Hebrews 12:14

"I would ...like to see the topic explored. <u>Hebrews 12 : 14</u> Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:"

Hbr 12:14 Follow 1377 peace 1515 with 3326 all 3956 [men], and 2532 holiness 38 , without 5565 which 3739 no man 3762 shall see 3700 the Lord 2962 :

Let us examine the last part of the sentence first: "without which no man shall see the Lord:".

See: Strong's G3700 – *optanomai* 1) to look at, behold 2) to allow one's self to be seen, to appear

On the one hand, the scriptures below we are told that the bad as well as the good will "see God" at the judgment:

Revelation 20: 11-13 And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and **they were judged every man according to their works**.

Nephi 6:7 Nevertheless, in our bodies we shall see god.

Job 19: 26 And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see god:

<u>I Corinthians 13:12</u> For **now we see through a glass**, darkly; **but then face to face**: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

<u>Jacob 4:14</u> Know ye not that if ye will do these things, that the power of the redemption and the resurrection which is in Christ, will bring you to stand with shame and awful guilt before the bar of god?

<u>Mosiah 8:83</u> Even this mortal shall put on immortality, and this corruption shall put on incorruption, and shall be brought to **stand before the bar of god, to be judged of him according to their works, whether they be good or whether they be evil.**

<u>Alma 3:41</u> And now I ask of you, my brethren, How will any of you feel, **if ye shall stand before** the bar of god, having your garments stained with blood, and all manner of filthiness?

Who will judge and who will testify at the Judgment Bar?

Il Nephi 6: 45-47 45 And he cometh into the world that he may save all men, if they will hearken unto his voice; 46 For behold, he suffereth the pains of all men: yea, the pains of every living creature, both men, women and children, which belong to the family of Adam. 47 And he suffereth this, that the resurrection might pass upon all men, that all might stand before him at the great and judgment day.

Mosiah 1:105 And he shall rise the third day from the dead; and behold, he standeth to judge the world.

Acts 17:31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

Acts 10:42 40 Him God raised up the third day, and shewed him openly; 41 Not to all the people, but unto witnesses chosen before God, even to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead. 42 And he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God to be the Judge of quick and dead.

John 5: 22 For the father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son:

Alma 8: 102-104 102 Now this <u>restoration shall come to all</u>, both old and young, both bond and free, both male and female, both the wicked and the righteous; 103 And even there shall not so much as a hair of their heads be lost; but all things shall be restored to its perfect frame, as it is now, or in the body, 104 And <u>shall be brought and be arraigned before the bar of Christ the Son, and God the Father, and the Holy Spirit, which is one eternal God, to be judged according to their works</u>, whether they be good or whether they be evil.

<u>I John 5:7</u> For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy **Ghost:** and these three are one.

<u>Ether 2:3</u> And in the mouth of three witnesses shall these things be established; and the testimony of three, and this work, in the which shall be shewn forth the power of God, and also his word, of which the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost beareth record; and all this shall stand as a testimony against the world at the last day.

For the Sermon on the Mount, Christ himself says that only the pure in heart that will "see God"

Matthew 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

It is clear from Rev 20:13 as well as many other scriptures that "every man" will "appear before the throne of God to be "judged according to their works". However, our study verse and Matt 5:8 are referring to a time when only the righteous will "see God"/"see the Lord"? In reconciling these two thoughts, we note that the God that we are to appear before to be judged is none other than our Lord Jesus Christ. Although the Father and Holy Ghost will bare witness, it far from certain that they will actually appear to be seen. Whether this is the case or not, there is little doubt that the authors of Hebrew and Matthew are referring to the time after this judgment, when the righteous will be seeing God on a *ordinary and continual basis* and it is likely that this is their first time to actually see the Father in the person. See below also.

Life with the Father and Son on the New Earth for the righteous after judgment

Revelation 21:3 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.

Revelation 21: 27; 22:3,4 And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.... And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads.**(Revelation 14:1 And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his father's name written in their foreheads.)

"Follow peace with all men, and holiness" Heb 12:14

Peace: Strong's G1515 – eirēnē 1) a state of national tranquility a) exemption from the rage and havoc of war; 2) peace between individuals, i.e. harmony, concord 3) security, safety, prosperity, felicity, (because peace and harmony make and keep things safe and prosperous) 4) of the Messiah's peace a) the way that leads to peace (salvation) 5) of Christianity, the tranquil state of a soul assured of its salvation through Christ, and so fearing nothing from God and content with its earthly lot, of whatsoever sort that is 6) the blessed state of devout and upright men after death

Holiness: Strong's G38 - *hagiasmos* 1) consecration, purification 2) the effect of consecration a) sanctification of heart and life

In the previous Chapter, we are given examples of faithfulness under great persecution even unto death. (see vs. 35) Chapter 12 continues this theme with our walk and trials of life whether being chastised from God or the persecutions of the world. In all, we are to fight off

the natural man. We are to keep ourselves from anger, rage, contention and hatred or the temptation and great urge to strike back. We cannot be pulled in. We must keep our eye on the prize and remember what fruit the Lord is trying to produce within us.

Romans 6:19 I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.

Psalms 34: 14 Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.

Romans 12:18 if it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

II Nephi 12: 23-24 23 For the kingdom of the devil must shake, and they which belong to it must needs be stirred up unto repentance, or the devil will grasp them with his everlasting chains, and they be stirred up to anger and perish: For behold, at that day shall he rage in the hearts of the children of men, and stir them up to anger against that which is good;

<u>I Nephi 3: 216</u> Either to the convincing of them unto peace and life eternal, or unto the deliverance of them to the hardness of their hearts and the blindness of their minds, unto their being brought down into captivity and also unto destruction, both temporally and spiritually, according to the captivity of the devil, of which I have spoken.

<u>Mosiah 13: 18-19</u> **18** And even I myself have labored with all the power and faculties which I have possessed, to **teach you the commandments of God, and to establish peace throughout the land, 19 That there should be no wars nor contentions**, no stealing, nor plundering, nor murdering, nor any manner of iniquity;

<u>Alma 22:22</u> And we see that these promises have been verified to the people of Nephi; for it has been their **quarrelings** and their **contentions**, yea, their **murderings**, and their plunderings, their idolatry, their whoredoms, and their abominations, which were among themselves, **which brought upon them their wars and their destructions**.

<u>III Nephi 5 : 30</u> For verily, verily I say unto you, He that hath the <u>spirit of contention</u>, is not of <u>me</u>, <u>but is of the devil</u>, which is the father of contention, and he stirreth up the <u>hearts of men</u> to contend with anger one with another;

IV Nephi 1:17 And it came to pass that there was no contention in the land, because of the love of God which did dwell in the hearts of the people.

<u>Galatians 5: 22</u> **19** Now the **works of the flesh** are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, **20** Idolatry, witchcraft, **hatred, variance**, emulations, **wrath, strife, seditions**, heresies, **21** Envyings, **murders**, drunkenness, **revellings**, and such like:

of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that **they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. 22** But the **fruit of the Spirit** is love, joy, **peace**, **longsuffering, gentleness**, goodness, faith, **23 Meekness, temperance**: against such there is no law.

<u>Hebrews 12:11</u> Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the <u>peaceable fruit of righteousness</u> unto them which are exercised thereby.

<u>Colossians 3: 15</u> And let the **peace of god** rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

Moroni 7: 3-5 Wherefore I would speak unto you that are of the church, that are the peaceable followers of Christ, and that have obtained a sufficient hope, by which ye can enter into the rest of the Lord, from this time henceforth, until ye shall rest with him in heaven. 4 And now my brethren, I judge these things of you because of your peaceable walk with the children of men; for I remember the word of God, which saith, By their works ye shall know them; for if their works be good, then they are good also. 5 For behold, God hath said, A man being evil, can not do that which is good; for if he offereth a gift, or prayeth unto God, except he shall do it with real intent, it profiteth him nothing.