

1 Peter 1 :3-12

Encouragement for the Christian Journey

1 Peter 1:3-12

ESV **1 Peter 1:3** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
4 to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you,
5 who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

1 Peter 1:3-12

⁶ In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials,

⁷ so that the tested genuineness of your faith-- more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire-- may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

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⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory,

⁹ obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

¹⁰ Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully,

1 Peter 1:3-12

¹¹ inquiring what person or time the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glories.

¹² It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look.

Encouragement for the Christian Journey

- I. The PROSPECT we cherish. (1:3-4)
- II. The PROTECTION we experience (1:5)
- III. The PERSPECTIVE we must embrace about the trials & suffering we face (1:6-9)
- IV. The PERPLEXITY the Prophets had about the Messiah (1:10-12)

I. The PROSPECT we cherish. (1:3-4)

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⁴ to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you,

- We have a “living hope” (3)
- We have a wonderful “inheritance” (4)

I. The PROSPECT we cherish. (1:3-4)

- We have a “living hope” (3)
 - The reason for our “living hope” – “according to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again”
 - The proof this hope is real – “the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead”
- We have a wonderful “inheritance” (4)
 - Three amazing words characterize this inheritance:
“imperishable, undefiled, and unfading”

I. The PROSPECT we cherish. (1:3-4)

- **imperishable** - unlike the things of this age it will not rot or decay (1 Cor. 9:25; 15:52). It is permanent
- **undefiled** - morally and religiously pure
- **unfading** - this inheritance is eternal and will never wither or become old
- The Christian's inheritance is safely kept – “kept in heaven for you.”

2. The PROTECTION we experience (1:5)

⁵ who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

- **God's promise of protection** – “who by God's power are being guarded” - being kept
- **The Christian's responsibility** – “through faith”
 - Faith believes what God SAYS. (Heb. 11:6)
 - Faith obeys what God COMMANDS. (Heb. 11:6)
 - Faith trusts in and rests on what God PROMISES. (Heb. 11:1)

3. The PERSPECTIVE we must embrace about the trials & suffering we face (1:6-9)

We have God's promise that our faithfulness will be rewarded (3-4) and His power will keep us IF our faith remains strong.

- **Trials and sufferings test our faith - “you have been grieved by various trials,⁷ so that the tested genuineness of your faith-- more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire . . .” (6-7)**

3. The PERSPECTIVE we must embrace about the trials & suffering we face (1:6-9)

- Trials and sufferings test our faith - “you have been grieved by various trials,⁷ so that the tested genuineness of your faith-- more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire . . .” (6-7)
 - Trials and sufferings are temporary – (6) though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials”
 - Trials and sufferings are unpleasant – “grieved”

3. The PERSPECTIVE we must embrace about the trials & suffering we face (1:6-9)

- **Trials and sufferings test our faith - “you have been grieved by various trials,⁷ so that the tested genuineness of your faith-- more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire . . .” (6-7)
 - **Your faith is more precious than gold ...**
 - **Genuine persistent faith will be rewarded – “may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”****

3. The PERSPECTIVE we must embrace about the trials & suffering we face (1:6-9)

The focus of our faith (8-9) -

⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory,

⁹ obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

4. The PERPLEXITY the Prophets had about the Messiah (1:10-12)

¹⁰ Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully,

¹¹ inquiring what person or time the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glories.

¹² It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look.

4. The PERPLEXITY the Prophets had about the Messiah (1:10-12)

- They were aware of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit guiding their writings.
- They could not understand the order of events in the life of the coming Messiah.
- It was the New Testament writers who showed the true meaning of the OT Prophets as they interpreted OT scripture through the events of Jesus' life.
- The Holy Spirit guided the whole process.

Summary:

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- II. The PROTECTION we experience (1:5)
- III. The PERSPECTIVE we must embrace about the trials & suffering we face (1:6-9)
- IV. The PERPLEXITY the Prophets had about the Messiah (1:10-12)

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