First Baptist Church of West College Hill – From the Pastor's Desk Page 1 April 14, 2019

Theme for 2019

'The God of Another Year, is a God of Wonderful and Amazing Grace. He is the God of Forgiveness and He is the God of Beginning Again.'

365 DAYS OF POSSIBILITIES!

"O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. I will praise You, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will tell of all Your marvelous works. I will be glad and rejoice in You; I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High."

Psalm 51:15 (ESV); Lamentations 3:22-23 (NKJV); Psalm 9:1-2 (NKJV)



This Week's Thought – April 14, 2019 Happy Palm Sunday

"For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory and majesty of His Father with His angels, and then He will repay each one in accordance with what he has done." Matthew 16:27 (AMP)

<u>365 DAYS OF POSSIBILITIES</u>—Jesus came the first time in a modest manger to save the people from their sin. He was not the King, but He threatened the King. Today (Palm Sunday) is the day that the historical triumphal entrance of Jesus Christ into Jerusalem is celebrated, and today is the day that marks the beginning of the last week of our Lord here on earth. But, Jesus is coming soon a second time with a grand entrance as King of Kings to judge the people for their sin and dead works. He rode the first time on a humble donkey, but He will ride this second time on a brazen horse.

Christ's second coming must matter most to the church because we are His bride, the Body of Christ. How can the church be ready to greet its Godly groom Jesus? We want to greet Him with a holy kiss. A faithful church is not conformed by the culture, rather it conforms the culture. The faithful Bride of Christ is ready to rejoice at His glorious sight!

"Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready." And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints." (Revelation 19:7-8)

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When Christ comes back He wants to catch the church evangelizing the lost and making disciples. The church is ready for Christ's return when she serves the poor, ministers to the Body, prays for the sick and preaches the gospel!

"May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones." (1 Thessalonians 3:12-13)

We want to be about our Lord's business and not preoccupied with activities and assets that will burn up one day. When Christ comes make sure He catches you about your Father's business:

"And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God." (Philippians 1:9-11)

On today, may the blessing of peace rest upon you...the blessing of joy abide within you...the blessing of success and favor surround you...the blessing of love flow out through you. May all the Blessings of the Lord be yours in abundance as you 'Encounter the Possibilities' this day will bring!!

Application: Are your priorities a reflection of your anticipation of Christ's Second Coming? Wait on the Lord's second return with active love and obedience to His commands.

<u>Prayer of reflection you might pray this week:</u> "Thank You, Lord Jesus, for keeping me countless times from sin and death by the works of Your life, the sufferings of Your Passion, and by Your victorious resurrection. Thank You, Oh Lord, for bestowing so many graces upon my soul and for having so frequently renewed Your life within me. I pray that my life will forever be a sign of Your greatness and of my gratefulness throughout this Year – <u>365 Days of Possibilities</u>. I await Your Voice. This is my prayer in the matchless, wonderful and compassionate name of Jesus. Amen!"

"And then God answered: "Write this. Write what you see. Write it out in big block letters so that it can be read on the run. This vision-message is a witness pointing to what's coming. It aches for the coming—it can hardly wait! And it doesn't lie. If it seems slow in coming, wait. It's on its way. It will come right on time." Habakkuk 2:2-3 (MSG)

Yours in Christ, Pastor King