

A future focus on the coming day of the LORD will help us live more relevant and righteous in the here and now



2Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. 3And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure. 1 John 3:2-3

Present Purity from a Future Focus

I remember reading the above Scripture a few years ago and being impacted by it. It was like I was reading it for the first time:

Everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

I looked for what the hope was that brought this motivation for continued, successful purity. The hope was the revelation of Yeshua at His future coming

and our confidence that we will be like Him (with new resurrection bodies) at that time. This link of our faith in Yeshua's second coming with our present purity was a profound one for me. Since that day, I have seen more and more links within the Scripture exhorting us to present obedience by linking us to faith in future promises (primarily associated with the second-coming of Yeshua). This link initially seemed counter-intuitive to me. Those studying this future time would seem to be of less good/use in the present. But, this is not what the Scriptures indicate. Those with a growing understanding and confidence in the LORD's return and the events directly preceding this time will live differently in the present.

In part because of this revelation, overall the last few years I have had an increasing desire to study about and better ready myself for the events pertaining to the coming day of the LORD. Again, the Scripture certainly links our present obedience and endurance to our hope and faith in this soon-coming Day.

I was also impacted by Dalton Thomas's recent teaching where he makes this same present sanctification to future focus link from the Apostolic Scriptures. Although I haven't studied it with the same diligence, he states that the overwhelming majority of calls for obedience and endurance from the Apostolic Scriptures are not linked to a past focus on Yeshua's first-coming but linked to a future maranatha focus on His second-coming. It is entitled *Apocalyptic People: How the Maranatha Message Changes Everything We Think We Know About* and can be found here: <https://www.faistudios.org/watch-bible-teaching?sapurl=LytqYmY2L2xiL21pLytyNXRweGRyP2JyYW5kaW5nPXRYdWUmZW1iZWQ9dHJ1ZSZyZWNIbnRSb3V0ZT1hcHAud2ViLWFwcC5saWJyYXJ5Lmxc3QmcmVjZW50Um91dGVtbHVnPSUyQnpzdG2ZHA=>

In closing, the Scripture indicates that the events preceding Yeshua's coming will not take us as Believers by surprise (1 Thessalonians 5:4). The Scriptures also promise that there will be a perfect understanding at that time and people of understanding who will give wisdom to many in that season (Daniel 11:33 & 12:3). I am increasingly confident that our growing understanding of and hope in this coming future time will cause us to live more righteously and relevantly in the here and now.