

“Good News For Faithful Servants”

I Peter 1:3-9

Peter gives us some Good News about 3 things we have – 3 common bonds of faithful servants – Peter sure knew what he was talking about!

- I. V. 3 – A Living Hope** “...a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.” One of the first marks of a new Christian – God has put the living hope (Living Salvation) into their life. How do we describe this Salvation?
- A. V. 3 – The Strength Of Our Hope** It’s based on “...the resurrection of Jesus Christ...”
1. **Acts 1** – Jesus Christ walked 40 days after His resurrection;
 2. **I Cor. 15**: see of over 500 folks at once!
- B. V.4a – The Substance Of Our Hope** “To An inheritance...” We have an inheritance because of having been born into a family; it is not earned and not deserved!
1. It is incorruptible inheritance... it will not decay!
 2. It is an undefiled inheritance... it cannot be polluted or ruined!
 3. It will not fade away...it is ours forever! (We cannot lose it or have it stolen from us!) Things here seem to naturally wear down, deteriorate. Clothes fade, Shiny cars fade.
- C. V.4b – The Security Of Our Hope**
1. **V.4b** – “Reserved in heaven for you.” = It’s already there waiting for us! It is the most secure inheritance any person ever had.
 2. **V.5a** – “Who are kept by the power of God...” **V.2** – Quote: “We have a Certified Title to Eternal Life with our name on it Signed by God the Father, through the Pen of God the Holy Spirit with the Ink being the Blood of God the Son, the Lord Jesus Christ!”
- II. V. 7 – An Enduring Faith** “That the trial of your faith...”
- A. The Reality of Suffering** **II Tim. 3:12** “Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.” Peter writes to encourage Christians in suffering.
1. **V.6b** – “...ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:”
 - a. “Manifold” = many types – troubles “Temptations...” means trials, troubles, hardships.
 - b. **BUT**: “Manifold” appears again! = **Ch. 4:10** “...as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.” describing the grace of God.
- B. V. 6 – The Reason for Troubles** “...if need be...” = There is a purpose in our trials.
1. Picture = Gold being put into the fire = the process of purifying our Daily Faith – Trusting Him Completely!
 2. Process = God permits the fires of trials and problems and difficulties to come into our life as a Christian.
 3. Purpose = that our faith “might be found unto praise and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ.” **BE ENCOURAGED!**
- III. V. 8 – A Captivating Love** “Whom having not seen, ye love...”
- A. V.8A = An Unseen Savior** “Whom having not seen...”
1. Peter had seen Jesus – “Live and In The Flesh.” But the believers he was writing to hadn’t had that privilege. But they loved Jesus already! **John 20:29** “Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.”
- B. V.8b = An Unexplainable Love** “...Though now ye see Him not, yet believing...”
1. We love Christ by faith! We can love someone we have never seen before! (Kids / grandkids)
- C. V.8c = An Unstoppable Praise** Salvation brings “...joy unspeakable, full of Glory!”