

THE FIRST EPISTLE OF PETER
TO THE CHURCH OF THE DISPERSION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

1 PETER CHAPTER 1:3-9

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SMX-946 APRIL 8, 2018

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:
FROM HERE TO ETERNITY – PART 2

The Ministry of The Grace of God Toward All Those Who Are Anchored in Christ.

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:
Heaven, Hardship, Trials, Suffering, Glory

1 Peter 1:3-9

:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who **according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ** from the dead,

:4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

:5 who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

:6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials,

:7 (all for this purpose) that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,

:8 whom having not seen you love. Though now (only for now) you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,

:9 receiving the end of your faith - - the salvation of your souls.

**“He has begotten us again to a living hope”
and this is a hope that cannot be taken away. it is not a worldly hope. It is
not the kind of hope that we know of – a hope that disappoints.**

**just as we have been born into our national identity
as a citizen of this world. God the Father has “birthed us again” into a new
national identity as a citizen of His kingdom.**

**This Active, Living Hope is our
testimony our witness,**

From Here To Eternity

1.) We are to be confident vs. 3

1a.) Confident knowing He is delighted vs. 3a

1b.) Confident knowing He is merciful vs. 3b

1c.) Confident knowing He is generous vs. 3c

2.) We are to be assured vs. 4-5

2a.) Assured knowing that He gives all vs. 4

2b.) Assured knowing that He cannot fail vs. 5a

2c.) Assured knowing that He brings salvation vs. 5b

From Here To Eternity

3.) We are to be pure vs. 6-7

3a.) Made pure by perfecting vs. 6

In this you **greatly rejoice**, though now **for a little while**,
if need be, you have been **grieved by various trials**,

there is an awesome, theological fact that we can take
comfort in knowing; It is that - - God who is the One that is
getting us ready to meet Him.

There seems to be something wrong with my Bible here.
It has the words “rejoice” and “trials” in the same sentence.
I underrated the connection to the word ‘rejoice’ But linking “rejoice”
to the word “trials.” – how is that possible?

What possible good can come out of a trial?

James 1:2-4a

My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your
faith produces patience. 4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect

“First of all let’s remember that rejoicing flies high above
the storms of trials. Rejoicing comes from a position and from a
prospective and not an experience.”

Rejoice grk: to **make** glorious, to **make** exalted, to put something in the
category of “rejoice”

though now **for a little while**

little while grk: oligos; meaning; for a short season or a season that is shorter than what it could be. a passing season.

In your “life issue(s)” the hardships, the fractured things
God is using them all in your life for the good.

This is hard for us to believe

– it takes faith in God for us to have His perspective

grieved grk: lupeo; to be distressed, made to be heavy-hearted or to become sorrowful of soul. to be emotionally wounded in body and or mind and or spirit.

Matthew 26:37

And He (Jesus) took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be (lu'pe'o) sorrowful and (crushed to the core) **deeply distressed**.

grieved by various (manifold) **trials** (temptation)

Dr. Warren Wiersbe

“When God’s children go through a season of testing,
He is careful to keep His eye on the clock and His hand on the thermostat

From Here To Eternity We Are To Be Pure

3b.) Made pure by refining

vs. 7a

(all for this purpose) that **the genuineness of your faith**, being **much more precious** than gold that perishes, though it is **tested** by fire,

your faith is the single most valuable asset you own.

There is nothing more **powerful**, more **needed**, more **worthy** of your time, energy and investment than your faith.

There is no way for you to know if your faith is real unless it is tried.

an untested faith is an unknown faith.

Notice that it is personal, possessive faith,
verse 7 says it is; **“Your Faith”**

(yours to **own**, yours to **nurture**, yours to **increase**, yours to **exercise**.)

suffering is how your faith is confirmed to be genuine.

It's not by having your prayers answered. It is not by you performing a miracle. It is not by you 'believing God for a million dollars'.

All that “sanctified idolatry” is worthless and has no place in new testament Christianity. But suffering does.

genuineness grk: to be the original, to be authentic.

tested grk: to put through the rigors. to put something it's qualifying.

From Here To Eternity We Are To Be Pure

3c.) Made pure by polishing vs. 7b

may be **found to praise, honor, and glory** at the revelation of **Jesus Christ,**

there is a word picture here.

In the ancient east, a goldsmith was known to have perfected the quality of his gold only by heating it up hot enough to purge all the impurities from it - - but that wasn't known for sure until he would lean over the pot to see if his reflection could be seen in the gold. – if he could see himself, the gold was pure enough.

If you are walking with God, in fellowship with Him,

Then every difficulty, hardship & temptation must be “Father-Filtered” before it can come to you.

And so, against that Day, God has helped us by preparing for us various, multi-colored difficulties to get us to pass the test.

at the revelation of Jesus Christ,

revelation grk: apokalupsis; the unveiling, uncovering, the revealing. The context of 1Peter dictates the meaning of this word apokalupsis – meaning that for those who are expecting Him, looking for Him, He will be unveiled, revealed to them. **Appearing** - - the KJV has it right, the context demands the word to be interpreted as “appearing”

Is there a biblical precedence for that understanding ?

Hebrew 9:28b

So Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. **To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear.**

1 John 3:2

Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. **3** And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

From Here To Eternity

4.) We are to be expectant vs. 8-9

4a.) Expectant because we want to see Him vs. 8a

whom having **not seen you love.**
Though **now** (only for now) you do not see Him,

This has to be an amazing thing for Peter to say.
(those saints then - their faith had to have impressed Peter)

Because, Peter knew Jesus with his own hands & eyes.
Peter spoke to Jesus, Jesus spoke to Peter.

1 John 1:1

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life

John 20:29

And Jesus said, "Blessed are those **who have not seen** and yet believe."

Charles Spurgeon used to say; "**little faith will take your soul to heaven, but great faith will bring heaven down to your soul.**"

Daniel 3:25

"Look!" he answered, "I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God."

Like a Star in the night, Jesus is most visible in the dark;

From Here To Eternity We Are To Be Expectant

4b.) Expectant because we want to see change vs. 8b

yet **believing**, you **rejoice**
with joy inexpressible and full of glory,

inexpressible grk: unspeakable. Not having or possessing the vocabulary or proper words to describe or to define. experiencing that which cannot be expressed.

When we choose to “convert” pain & suffering into worship and joy, we immediately remove any dross, impurities or toxins that might be dormant in the experience.

Suffering will either make us bitter or better.
This is why “victimhood” and “blame” is so damaging to the individual.

You can never be a Bible-Christian if you’re going to whine about your past and blame God for your today.

This “full of glory” - - Is a glory of divine origin.

1 Corinthians 15:49-52

And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man. :**50** Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. **51** Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed - **52** in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye,

**in equal manner, the fact is;
we are presently being changed, day by day as we walk with Him.**

2 Corinthians 3:17-18

Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. **18** But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

From Here To Eternity We Are To Be Expectant

4c.) Expectant because we want to see the end vs. 9

receiving the end of your faith - - the salvation of your souls.

and here is the **dividend** payout, or the **reward** of your faith.
It is **the receiving of the end of your faith - - which is your salvation!**

A sobering example regarding faith

Matthew 13:18-23

“Therefore hear the parable of the sower: **19** When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside. **20** But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; **21** yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles. **22** Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful. **23** But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.”

“O pastor – I don't think I'm gonna make it”
yes you will – **just keep heading in the direction of home.** you'll
soon begin to see the lights and hear the sounds of home.

“If you find yourself going through hell – **just keep going**”
Winston Churchill

_____ *End of Study* _____

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