

I PETER 1:6-9

Intro: Last week we looked at the first five verses of this chapter. We learned that Peter is addressing this letter to believers who had been scattered throughout different regions in Asia Minor, today known as Turkey, and were having to live in unfamiliar environments. We also saw that Peter began his letter by recalling the _____ state that they will one day enjoy because of their salvation. Today we are going to see how Peter addresses the _____ they are dealing with.

_____ Vs Grief and Testing

- I. Joy vs 1-6a {Wherein ye greatly rejoice-vs 6a}
- A. Joy over being _____ by God unto salvation vs 2
 - B. Joy over the abundant _____ of God vs 3a
 - C. Joy over the living hope _____ to the believer vs 3b
 - D. Joy over the Resurrection of Christ vs 3c
 - E. Joy over the inheritance that _____ us in Heaven vs 4
 - F. Joy over the ability of God to _____ the believer throughout eternity vs 5
- II. Grief vs 6b
- A. Grief for the believer lasts only a " _____ ", when compared with eternity
 1. **1Pe 5:10** But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you. **NKJV**
 2. **2Co 4:17** For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory,
 3. **Ro 8:18** For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.
 - B. Even if the "season" be a _____ here on earth, it will still only be a "season" when the believer steps into eternity.
 - C. **If need be**
 1. The need for suffering in the believer's life is left to the _____ of the all-knowing God.
 2. "If it be God's will that it should be so" [ALFORD], for not all believers are afflicted. One need not invite or lay a cross on himself, but only "take up" the cross which God imposes. **JFB**
 - D. **Ye are in heaviness**
 1. **Question.** How could they be in heaviness, and yet rejoice?
 2. **Answer.** Their grief and joy were about different objects; they might be in heaviness by reason of present afflictions, and rejoice in hope of future glory; If their heaviness did in any degree subdue their joy, yet it did not wholly hinder it; and though their joy did overcome their heaviness, yet it did not wholly exclude it. **Matthew Poole Commentary**
- III. _____ vs 7 Manifold Temptations
- A. Manifold-multiple and varied trials and testing of their faith.
 - B. Some of the _____ mentioned in Scripture:
 1. **Persecution Acts 5:41**-And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.
 2. **Imprisonment Acts 16:23**-And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely: 25-And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

3. **Fiery Trials 1 Pet 4:12-13**-Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: 13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, you may be glad also with exceeding joy.

C. Afflictions are often _____ in disguise

1. **Job 23:10** But he knows the way that I take: when he has tried me, I shall come forth as gold.

2. **2Cor 4:17** For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, works for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;

3. **Rev 7:14** And I said unto him, Sir, you know. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them

white in the blood of the Lamb.

IV. The _____ of Joy and Grief Vs 8-9

A. _____

1. Who experienced the _____ of suffering

Heb 2:9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.

2. Who withstood, successfully, the _____ of His Deity

Heb 4:15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

3. Who left us a perfect example to _____

***Heb 12:2** Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

B. The believers to whom Peter was writing had not seen Christ as he, Peter, had.

C. Yet these believers:

1. Had a great _____ for Christ

a. **2Cor 5:14** For the love of Christ constrains us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: 15 And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.

b. **1 John 4:19** We love him, because he first loved us.

2. Had great _____ in Christ

a. **Rom 15:13** Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

b. **Php 3:3** For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh.

3. Had great _____ because of Christ

a. Joy _____-Joy that is unutterable, or cannot be put into human terms

b. Joy _____ of glory-Joy which focuses on and glorifies Christ

Concl. In spite of the sufferings these scattered believers were dealing with, they had an _____ focus which involved them keeping their mind focused on Christ and what He had done and was doing for them. May we too have that same focus. ***Heb 12:2**