

SECURITY: A Glimpse into Your Future

Got Hope? Messages from 1 Peter

February 20 & 21, 2010

1 Peter 1:1-12

1:1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God's elect, strangers in the world, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, 2 who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

•Remember who is _____.

3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you, 5 who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

•Remember where _____.

6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. 7 These have come so that your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. 8 Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, 9 for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

•Remember that _____ has a _____.

10 Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, 11 trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. 12 It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things.

•Remember how _____ we are.

Questions for Personal Reflection And Group Discussion

1. Many Christians encounter seasons of doubt, when they wonder if their commitment to Christ is really worth the cost. What line of thinking helps us to counteract these feelings of buyer's remorse?
2. We're launching into a study of 1 Peter. What Bible study methods have proven valuable to you in the past? How will you approach these lessons in order to get the most out of our new series?
3. What do you know about Peter from your reading in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John? Do you notice anything in your initial reading of 1 Peter 1 that seems to bear the flavor of Peter's personality and experience?
4. When do you most feel like a stranger and alien in this world?
5. What difference does it make that you are actually a resident of heaven and are only here for a while?
6. Reread that list in 1 Peter 1:3-5 that describes what is in store for us. What impressions does it leave on you?
7. What do the next few verses (7-9) tell us about why we have to go through various trials?
8. For more on how pain is used in our lives, see James 1:2-4; 2 Cor. 12:1-9; Rom. 5:3-5; 17,18. What do you learn from these verses?
9. Overall, how does your confidence about what will be forever impact your life today?

SECURITY: A Glimpse into Your Future

Got Hope? Messages from 1 Peter

February 20 & 21, 2010

1 Peter 1:1-12

1:¹ Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God's elect, strangers in the world, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, ² who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

•Remember who is strange.

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

•Remember where it all leads.

⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. ⁷ These have come so that your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

•Remember that pain has a purpose.

¹⁰ Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, ¹¹ trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. ¹² It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things.

•Remember how privileged we are.