly endng WW2. Cermny tk place in Tokyo Bay abrd *USS Missouri*. For cermny, MacArthur chose not wear weapon; in fact, ordered his troops not carry weapons, bec said: if I have wear weapon, I'm not cnqrng genrl. Respect! In simlr but much grtr way, J: marchd into halls/hell as conquerr, to whom Stn had surrdr. Respect! Whnvr you go thru really tough time in life & wonder if J still in control, pic him in hell, proclmng victry over conqrd foes. RCL, CH!
- Finly, RCL for giving us Bap that saves – and I word it that way (BTS) for 2 rsn. 1) Many chs/denoms tch that: bap does not save; not MoG; God does not actvly wrk thru & accmplsh divine results thru bap. They tch that bap doesn't actly do anythng bec (accdng to their theology) bap is done by us for God, inst of by God for us. #1. 2) This text spcfcly, unambgslly tchs that bap does save; is MoG; God does actvly wrk thru & accmplsh divine results thru bap. Pt talks re **“days/Noah...built”** – thnk Noah & fld bk/Gen.

**Vs. 20c “In it”** (ark; fam; wtr saved them fr corrupt wrld). **Vs. 21a** (wtr/fld; forshdwds/points ahd to bap). Bap (sbjct), save (verb) = bap saves. That’s: what this psg says; grammar/sentnc. Same in bk/Tts: **“He savd us, not bec rghts thngs we’d done, but bec his mrcy. He savd us thru wshng/rbrth & renwl/HS” (3:5)**. God (sbjct), savd (verb), bap (wrr): means thru which God saves us. So we RCL, BS.

- I’ll read again: **vs. 20b “God waited”-21a “also”**. Here’s the pic: Noah/fam are in ark. And flood all arnd them is doing 2 thngs: 1) washing away all sin & 2) lifting up & saving evone in ark. In same way, bap does 2 thngs: 1) washes away all our sin & 2) lifts up & saves all/us who are in ark/Ch. Ch is like ark; it’s dangerous out there (die!); but here in Ch you’re safe. There’s a reason a ch sanctry (this room) is called nave. Comes fr Latin wrd *navis*, ship. And when you look up at ceiling/ch, doesn’t it alms look like hull/ship? When you’re bptzd bel, you’re safe in ark/Ch.
- **Vs. 21ab** (shower; God’s pledge to us). And only way you can have clear conscience: if sins forgvn by God himself. So in bap God makes you pledge/prom: that he forgives yr sins. **Vs. 21c-22** – evthng submits to J. J is Lord over all; he’s almgthy Govnr over hvn/earth, to whom all things must submit. He: above us; we: beneath him; under his grace.
- So, RCL (I’ll go revrs order) for bap that saves; (if you or chldrn nvr been bptzd, let’s talk). RCL for conqrng hell, for descendng into halls/hell in early hrs/ES morn to proclm victry/Stn. And RCL by sharng your hope, by telling others re your faith in J as Sav & Lord.
- Happy Mday wkend to all you moms. And happy East season to all you Xians. Rejoice, for: XP RISEN!

### **1 Peter 3:15-22**

<sup>15</sup> But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, <sup>16</sup> keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. <sup>17</sup> For it is better, if it is God’s will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. <sup>18</sup> For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. <sup>19</sup> After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits— <sup>20</sup> to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, <sup>21</sup> and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup> who has gone into heaven and is at God’s right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.