Hermeneutics & the Rapture; True Happiness Requires Spiritual Growth; Integrity of God: Righteousness (Principle), Justice (Function), Love (Administrator)

- 17. At the Rapture, all Church Age believers who are physically dead will be resurrected and their bodies of corruption will be exchanged for a body of incorruption while those believers who are physically alive will be transformed from a mortal body into a body of immortality. (1 Corinthians 15:52-54)
- 18. The differences that exist among these believers will be clarified at the Evaluation Tribunal of Christ where the execution of the post-salvation spiritual life of each believer will be examined.
- 19. Those who have not made any significant spiritual advance will have little if any capacity for blessings in eternity while those who have achieved capacity righteousness will be blessed exceedingly abundantly.
- 20. Nevertheless, all Church Age believers constitute the body of Christ. Regardless of an individual's spiritual status quo, ultimate sanctification converts the body of Christ into the bride of Christ.
- 21. Therefore, each of these categories of righteousness and sanctification provide a measure of true happiness in time and eternity
- 22. The principle that true happiness is the product of spiritual growth is found throughout Scripture. Some examples include:

Psalm 32:11 - Rejoice from inner happiness in the Lord! Celebrate with overt happiness, you righteous ones. Sing for joy, all you who are upright in heart.

Psalm 35:27 - Let them sing for joy and rejoice, who favor my vindication; and let them say continually, "The Lord be magnified, who delights in the prosperity of His servant."

John 15:10 - "If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love.

v. 11 - "These things I [Jesus] have spoken to you so that My inner happiness may be in you, and that your inner happiness may be fulfilled and completed."

John 16:22 - "You too have grief now; but I will see you again, and your heart will rejoice, and no one will take your happiness away from you."

Romans 15:13 - Now may the God of confidence [ἐλπίς, elpis] fill [πληρόω, plēroō] you with all happiness [χαρά, chara] and prosperity [εἰρήνη, eirēnē] in believing [πιστεύω, pisteuō], so that you will abound in confidence by the power [δύναμις, dunamis] of the Holy Spirit.

James 1:2 - Consider through recall of doctrine and draw the conclusion of inner happiness, my fellow believers, when you encounter pressure from various trials,

v. 3 - knowing from experiential righteousness that testing, of the type designed for approval of your faith, produces endurance.

James 5:11 - We conclude those happy who have endured. You have heard of the endurance of Job and have seen the outcome of the Lord's dealings, that the Lord is full of compassion and is merciful.

1 John 1:4 - These things we write, so that your happiness may be made complete.

- 23. Although capacity righteousness is a part of the believer's salvation package, its development is dependent upon spiritual growth under the mentorship of the Holy Spirit.
- 24. Fully developed, capacity righteousness is manifest by personal love for God, unconditional love for others, capacity for blessings in time, and true happiness in the soul.
- 25. All these expressions reflect the integrity of God in the believer's post-salvation spiritual life.
- 26. The integrity of God is made up of three attributes: righteousness, justice, and love. Righteousness is the principle of divine integrity and is the believer's point of responsibility regarding sin.

- 27. Justice is the function of divine integrity and is the believer's point of contact for spiritual blessings through the grace pipeline.
- 28. Love administrates divine integrity and is the believer's point of reference for the spiritual life. What righteousness demands justice executes and love administers.
- 29. When the believer fulfills the intended objective of capacity righteousness he is a person of integrity and before God he is a person of honor.