



## I. REVIEW/INTRO

### A. Good news and bad news

**Philippians 1:6 (NIRV)** God began a good work in you. And I am sure that he will carry it on until it is completed. That will be on the day Christ Jesus returns.

### B. Things to Come

**John 16:13 (NKJV)** However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own *authority*, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.

The Holy Spirit prepares us for the future, by anchoring us in truth so that when an uncertain tomorrow arrives, our faith stands firm

- The decisions you make are often based on how you see the future

### C. Let God's word shape your worldview

- Our world is framed by what and how we see

## II. SEEING ISN'T THE END, IT'S THE BEGINNING

### A. There is a danger of "arrival" thinking

- The day you think you've arrived is the day growth stops

**John 15:5 (NLT)** "Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.

- You don't need to arrive, but you do need to remain

### B. Three important "church" words

- **Justification:** Your legal standing before God, accomplished in Christ

**Romans 5:1 (NKJV)** Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

- **Sanctification:** The ongoing process of Christ being formed in us

**You are not who you were and you are not yet who you will be – the middle is sanctification**

- **Glorification:** This is future promise



**1 John 3:2 (NKJV) Beloved, 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.**

- Transformation is tied to what I see... Full sight produces full transformation
- **You become like the Christ you see**
  - If your view of Jesus is shallow, your formation will be shallow
  - If your view of Jesus is distorted, your growth will be distorted

### III. LIFE IN THE MIDDLE

- A. We live in the middle and that requires waiting
  - We view waiting as an inconvenience, but the bible treats it differently
- B. Three more words

**Isaiah 40:31 (NKJV) But those who wait on the Lord Shall renew *their* strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.**

- **Wait:** To wait with expectation, to look eagerly, to hope confidently, to bind together like twisting strands into a rope
- **Renew:** To change or exchange, to pass from one state to another
- **Strength:** Power, capacity, ability, vitality, enduring force
  - This refers to inner capacity to endure and accomplish

***But those who wait on the Lord shall exchange their limited human capacity for divine sustaining power.***

- C. Waiting time is never wasted time
  - We interpret waiting as inactivity, but heaven interprets waiting as strengthening
  - Waiting does three things:
    - It exposes idols – what/who you're trusting in
    - It purifies motives
    - It deepens dependence
  - Waiting in Scripture is relational, not chronological; it's not about how long, it's about how close
- D. God is not disappointed that you're not finished