

I Peter

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you. 1:3,4

What we believe about the future, determines how we live now!

PURPOSE: Peter is the author, appointed by God to address these non-Jewish Christians, Gentiles, to encourage them and remind them about what is true. They were persecuted, tired, “aliens” to culture, and suffering as they lived out their faith.

1. Remember _____ . 1-13

***Aliens and Chosen** - Abraham, leaving Egypt and wandering as they waited for the Promised Land. We are temporarily residing on earth, but our home is in heaven. I Chron. 29:15

We are sojourners before you, and tenants, as all our fathers were our days on the earth are like a shadow, and there is not hope. 2 Thess. 2:13

***Grace and Peace is ours** in the fullest measure- through the blood of Jesus

***Born again to a Living hope** – just as Jesus was resurrected, we have the same hope. Not wishful thinking but a firm conviction of what is to come.

***Imperishable inheritance secured for us** – not just hope but a substance of something that will not decay

***Protected by His power and not separated from God**- salvation past, present and future when Christ returns, and salvation/ sanctification is completed through glorification when we meet Jesus.

Romans 8:23-25

2. Remember _____ . 1:6-8

Faith and trials refine us in our suffering Romans 5:3-5, James 1:2-4

3. Be reminded of this, _____ **1:13**

The first of a long series of exhortations, imperatives.

Gather up your long flowing garments and get ready for physical action! Understanding that the ultimate blessedness and deliverance from sin is coming.

A. **Be holy** – set apart from sin and unholiness, and set apart to God 1:16

Hab. 1:13 Your eyes are too pure to approve evil, and you cannot look on wickedness with favor.

B. **Love one another from the heart** 1:22

C. **You have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable** 1:23

- D. **Grow like a newborn with unrestrained hunger like a baby**
- E. **Build yourself up like a spiritual house** 2:4,5
- F. **Remember you are priesthood and keep your behavior excellent.** 2:9-12
- G. **Honor authority**
- H. **Do right** 2:20, 3:17
Slaves and masters, husbands, and wives, honor all people
- I. **Follow the example of Christ** 2:21-25
- J. **Keep fervent in your love** 4:7-11
- K. **Humble yourself** 5:6-12

I have written to you briefly, exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it! I Peter 5:12 NAS

I've written as urgently and accurately as I know how. This is God's generous truth; embrace it with both arms! I Peter 5:12 MESSAGE

Discussion Questions.

1. Peter wants us to know our "sure salvation" and that we are promised "a living hope". How does this encourage you in your faith today?
Which quality in point 1, is the most meaningful reminder to you and why?
2. When Peter talks about being "sober in spirit", and preparing ourselves for action in Number 3, which area do you want to focus on today as your action point? Where do you see yourself needing to be more intentional?
3. Peter reminds us that we are a "spiritual house", "living stones," and we are to "remain holy", "set apart". What comes to mind for you? What are some ways you can keep yourself in that posture as you live out your faith in our culture?
4. As you may be in a season of suffering, a few of you share about how your "inheritance and future hope" encourages you to press on.....knowing that Jesus is our reward and his model is our current encouragement.