

Titus 2:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

Analysis

Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ—προσδεχόμενοι (prosdechomenoi, awaiting/expecting) τὴν μακαρίαν ἐλπίδα (tēn makarian elpida, the blessed hope). καὶ ἐπιφάνειαν (kai epiphaneian, and appearing/manifestation) τῆς δόξης (tēs doxēs, of the glory) τοῦ μεγάλου θεοῦ καὶ σωτῆρος ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ (tou megalou theou kai sōtēros hēmōn Iēsou Christou).

Grammatically, this is the famous "Granville Sharp Rule": single article governing two nouns joined by καὶ (kai, and) indicates they're the same person. "The great God and our Savior" both refer to Jesus Christ—explicit affirmation of Christ's deity. Jesus is θεός (theos, God), awaited in glory. This motivates present godliness (v. 12): we live between Christ's first appearing (v. 11, ἐπεφάνη, epephanē) and second appearing (v. 13, ἐπιφάνειαν, epiphaneian).

Historical Context

Early Christianity's eschatological orientation distinguished it from pagan resignation and Jewish this-worldly messianism. Believers lived in the "already-not yet," inaugurated eschatology: the kingdom begun but not consummated. This created urgency without fanaticism, hope without passivity. Maranatha (1 Corinthians 16:22)—"Our Lord, come!"—expressed this longing.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. Does Christ's return function as living hope shaping daily conduct, or is it abstract doctrine divorced from practice?
2. How does affirming Jesus's full deity ("the great God") affect your worship, prayer, and obedience?
3. What specific sins would you cease and what good works would you pursue if you truly expected Christ's imminent return?

Interlinear Text

προσδεχόμενοι τὴν μακαρίαν ἐλπίδα καὶ ἐπιφάνειαν τῆς
Looking for G3588 **that blessed** G3107 **hope** G1680 **and** G2532 **appearing** G2015 G3588

δόξης τοῦ μεγάλου θεοῦ καὶ σωτῆρος ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ
the glorious G3588 **of the great** G3173 **God** G2316 **and** G2532 **Saviour** G4990 **our** G2257 **Jesus** G2424

Χριστοῦ

Christ
G5547

Additional Cross-References

2 Timothy 4:8 (Parallel theme): Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

1 Corinthians 1:7 (References Jesus): So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ:

Matthew 16:27 (Glory): For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.

Titus 1:2 (Hope): In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;

Hebrews 9:28 (Salvation): So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

Mark 14:62 (References Jesus): And Jesus said, I am: and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.

2 Peter 3:18 (Salvation): But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

Romans 15:13 (Hope): Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

Romans 5:5 (Hope): And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

2 Corinthians 4:4 (Glory): In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.