



WEEKLY CHRISTIAN FOCUS

IN THI ISSUE:

1. **Belonging** and what does this mean?
2. **Belonging** to Jesus.
3. More coming in Part II of this two-part edition

Warm Greetings!

God bless you! This is a funny word isn't it, **Belonging**? In English this word is called a 'present participle'. (**) The word '**Belonging**' seems to have been around in the English language since the 14th century.

I hope you will look it up in your language.

I did not expect to write about this word '**belonging**', in fact, I had put it way, way back on my list of priorities. But here it is, after some prayer, a very important word to really all of us, because,

WE ALL NEED TO BELONG TO SOMETHING OR SOMEONE(S).

I feel in the human nature that we all need to belong to something. This is true, as far as I can see. I look back over my life and have always

felt this strong urge to be a part of something.



Part of a sports team, part of a winning outfit, and later part of a missionary association, with rules and shepherds, pastors and people who 'knew what they were doing' and could teach me, if I was teachable at all, to know what I should be doing also for Jesus, and to grow closer to Him.

Being independent is also a good thing, and there is a time for both independence and also the feeling of dependency for a greater good in this world, especially for Jesus.

To understand this better of course we need to look at what God and others said about **belonging** in the Bible.

The greatest sense of **belonging** and let's start with that is the symbol



of marriage, a man and a woman and especially the mystery of Christ and

His church. I feel so happy that I am part of the great mystery of the Bridegroom and the bride, the ultimate in **belonging**.

It comforts me greatly that I belong to Jesus, and God has sent Jesus to ransom me, so I could belong completely to Him. Nothing can stop that now, it is a done deal! I BELONG! He chose me before the foundation of the world, He has anointed me to do 'good works' and even those works He chose for me, will be rewarded both now and in the next world I am going to! I belong to the greatest Kingdom on Earth, and not on earth! I belong to the greatest company and organisation the world has ever seen! I will never be unemployed, I have 100% Heavenly (social) security.

I am built and grafted in to the great building of living stones, and the foundation of the holy Apostles and prophets and saints of the last 6,000+ years! I am standing on that foundation. I belong first and foremost to this marvellous edifice and structure that Jesus and God have been building for Millennia. And so do you also dear brother and sister!

Jesus chose us as a bride. A Bride belongs to her husband and to become a unique team in Love. God and Jesus talk about this idea of

marriage or betrothing, and belong in a lot of verses in the Bible, here are a few of my favourites.

Hosea 2:19

And I will betroth thee unto me for ever; yea, I will betroth thee unto me in righteousness, and in judgment, and in lovingkindness, and in mercies.

Revelation 21:2 And I John saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

- ▶ 3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

Revelation 21: 9

And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife. (The wife is the Holy New Jerusalem, inhabited by millions or more of His saints or individual brides)

Isaiah 61: 10

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth

herself with her jewels.

11 For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

Isaiah 62:5

For as a young man marrieth a virgin, so shall thy sons marry thee: and as the bridegroom rejoiceth over the bride, so shall thy God rejoice over thee.

This is something we should contemplate, and meditate on, and personally thank God and Jesus for, for putting us in this building and to belong in an eternal sense.

When Christians die, they simply pass on from **belonging** to God down here to beginning their even greater life of **belonging** to Him in the eternal and invisible world. We should pray to ask the Lord to let this Truth sink deeper into our minds and souls while we are here! Praise the Lord.



Jesus chose twelve disciples to belong to Him. He deliberated and prayed for some time before He made His final decision about each one of them. They were the first humans to belong to Him in the New Testament era.

In John 15:16 Jesus also tells us that we did not choose to belong to Him, but actually He chose us to belong

to Him! I have always loved this verse and it has helped me through my whole life. He chose us to bear fruit (go and bear fruit). Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

Jesus wants people to belong to Him, as we also see in another verse in the Gospel of John

John 12:32 And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. If Jesus is lifted up from the earth, magnified, glorified and testified about by His people, then HE will draw all men to Him. He is not willing that any should perish, but that ALL should come to repentance, and therefore belong to Him! 2 Peter 3:9

Somehow in the way God has made us, that many of us, perhaps not all, have this thirst that we need to feel this sense of **belonging**. God has put this feeling or desire in to us. Can this desire from God be fulfilled in this earthly life, or is this a desire that can only fully be fulfilled in the eternal world of Jesus which is coming soon?

IF YOU THINK YOU DO NOT NEED TO UNDERSTAND AND ESPECIALLY DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS NEED FOR **BELONGING**, IN THESE LAST DAYS OF HUMAN HISTORY, then you are going to suffer. No one wishes to suffer. It is not God's will for you to suffer, except for His Glory;

But at times we ourselves have to take action, we have got to do something to attach ourselves to God MOST OF ALL, to humans or some righteous cause or some Godly Cause or Christian movement or local situation for the Glory of God.

You have to do something! By God's grace I will get to this in the second part of this series.

In closing for this week, see if you can think about similar verses about **belonging**, unity, unified, forsaken, forsake, gathered together (to the Lord). If you can look into that, it will reinforce some of the basic meanings that are shared today.

As the world polarises rapidly, it will be important to know we belong to an eternal Family, a place where no human can pluck us out of His Hand

and where no one else can enter and 'mess things up!' Praise the Lord.

2 Corinthians 6:16

And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you. 18 And

will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

Then you will know the full meaning of Belong! Amen.

God bless you with a wonderful new week.

Jerry for the WCF Team

you

DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS NEED FOR **BELONGING**, IN THESE LAST DAYS OF HUMAN HISTORY. AT TIMES WE OURSELVES HAVE TO TAKE ACTION, WE HAVE GOT TO DO SOMETHING TO ATTACH OURSELVES TO GOD MOST OF ALL, TO HUMANS OR SOME RIGHTEOUS CAUSE OR SOME GODLY CAUSE OR CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT OR LOCAL SITUATION FOR THE GLORY OF GOD.

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