

Intro:

IV. The Greatness of Salvation

A. The Theme of the Prophets - vs 10-11a

1. Of this salvation - referring back to vs 9

2. the prophets

a. God's OT spokesmen

i. Ho 12:10 I have also spoken by the prophets, And have multiplied visions; I have given symbols through the witness of the prophets."

ii. Am 3:7 Surely the Lord GOD does nothing, Unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.

b. who prophesied of the grace that would come to you

i. grace not just for Israel - Isa 45:22; 49:6; 52:10

ii. Not future grace that did not yet exist - salvation has always been by grace

iii. Ultimate fulfillment of the grace to come was when the Son came - Jo 1:14; **Isa 45:20-24**

c. have inquired and searched

i. *ekzeteo* - to search out, investigate, crave, demand, (by Hebraism) worship:--en- (re-)quire, seek after (carefully, diligently).

ii. *exereunao* - to explore (figuratively):--search diligently.

iii. Not before but after they received revelation

d. carefully searching what, or what manner of time,

i. what person would come as savior, judge, prophet, priest King

ii. What time - an occasion, set or proper time: opportunity, (convenient, due) season, (due, short, while) time, a while

B. The Theme of the Spirit's Inspiration - vs 11b-12a

1. the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.

a. OT speaks of the sufferings in passages like Ps 22; Is 52-53; Dan 9:24-26; Zech 12:10; 13:7

b. OT speaks of the glories that would follow in passages like Is 9:6-7; Dan 2:44; 7:13-14; Zech 2:10-13; 14:16-17

2. the Spirit of Christ who was in them

a. note how Peter shows that the eternal Christ was inseparable from the Holy Spirit

b. like Paul, Peter understood the inspiration of the word of God by the Spirit of God - 2 Pet 1:21; 2 Ti 3:16-17

3. was indicating when He testified beforehand

a. *deloo* - to make plain (by words):--declare, shew, signify.

b. *promarturomai* - to be a witness in advance i.e. predict:--testify beforehand.

c. The Spirit testified to the prophets about God's salvation that would be fully accomplished through Christ

4. To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering

a. Moses - De 18:15 ¶ "The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear,

b. Balaam - Nu 24:17 "I see Him, but not now; I behold Him, but not near; A Star shall come out of Jacob; A Scepter shall rise out of Israel, And batter the brow of Moab, And destroy all the sons of tumult.

c. Heb 1:1-2 God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;

C. The Theme of the Apostles Preaching - vs 12b

1. the things
 - a. again referring back to the salvation of vs 9,
 - b. now more fully revealed through the messages and writings of the Apostles
2. which now have been reported to you
 - a. announced - *anaggello* - to announce (in detail):--declare, rehearse, report, show, speak, tell.
 - b. Peter preached in Acts 2, now is writing of that same Salvation and the Christ that revealed it
3. through those who have preached the gospel
 - a. would include the remainder of the twelve, Paul, Barnabas, Silas, Timothy, Philip, James and Jude, the half brothers of Jesus, Stephen and many others unnamed
 - b. not all
 - i. were apostles like the 12 and Paul
 - ii. Had seen the risen Lord - Acts 1:22
 - c. but all were sent out to preach the good news
4. by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven-- Paul explains
 - a. 1Th 1:5 For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance, as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake.
 - b. 1Co 2:1-5 And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

D. The Theme of the Angel's Examination - vs 12c

1. things - refers to the aspects of salvation that angel desire to understand
2. which angels desire to look into.
 - a. *epithumeo* - to set the heart upon, long for (rightfully or otherwise):--covet, desire, would fain, lust (after).
 - i. refers to a strong desire or overpowering impulse that is not easily satisfied
 - ii. This is not a curiosity, lit to stretch one's head forward
 - b. the holy angels do not need to be saved and the fallen ones can't be saved
 - c. a desire to understand so that they can glorify God more -
 - i. Job 38:7 When the morning stars sang together, And all the sons of God shouted for joy?
 - ii. Ps 148:2 Praise Him, all His angels; Praise Him, all His hosts!
 - iii. Isa 6:3 And one cried to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!"