

Playground or Battleground?

A Living Hope pt.2

1 Peter 1:6-12

1 Peter 1:1-12 NET

1 From Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to those temporarily residing abroad (in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, the province of Asia, and Bithynia) who are chosen

1 Peter 1:1-12 NET

2 according to the foreknowledge of God the Father by being set apart by the Spirit for obedience and for sprinkling with Jesus Christ's blood. May grace and peace be yours in full measure!

1 Peter 1:1-12 NET

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy, he gave us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

1 Peter 1:1-12 NET

4 that is, into an inheritance imperishable, undefiled, and unfading. It is reserved in heaven for you,

5 who by God's power are protected through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

1 Peter 1:1-12 NET

6 This brings you great joy, although you may have to suffer for a short time in various trials.

7 Such trials show the proven character of your faith, which is much more valuable than gold—gold that is tested by fire, even though it is passing away—and will bring praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

1 Peter 1:1-12 NET

8 You have not seen him, but you love him. You do not see him now but you believe in him, and so you rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy,

9 because you are attaining the goal of your faith—the salvation of your souls.

1 Peter 1:1-12 NET

10 Concerning this salvation, the prophets who predicted the grace that would come to you searched and investigated carefully.

1 Peter 1:1-12 NET

11 They probed into what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating when he testified beforehand about the sufferings appointed for Christ and his subsequent glory.

1 Peter 1:1-12 NET

12 They were shown that they were serving not themselves but you, in regard to the things now announced to you through those who proclaimed the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things angels long to catch a glimpse of (look into).

6 Reasons to Live in Hope!

1. Different - v1
2. Chosen - v2
3. Changed - v2
4. Alive - v3
5. Blessed - v4
6. Saved - v5

v 6 - Playground or Battleground?

Great joy and purpose in trials?

(Matt. 5:12; Romans 5; 2 Cor. 4:17; James 1:2-4; 1 Peter 4:12-14)

Romans 5:1-6 NKJV - (1) Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, (2) through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. (3) And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance;

Romans 5:1-6 NKJV - (4) and perseverance, character; and character, hope. (5) Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. (6) For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

v 7 - Gold and Fire

“to test for the purpose of approving”

(Job 23:10; James 1:12; Dan 3)

Parable of the soils (Matt. 13:1–9, 18–23)

"Shall any man say, 'I have faith, but I have never had to believe under difficulties'? Who knows whether thou hast any faith? Shall a man say, 'I have great faith in God, but I have never had to use it in anything more than the ordinary affairs of life, where I could probably have done without it as well as with it'?"

Is this to the honor and praise of thy faith?
Dost thou think that such a faith as this will
bring any great glory to God, or bring to thee
any great reward? If so, thou art mightily
mistaken." (Spurgeon)

v 8 - joy inexpressible

Love, Trust, and Rejoice

Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." - John 20:29 NKJV

v 9 - the goal of your faith = Salvation, it is:

Past: “He has given us new birth” (v. 3)

Present: “through faith are shielded by God’s power” (v. 5)

Future: it is their “inheritance” (v. 4), which will “be revealed in the last time” (v. 5) and is “the goal of your faith” (v. 9)

v 10 - Connecting past, present, and future
Prophets and the church (**Eph. 3:4-6; 2 Tim. 1:10**)

“Peter did not seek to prove the truth of his teaching about salvation by showing its agreements with the prophets; rather, he sought to encourage his afflicted readers by demonstrating the importance and comprehensive grandeur of the salvation for which they were being afflicted.” (Hiebert)

v 11 - Connecting past, present, and future
testified beforehand of suffering and glory
... of Christ (**Gen. 3:15; Psa. 22; Isa. 53; Dan.
9:26**)

v 12 - Cosmic Wonder and Conflict

The supernatural world eagerly observing:

(Luk. 15:7; 1 Cor. 4:9; Eph.3:10; 1 Tim. 3:16)

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What do they see in your life?

Not a playground for God's people
but a battle ground for a cosmic conflict.

God is working.

There is an enemy.

He wants to use you.

What is the Gospel?

The gospel means the good news...

of Jesus...

Who He is....

What He has done...

What that means for us...

Our response... (see Acts 2)

Revelation:

1. Son of God, Lord, Messiah
2. Died/Crucified
3. Raised / Resurrected
4. Exalted / Glorified
5. Poured out the Spirit

Response

1. Convicted
2. Confession
3. Repent
4. Baptized
5. Believe
6. Devoted to a church

Result

1. Forgiven
2. New Life / Holy Spirit
3. Family of Faith
4. New Mission

By grace alone, through faith alone,
in Christ alone.

Free from works, abounding in Love.

Faith is an inward change that will always
manifest in outward action.

Always be on mission.

“The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make His face shine upon you,
And be gracious to you;
The Lord lift up His countenance upon
you, And give you peace.”

Numbers 6:24-26 (NKJV)

Resources

1. *The Divine Conspiracy: Rediscovering Our Hidden Life In God* by Dallas Willard
2. *The Anatomy of a Disciple: So Many Believers. So Few Disciples.* By Dr. Rick Taylor
3. David Guzik, 1 Peter, David Guzik's Commentaries on the Bible (Santa Barbara, CA: David Guzik, 2013), 1 Pe 1:1–12.