

“Celebration of Salvation- Part 2”

1 Peter 1:6-9

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I. Introduction

* (vv. 6-9) Peter is writing to Christians who were going through a time of trials and testing: A season of heaviness. He begins his letter by outlining God’s plan for salvation. He wanted them to rejoice in the salvation that was theirs in Christ. He reminds them of three things.

- A. The Father elected them (v. 2)
- B. The Spirit has sanctified them (v. 2)
- C. The Son died for them on the cross (v. 2)
 - 1. They were born again to
 - a) A living hope (v. 3)
 - b) A heavenly hope (v. 4)
 - c) A secure hope (v. 5)
- D. (vv. 6-9) Now, Peter wants to assure his readers that the heaviness of their trials is not inconsistent with their rejoicing over God’s salvation plan for their lives.
 - 1. It was God’s purpose that their faith would be purified through such trials, that their love for Christ would increase, that their rejoicing would abound, and that their salvation would be received after suffering. Since Christ had to suffer before He could gain His glory, they had to do likewise. This order not only baffled the readers but also the Old Testament prophets and the angels.
- E. Now, salvation means that:
 - 1. We are born for glory (vv. 3-4)
 - 2. We are kept for glory (v. 5)

II. Salvation Means that We Are Being Prepared for Glory (1 Peter 1:6-7)

- * “Wherein ye greatly rejoice.” (v. 6)
 - What is Peter speaking of?
 - “Salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.” (v. 5)
- * They were facing many different kinds of trials (v. 6)
 - The KJV uses the word “temptations.”
- * Some facts about trials:

A. Trials are needed in our lives if need be (v. 6)

1. God knows that there are special times when we need to go through trials.
2. Why?
 - a) To silence Satan
 - 1) Illustration- Job
 - b) To glorify God
 - 1) “When Jesus heard that, He said, “This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it” (John 11:4).
 - c) To make us more like Jesus
 - d) To make us more thankful
 - e) To learn to depend on God
 - f) To learn patience
 - 1) “And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance” (Romans 5:3).
 - g) To learn to be sympathetic
 - 1) 2 Corinthians 1
 - h) To keep us humble
 - 1) 2 Corinthians 2
 - i) To teach us to pray
 - j) To discipline us
 - k) To help us think more of heaven
3. We don’t always know the need being met, but we can trust God to do what is best.

B. Trials are varied (v. 6)

1. God’s Palette- *“Life’s colors come in various hues; Brightest gold’s and deepest blues. Pastels are contentment, burning reds and yellows of pain; As one fades away, another comes back again. And there is black, no color at all; A hole of depression, as in after a fall. Perfect colors come from God alone, exactly selected from His place on the throne. The colors He uses to confirm or replace; Are applied precisely, using His palette of grace.”*
2. Kinds of trials:
 - a) Financial
 - b) Emotional
 - c) Spiritual (Satan)
 - d) Little trials
 - e) Loss of a loved one
 - f) We must not think that because we have overcome one kind of trial, we will automatically overcome them all. Trials are varied, and God matches the trial to our strengths and needs.

C. Trials are not easy (v. 6)

1. The word “heaviness” is the same word used for Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane- “Jesus wept.”
2. Christians are human. We do sorrow.
 - a) “But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope.” (1 Thessalonians 4:13)
 - b) Don’t always put on a stoic face. Be real.

D. Trials are controlled by God for a season (v. 6)

1. God keeps His eye on the clock and His hand on the thermostat.
 - a) “For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory” (2 Corinthians 4:17).

E. God rewards the faithful who suffer (v. 7)

1. The image of God was tried in the fire.
 - a) Trials purify our faith and prove the reality of our faith.
2. It’s the approval of your faith.
 - a) It’s more precious than gold.
 - b) Gold will perish, and our faith will not.
3. “Praise, honor, glory” (v. 7)
 - a) A tested and proven faith brings glory to God.
 - b) F.B. Meyer- *“We must not look on trial as punishment for the past; because all penalty has been borne for us by our Redeemer. But each trial points to the future, and is intended to make us partakers of his holiness, and to work in us the peaceable fruit of righteousness. The very fact of trial proves that there is something in us very precious to our Lord: else He would not spend so much pains and time on us. We do not prune brambles, or cast stones into the crucible, or plough the sea sands. And Christ would not test us if He did not see the precious ore of faith mingled in the rocky matrix of our nature; and it is to bring this out into purity and beauty the He forces us through the fiery ordeal. Be patient, O sufferer: He must love you, or He would not take such pains with you; you must be capable of some high service which can only be secured through pain, or He would not plunge you into the refining fires. You must be able to bear the fire, or He would not pass you through it.”*

III. Salvation Means We Can Enjoy the Glory Now (1 Peter 1:8-9)

* The Christian philosophy of life is not “pie in the sky and by and by.” It is “O for more of heaven on the way to heaven.” How to rejoice in trials:

A. Loving Jesus (v. 8)

1. When going through a trial, your love relationship with Jesus will take all the poison out of the experience.

- a) We must keep loving Jesus.

B. Trusting Jesus (v. 8)

1. “And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose” (Romans 8:28).

- a) It doesn’t say, “we see.” Instead it says, “we know.”

- b) It’s in His Word

- c) If you love Him, you trust Him.

- d) Never doubt in the dark what God has spoken in the light.

- e) Ask yourself. Do you love Him? Do you trust Him?

C. Rejoice in Jesus (v. 8)

1. It’s joy unspeakable

2. It’s full of glory

D. Looking for Jesus (v. 9)

1. (v.9) “for you are receiving the goal of our faith; the salvation of your souls.”

2. (v.9) “the end of your faith.”

- a) It’s the goal or culmination of your salvation.

- b) Salvation has three tenses.

- 1) Past- “I have been saved”

- 2) Present- “I am being saved”

- 3) Future- “I will be saved”

- 4) It’s your glorification