

1 PETER

EXILED

STANDING FIRM IN GOD'S GRACE



Fight with Forward Looking Faith

1 Peter 1.6-12

Main Idea

We can have joy in Him we do not see through trials by looking into the Scripture and seeing the reward that awaits us at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Overview

I. The testing of Trials

- We can rejoice in our inheritance & salvation that will be revealed though trials may await us in the immediacy (vs. 5-6)
- The trials will test the genuineness of our faith
 - That faith is MORE precious than Gold that perishes
 - Our faith and the inheritance therein will not perish (v 4)

II. Though we cannot see Him who we love, we can see Him

- We love/believe whom we cannot see
- We rejoice with joy inexpressible, filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of our faith: Salvation
- We see Him the same way the prophets of old “saw” Him...and how the disciples “saw” Him...through the word that was given for us who came after Christ (v 10, 12)
 - The Spirit of Christ was IN the prophets as they wrote of the suffering of Christ and His subsequent glories (v 11)
- The angels long to look into the message of the Gospel that we now can see so clearly in His word (v 12)

III. The Forward Looking Motive of Peter

- V 5-6: Rejoicing in suffering because of the salvation and inheritance that will come to us who have a genuine faith
- V 7: A Genuine faith through suffering will produce praise, glory, and honor at the future revelation of Jesus Christ
- V 11: Christ endured sufferings to enter into future glories (same is true of us)

Questions

Discussion Starter: *Talk about anything in life that motivates you by something to be had in the future.*

1. Read 1 Peter 1:1-12. Who is Peter's audience? Why is it important to remember this audience as we read/study this letter?

2. According to verse 6 in what is it they rejoice? How does Peter understand that to inform the present sufferings?
3. How is our faith more precious than gold? Give some examples.
4. In what way do trials produce genuine believers? How? Share some experiences where this has happened.
5. Note the words Peter uses to describe the Faith in this passage (rejoice, precious, love, inexpressible joy, etc.) Are you experiencing that? Why or why not?
6. What is about the Scriptures that help us “see” Him who we cannot see? Have you approached devotionals with this mindset?
7. Who is the intended audience of the Prophets? How should this inform how we read the 1T/OT?
8. The angels “long” to look into the “good news” (Gospel)...do you? If not, why not?
9. Go back and pick through all the places Peter is giving a future reward as a motive through their trials. Do you do this? If so how?
10. Is it wrong to be motivated by a future reward in obedience?

Accountability Question: Where is the Lord prodding you to be obedient that you are reticent to obey due to the impending suffering that may come? How does this passage give you a mind to obey?