

Worth the PRICE? (1 Peter 1:10-21)

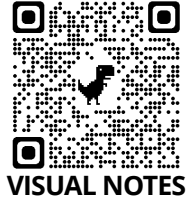
There was a GREAT PRICE paid for you and me, and today we are going to consider whether our lives demonstrate that we appreciate the PRICE paid for us.

teachingnotes

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* Bible Translation: **NIV** (New International Version)



TODAY'S TEACHING

Last week we were challenged to test ourselves and see if these words are true of us.

1 Peter 1:8-9 (NIV)

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, for **you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.**

- ❓ **Do you LOVE Jesus?** What evidence from your life would demonstrate that? If Jesus returned today, do you would HE say that you really do love Him?

Prophets, Predictions, & The Messiah

1 Peter 1:10-11 (NIV)

Concerning this salvation, **the prophets**, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, trying to find out the time and circumstances to which **the Spirit of Christ in them** was pointing when He predicted the sufferings of the Messiah and the glories that would follow.

Prophets wrote hundreds of years before the time of Jesus, predicting **the sufferings of the Messiah and the glories that would follow**. Isaiah wrote 700 years before Jesus walked the earth.

Isaiah 53:10-11 (NIV) Yet it was the LORD'S will to **crush Him and cause Him to suffer**, and though the Lord makes **His life an offering for sin**, He will see His offspring and prolong His days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in His hand. **After He has suffered, He will see the light of life** and be satisfied; by His knowledge **my Righteous Servant will justify many, and He will bear their iniquities.**

- This ONE will be punished by Yahweh. WHY? **His life is an offering for sin.**
 - The previous verses (8-9) predict He would die with wicked people (remember the criminals on left & right of Jesus?) and be buried in a rich man's tomb (Joseph).
 - After His suffering He would **see the light of life**. Jesus did just that - RAISING from the dead!
 - This Righteous Servant would **justify many** - making them right with God by trading their sins for His righteousness.
- ✓ Go read **Isaiah 53** (700 years before crucifixion) & **Psalms 22** (1,000 years before crucifixion).

TAKE SOME NOTES HERE!

The Prophets Were Serving...YOU?

1 Peter 1:12 (NIV) It was revealed to them that **they were** not **servicing** 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.

Those who **preached the gospel** (i.e. good news of Jesus) in the 1st century often quoted from the past prophets to prove that Jesus was the Messiah. The prophets were often frowned upon by their own people - often persecuted for communicating God's message to their culture. They must have had moments when they wondered, *"Is this really worth it? These people aren't listening and I'm tired of being mistreated."*

But their message was not always meant just for *THAT* B.C. generation, but for *THIS* A.D. generation. When they spoke of the coming Messiah *THEY* didn't always understand what it meant either, but generations later, those who brought this good news of Jesus were empowered **by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven.** And this **gospel** message is something that **angels long to look into.** They are amazed by the story that played out before them.

- The One they worshiped in heaven would be whipped on earth? Their Creator would be crucified by His creation? And yet, this incredible sacrifice of Jesus would reconcile sinful mankind with their sinless Creator. Incredible! That's what the angels think!

🌟 **David Helm** puts the weightiness of all this in perspective of how the 1st century audience of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia might have responded:

- Prophets labored their entire lives to present the true gospel...*TO US.*
- Preachers have traveled around the globe to ensure that it has gained a hearing...*BEFORE US.*
- Angels would like nothing better than to gaze into what God has done...*FOR US.*

"Surprise!" says Peter. "This is how much God cares for you." I can almost hear the shouts of joy rolling across the rugged topography of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia. This is amazing love. Ancient prophets, itinerant preachers, and exalted angels have for ages stood in service to this salvation that has come *TO US!* The fullness of your salvation has been the joyful business of God's servants over the centuries.¹

Walk in the Purity that Jesus Died to Provide

1 Peter 1:13-16 (NIV) Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, **set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at His coming.** As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as He who called you is holy, so **be holy in all you do;** for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy." [[Lev 11:44, 45](#); [19:2](#); [20:7](#)]

In other words, **we should be living like Jesus is returning.** Followers of Jesus shouldn't sit and shake in fear over the return of Jesus. NO! We **set** our **hope on the GRACE to be brought** to us when Jesus comes back. Remember, this is written by the apostle Peter, one of the men who WATCHED as Jesus ascended into the clouds and saw two angels tell them these words:

Acts 1:11b (NIV) This same **Jesus**, Who has been taken from you into heaven, **will come back** in the same way you have seen Him go into heaven."

From that day on, Peter and the others actually started living like He was returning. They didn't know *WHEN*, but they knew He *WOULD*. Until then, we are **not** to **conform to the evil desires** we used to live in.

- This word for "**conform**" is referring to being shaped or molded into a preset pattern.²

✘ Our culture is attempting to mold us into people who explore & dabble with evil rather than expose & deny evil. But there is another influence at work - **the evil desires you had** before you turned from them and turned to Jesus. We are no longer to walk in those things: lust, pride, gossip, anger, filthy talk, etc.

We are to commanded to **be holy in all we do!** Sadly, many who claim the Name of Jesus who dilute this command and refuse to live pure. These disobedient 'Christians' often refer to those who want to "be holy" as being 'legalistic'. Many of us might be considered cultural 'Christians' but not Biblical Christians.

I wonder what the apostle Peter might say to us if he could see how we embrace sin rather than push it away. He might say, "What part of '**be holy in all you do**' don't you get?"

¹ David R. Helm, 1 & 2 Peter and Jude: Sharing Christ's Sufferings, Preaching the Word (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 2008), 53.

² Johannes P. Louw and Eugene Albert Nida, Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament: Based on Semantic Domains (New York: United Bible Societies, 1996), 506.

❓ If Jesus were returning at the end of this week, how would you live the rest of this week?

There might just be a major overhaul in what we watch, what we say, what we think, and what we do. We should be living like Jesus is returning and with some clear differences between Christians and our culture.

Bought at a PRICE

1 Peter 1:17-19 (NIV)

Since you call on a Father who judges each person's work impartially, **live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear**. For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that **you were redeemed** from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but **with the precious blood of Christ**, a Lamb without blemish or defect.

If we live like Jesus is returning, then we should live the rest of our days as **foreigners...in reverent fear**.

- 1) We recognize that this is not our home; we are **foreigners** whose inheritance and home is with Jesus.
- 2) We live in **reverent fear** - aware of God's Presence and coming judgement.
- 3) We live in purity because of the PRICE paid for us - Jesus spilled His **precious blood** and gave up His life to give us eternal life. He redeemed us - **BOUGHT US** - like slaves who were purchased to give them freedom.
 - This language reminds Hebrew people of the Passover **lambs** that had to be sacrificed **without blemish or defect**. The blood of these innocent, sacrificial substitutes would then be applied to the doorposts so God's angel of death would **PASS OVER** them while killing the 1st born of all the Egyptians who had enslaved the Hebrew people. The blood of the unblemished lambs 1) be kept them from God's wrath & 2) released them from bondage to the Egyptians who had enslaved the them.
 - These sacrificial substitutes pointed to Jesus. We were **redeemed...with the precious blood of Christ**, a Lamb without blemish or defect.

❓ **ARE YOU WORTH THE PRICE?**

None of us are deserving, but are YOU living like you appreciate the price that has been paid for you? If so, it should be a **PRIVILEGE** rather than a **PROBLEM** to obey the ONE who died to redeem us.

God's Ancient Plan to Redeem is Revealed

1 Peter 1:20-21 (NIV)

He was chosen [foreknown] before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. Through Him you believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and glorified Him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

Jesus was **chosen** or foreknown **before the creation of the world**. This word translated "chosen" by the NIV and "foreknown" by CSB, ESV, NET, is from the same word referring to the "foreknowledge of God the Father" (1 Peter 1:2). The Greek term is *prognōsis* (*pro* = before *gnōsis* = know). The plan to redeem us was known from the very beginning (**before the creation of the world**) - a plan that has now been fully **revealed in these last times for your sake**.

Having been **purified** by our **faith in God** (trusting *WHO* He is, *WHAT* He *HAS* done, and what He *WILL* do), we trust that our sin debt has been paid in full, and then we LIVE like it!

TAKE SOME NOTES HERE!

heretoserveyou

Have questions and need some help? ...real soon...how about now? Please **call** or **text** us soon!

* Contact **Jackie** (850-673-1582), **Justin** (704-618-6144), **Christy** (850-673-9764), or another follower of Jesus soon!

* Or call our **deacons & wives**: Alan & Christy Androski (850-464-1428), Steve & Debbie Bass (850-673-7952), Tim & Joni Hughey (850-464-1156), Mark & Dot Mancil (850-253-5405), Boss & Amelia Mulkey (850-464-6717), Jim & Derita Pinkard (850-464-6188), Fain & Linda Poppell (850-464-1282), or Tom & Martha Waddail (850-973-0011).

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What challenged/encouraged you most from today's teaching? Explain why that was most impactful to you.
2. Read all of **Isaiah 53** (entire chapter), **2 Cor. 5:21**, **Gal. 1:3-4**, and **1 Peter 2:24**. Then discuss the significance of what Jesus really did for us when He died on the cross.
3. How does our BEHAVIOR communicate what we BELIEVE? In other words, how does obeying/disobeying Jesus before He returns demonstrate that we believe He WILL return - or not?
4. Name some ways that Christians believing Jesus will return should be different than our culture (e.g. language, attitude, etc).
5. Any other insights or questions that we need to discuss?
6. Share your prayer needs and lift each other up to our God Who listens!