

Jesus, Our Living Hope!

1 Peter 1:3-12¹

WHAT IS TRUE, AND WHAT SHOULD CHRISTIANS DO?

Sometimes, Christians are embarrassed to answer the question, “Are you saved?” They fear a positive answer will appear to be self-righteous. Peter’s discussion of salvation as being past, present, and future provides a ready answer to that most significant question.

Because we know the future, we must faithfully serve God here and now. If today that means resolving a conflict, mending a hurt, working a dull job, confronting a disrespectful child, rebuilding a marriage, or just waiting for guidance—do it all with the joy of God, who will return with his reward! Don’t forget, you have a mighty salvation in Jesus!

1. SALVATION IS FUTURE (v.3–5) (Rm. 13:11, Phil. 3:20; Heb 9:28)

- A. New birth provides a living Hope.
- B. An Inheritance awaits those who are saved.
- C. It is a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

2. SALVATION IS PRESENT (v.6–9)

- A. It is the believer’s source of rejoicing in daily life despite trials.
- B. Christians are now receiving the goal of their faith, which is salvation.

3. SALVATION IS PAST (v. 10-12) (Heb. 11:13)

- A. Salvation was prophesied but not fully understood.
- B. The Gospel explained the prophets’ words. The promises of God pointed to Christ. The Old Testament was the foundation for a newer and better covenant in Christ. The salvation the prophets sought and looked forward to had been revealed.
- C. Even the angels longed for information.

CONCLUSION: How does one answer the question, “Are you saved?” According to Peter, our answer is clear: “I have been, I am being, and I shall be saved!”

1 Outline adapted from F. Sherwood Smith, *Life of Peter: Blueprints for 30 Messages Built upon God’s Word*, ed. Jim Eichenberger, Solid Foundation Sermon Starters (Cincinnati: Standard Publishing, 2000), 34.