

**4** They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. **5** And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever. Revelation 22:4-5 (ESV)

Today is the eve of our yearly missions conference orientation. In some cases I have been in contact with our special speaker or missionary guests for a year or two without ever having met them face to face. You can get a feel for what someone will be like through Zoom calls and emails, but nothing can replace meeting them in person. Throughout this week there is a growing excitement and an anxiousness for the meeting. This morning I found myself thinking “We’re one day closer!”.

When I worked for Ford, my team had a weekly face to face meeting with plant management. We would always gather ahead of time and walk together to the meeting, which was about a 1/2 mile from our office. We enjoyed this time of fellowship together, even if our face to face meeting would, in most cases, not bring the joy of meeting a missions conference guest.

Every day brings Christians closer to the greatest in-person meeting of all. The day when we will meet our Savior face to face. What a mix of reverent fear and anticipatory joy this should bring followers of Christ. This in-person meeting will kick off eternity on the new earth. To see Him as we have never seen Him before. What glory it will be!

But now, we are strangers and pilgrims on our way to the meeting, destined for a city where this beatific vision will take place. Going on our way together, we must help one another look back at the cross and what was accomplished for us in time and space long ago, while reminding one another to excitedly look ahead to our face to face appointment with Christ.

This meeting is a marvelous subject for meditation. So, I encourage you to join me in spending some time dwelling upon being “One day closer” and what this truth might mean for the way you will live today. I’m so grateful to be on the way to the meeting with you!

In Christ,

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