LIVING HOPE - 1Peter 1:3-6 - 7/26/20

1 Peter was written to give believers who were living in difficult times →

TRUE HOPE – LIVING HOPE – Right in the midst of their Difficulty & Persecution

It was written to give believers

<u>Courage</u>, & <u>Strength</u>, & <u>Confident Assurance</u> <u>that</u> the <u>Bible</u> Calls - <u>Living Hope</u>

1 Peter 1:3-6 (NLT)

3 All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by his great mercy that we have been born again, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. <u>Now we live with</u> <u>great expectation</u>, (ESV – 'we've been born again to a living hope')

4 and we have a priceless inheritance—an inheritance that is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay.

5 And through your faith, God is protecting you by his power until you receive this salvation, which is ready (completely ready) to be revealed on the last day for all to see.

6 So be truly glad (rejoice). There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while.

Guys - We can Praise God TODAY

Because it is by his Great Mercy – that we have been Born Again – THRU our Faith in Jesus Christ

& so now we can live with this GREAT EXPECTATION -

this **CONFIDENT (LIVING) HOPE**

Because we have a Priceless Inheritance – that is being safeguarded for us - in heaven

& this <u>Great Inheritance</u> in <u>Jesus Christ</u> - is <u>pure</u> & <u>undefiled</u> & <u>beyond</u> the <u>reach</u> of <u>change</u> & <u>decay</u>

& THRU your faith
God is protecting you - BY His Power

Until you receive this priceless inheritance of your Salvation

So <u>we</u> can <u>REJOICE</u> – <u>Right Now</u> You <u>we</u> be <u>TRULY GLAD</u> – <u>Today</u>

As believers we can REJOICE TODAY

because there is Wonderful JOY Ahead

Even tho – In **this World** – we **WILL have Tribulation**

But <u>TAKE HEART</u> (<u>Jesus</u> says in <u>Jn 16:33</u>)

Stand Strong – BE Confident

because Jesus Christ has overcome this world on our behalf

Biblical HOPE is NEVER "Wishful Thinking!"

Biblical HOPE is **defined** as;

"A Confident Expectation Based on Solid Certainty"

It is **never** "I hope so" - It is always "I Confidently KNOW"

& <u>right now</u> – we <u>need</u> that <u>Confident Expectation Based on Solid Certainty</u>

We need to be able to REJOICE in our TRUE - LIVING - HOPE

In order to do this

FIRST – We've GOT to KNOW that we've been BORN AGAIN

that we have Surrendered our Life to Jesus Christ as our Savior & Lord

THEN - You've Got to BEGIN to Truly KNOW - Who GOD IS

<u>Hebrews 6:18–19 (NLT)</u>

18 So God has given both his promise and his oath . . . [and] it is impossible for God to lie. Therefore, we who have fled to him for refuge can have great confidence as we hold to the hope that lies before us.

19 This hope (this confidence in our great God) is a strong and trustworthy anchor for our souls . . .

To **know** this **LIVING HOPE** – You've **GOT** to **get to know** the **LIVING GOD** who has **Given this Hope** to you

You know there <u>are</u> over <u>100 NAMES</u> for <u>God</u> in the <u>Bible</u> Each one a <u>REFERENCE</u> to <u>WHO God IS</u> (exists as)

OUR GOD IS

Jehoshua = The Lord is my Salvation

Jehovah Tsidkenu = The Lord is my Righteousness

El Roi = The God who Sees me

Jehovah-Shalom = The Lord is my Peace

Jehovah-Jireh = The Lord will Provide

Jehovah-Nissi = The Lord is my Victory

& that is just the very beginning of WHO our God IS

But – <u>we must seek</u> to <u>know</u> him - in <u>ALL</u> that <u>he is</u> <u>In order</u> for us to <u>LIVE</u> in this <u>Confident (Living) Hope</u>

IN the Psalms - The LORD Is . . .

My King & My God - Psa 5:2

My Rock, my Fortress, - Psa 18:2

My Shepherd - Psa 23:1

My Light & Salvation - Psa 27:1

My Refuge & Strength - Psa 46:1

My Hope & Confidence - Psa 71:5

My Portion forever - Psa 73:26

My <u>Dwelling</u> place - Psa 90:1

My Strength & Song - Psa 118:14

My Help - Psa 121:2

My Deliverer - Psa 144:2 . . . & a HUNDRED Other things

I've got to KNOW this Great God

who has given me this Great Hope In order for me to WALK in it

& I'm just going to put a few other scriptures on the screen

so you can PAUSE the video later
& write them down - & MEDIATE on them

Psalm 103:2-5 - Isa 40:31, 41:10, 43:2

John 10:27-29 - Phil 1:6, 4:6-9, 4:11-13

Hebrews 4:15-16 - Rom 8:31-39

This Living Hope comes ONLY thru

Truly Surrendering your Life to Jesus Christ

Making him your Savior & your Lord

& thru a Genuine Abiding Daily Relationship with him

& so - If you have not

<u>Truly Surrendered</u> your <u>Life</u> to <u>Jesus Christ</u> <u>in order</u> to <u>TAKE HOLD</u> of this <u>LIVING HOPE</u>

Please do that today

Let's Pray