

**Intro:** Peter begins his letter with a Doxology

### III. Preserved by the Power of God

#### A. The Source of the Believer's Inheritance - vs 3a

##### 1. Blessed *be*

a. *eulogetos* - adorable:--blessed. - 2Co 1:3; Eph 1:3;

b. Especially under persecution, it is necessary for believers to bless or praise God for who He is and what He has done

##### 2. the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ

a. historically, the Jews blessed God as creator and redeemer from Egypt

i. being creator emphasized His sovereign power at work

ii. Being redeemer emphasized His saving power at work

b. this phrase is distinctly Christian

i. Jesus always called God - Father other than on the cross - Mt 27:46

ii. In calling Him Father, Jesus was saying that He shared in God's nature

- I and the Father are one - Jo 10:30

- if you have seen Me, you have seen the Father - Jo 14:9

- possess the same divinity - Jo 17:1, 5

- share the same life - Jo 5:26

c. whenever NT calls God Father, primarily speak of His relationship to Christ

##### 3. of our Lord Jesus Christ,

a. Lord defines Him as sovereign ruler

b. Jesus as the incarnate Son

c. Christ as the anointed Messiah-King

d. "our" - we who have come to know Him through faith by grace are included in

#### B. The Motive For the Believer's Inheritance - vs 3b

##### 1. His abundant mercy - the motive

2. He shared His life with us - Eph 2:4-5 But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

##### 3. Mercy

a. *eleos* - compassion (human or divine, especially active):--(+ tender) mercy.

b. both here and Eph, emphasis added with adjectives rich and abundant

c. focuses on the sinner's miserable, pitiful condition, all believers were once

i. dead in sin

ii. ruled by a deceitful heart and wicked desires, corrupt mind,

iii. were slaves to sin

iv. Were on their way to hell

d. mercy shows compassion toward their desperate lost condition and remedy it

e. different than Grace

i. mercy is concerned with the miserable condition,

- takes the sinner from misery to glory,

- a change of condition - Eph 2:4-5

ii. Grace is concerned with the guilt,

- takes the sinner from guilt to acquittal,

- a change of position - Ro 3:24; Eph 1:7

#### C. The Appropriation of the Believer's Inheritance - vs 3c

1. Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard its spots? Then may you also do good who are accustomed to do evil - Jer 13:23
  - a. humanity's need for change is evident - Jo 3:7, 17-21, 36; Ro 3:1-18
  - b. the change is impossible for man, but God transforms the heart - Jer 31:31-34; Jo 3:5-6; Acts 2:38-39
2. has begotten us again - Jo 3:3,5; Tit 3:5; Jas 1:18;
  - a. **anagennao** - to beget or (by extension) bear (again):--beget, (bear) X (again).
  - b. Jesus explains the necessity of regeneration - Jo 3:1-15 using the bronze serpent - Num 21:4-9
3. to a living hope
  - a. the result of being born again - This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, - Ps 33:18; 39:7; Ro 5:5; Eph 4:4; Tit 2:13; Heb 6:19 - 2Pe 3:13 Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.
  - b. for the unbeliever - the expectation of the wicked will perish - Job 8:13; Pr 10:28; Eph 2:12
4. through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, - 1Co 15:20;
  - a. He raised people from the dead through the power of God - Lk 7:11-15 ; Jo 11:41-45
  - b. God raised Jesus from the dead- Ac 3:15; 4:10; 13:30, 34; Ro 4:24; 6:4, 9; 7:4; 8:11; Eph 1:20; Col 2:12; 1Th 1:10 ; 2Ti 2:8; 1Pe 1:21
  - c. He was the firstfruits of those being raised unto eternal life - 1Co 15:20, 23

#### D. The Nature of the Believer's Inheritance - vs 4a

1. Key word - Inheritance
  - a. wealth passed down or a legacy one receives as a member of the family after the death of the loved one
  - b. **kleronomia** - heirship, a patrimony, a possession:--inheritance.
2. incorruptible
  - a. **aphthartos** - undecaying:--not (in-, un-)corruptible, immortal.
  - b. refers to not being corruptible, or liable to death, or subject to destruction
3. undefiled
  - a. **amiantos** - unsoiled, i.e. (figuratively) pure:--undefiled.
  - b. describes anything unstained, since all of creation is stained by sin
4. does not fade away
  - a. **amarantos** - unfading, perpetual
  - b. used to describe a flower that did not wither and die

#### E. The Security of the Believer's Inheritance - vs 4b-5

1. reserved in heaven for you
  - a. **tereo** - to guard or watch-over
  - b. perf. pass. part. conveys that which already exists being guarded in heaven
2. you
  - a. who are kept - **phroureo** - to be a watcher in advance, to mount guard as a sentinel (post spies at gates); to hem in, protect:--keep (with a garrison).
  - b. by the power of God - Ro 8:31-39
  - c. through faith for salvation - the just live by faith - not a one time thing
3. for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time
  - a. **soteria** - rescue or safety:--deliver, health, salvation, save, saving.
  - b. 3 fold aspect of salvation - past, from condemnation of sin; present, from the power of sin (sanctification); future, from the presence of sin - glorification - 1 Jo 3:1-3