

The Precious Blood Of Christ -

Part 2

Living with God's Eternal Perspective

Please make your way to First Peter chapter 1. Lord willing, I will complete where I started or ended two Sundays ago. Before we go into the next verse, I would like to revisit what I preached on two Sundays ago. I mentioned that Peter reflects back on his old way of life, how he wanted to be the first at everything, how he didn't want the Lord Jesus Christ to go to the cross, and how he said, "I won't deny you. I won't deny you." Jesus told him, "You will deny me not only once but three times."

Peter, at an older age as he's writing this letter, realizes how important it is to know yourself—your tendencies, your weaknesses, where your fear lies. There is a power behind fear, isn't there? It can be debilitating or cause you to do things you never thought you would do if it weren't for fear.

We're living as Christians in this temporal world we call Earth. The word used in verse 17 is "sojourning." It means we're just traveling from this life to the next. What we once thought was home, we're now aliens to. We're foreign to the things of this world. When Peter said, "I don't want you, Lord, to go to the cross," he was essentially saying, "Let's build our kingdom here." He had a total misconception of why Jesus was here. Thank God for Jesus being so loving, patient, kind, gracious, and merciful to Peter.

In verse 17, Peter says, "Sojourning here as you're passing by this time, sojourning here in fear." That's where I left off. I mentioned knowing yourself. God showed Peter, through much humiliation, failures, and fears, His great mercy. God stopped Peter from doing things that could have destroyed him sooner rather than later. Peter learned from his mistakes and repented. That's a defining moment in a Christian's life when you realize, "I am so far from God where I thought I was. I thought I was closer to God, almost like Jesus, yet I was so far."

What does repentance mean? It's metanoia, a change of mind, but ultimately, it's turning back to God because you've been turning to yourself. That's what God does—He prevents us from continuing on a path leading to death. We've all been at different points on that journey. Some of us were really at the end of ourselves. Objectively, we come to the end of ourselves upon salvation, but I'm talking about those moments where you realize, "I could have done so much here, but I made so many mistakes." Peter made many mistakes, and that's why I appreciate him writing to us this way: "I had so many ways I could have destroyed myself, and thank God He didn't allow me to do that."

By the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, Peter writes what every believer needs to know as they travel through this world. Even after conversion, you're still walking this life with fear, with presumptuousness. Our old nature is still there, not completely undone. It's

not the fear of God as the object, but the idea that we ourselves can be the object of great destruction. I referenced verses like 1 Corinthians, where it talks about being “saved by fire.” God sometimes has to burn up everything in your life, and it’s painful because you hold on to too much of this life. On the other hand, Ephesians 4 speaks of attaining the full stature of Christ. That’s the goal of every pastor who wants the Word of God to be the core, our guide, the most precious thing in our lives. We must constantly be fed on this truth.

Now, we shift from knowing Peter’s life to understanding how God thinks, what He sees as precious and valuable, and for us to say, “Yes and amen.” This is found in verses 18 and 19: “For as much as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things as silver and gold from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.”

We should be in awe that we get to see God’s perspective, to see beyond what we tend to think is precious or valuable. Peter wants us to acknowledge God in our lives and remind ourselves that God’s way of displaying value differs from ours. He says, “You know you were not redeemed with corruptible things like silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers.” In the Gentile world, silver and gold were the ultimate goals—pleasing your father, earning prestige, power, or wealth. But Peter says that’s corruptible, empty to God. It’s just a tradition from your fathers, not the Father.

This is so similar to today’s pursuit of prestige, accolades, and wealth. God sees it as vain, empty. Haven’t we felt that way, brothers and sisters? We chased what we thought was life, attained it, and realized, “That’s it?” Someone tells you to reach the next milestone, and you do, only to find it empty again. When you say, “There’s nothing worth living for,” that’s God stepping into your life, saying, “Yes, it’s corruptible.” Those moments remind us we’re no longer in that cycle. All the things we thought would bring happiness, peace, or joy were nothing.

Peter says, “Know this.” We need to keep reminding ourselves that we needed the living God in our lives. The Father stepped in as our redeemer and deliverer when we came to the end of ourselves, rescuing us from a useless life we knew would get us nowhere. That’s what it means to realize there’s nothing worth living for in this world.

We’re not redeemed with corruptible things but with the precious blood of Christ. The word “redeemed” refers to Jesus as our kinsman redeemer, from Leviticus 25:46-47, where a bondsman, unable to pay an unpayable debt, needs a kinsman to liberate them. Jesus pays the debt we couldn’t, freeing us from the slave market of sin. Peter may also be thinking of the Passover lamb from Exodus 12, where Israel was redeemed from Egypt by the blood of a lamb sprinkled on doorposts, saving their firstborn from the death angel. Similarly, we are redeemed through Christ’s death and resurrection. John the Baptist said, “Behold the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.” Paul echoes this in 1 Corinthians 5:7: “Christ our Passover lamb is sacrificed for us.”

Look at verse 2: “Unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ.” The blood of Jesus is sprinkled upon us, just like the Passover, so the death sentence is not upon us. What a great redeemer! This brings us into obedience and deliverance from our old ways, setting us on a sojourning journey toward our inheritance. The price was the precious blood of Christ, necessary to bring us into obedience and cleanness. Paul says in 1 Corinthians 6:20, “For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.” In Acts 20:28, Paul tells the elders of Ephesus, “Take heed unto yourselves and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.” This emphasizes feeding the flock with God’s Word, a great assurance for us to desire and for pastors to faithfully preach.

This is God’s church, redeemed through His blood. The lamb without blemish in verse 19 means a sacrificial lamb had to be perfect, just as Christ was perfect in obedience. Peter speaks to both Jews and Gentiles, connecting us to the story of redemption, assuring us through Christ, the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

We were all raised to some degree in idolatry, vain worship, and useless living. We realized our lives were dedicated to empty things. Do you see that change in your life? Your mind might drift to old ways, but God’s mercy protects you, turning you back, saying, “That’s your old life—empty.” That’s humbling, and we need to constantly return to God’s perspective of what’s valuable.

Reflect on the moment when you realized the blood of Christ is precious, not gold, silver, or prestige. Our flesh craves aesthetics and beauty, but that’s a false perception. God opens the eyes of our hearts (Ephesians 1:17) to see the blood as precious. That’s why we live and have forgiveness. Human forgiveness is shallow, but divine forgiveness requires a penalty—blood payment. God laid that penalty on His Son, Jesus, who paid the full penalty of our sin and absorbed God’s wrath. This is missing in many churches, but may we continue to preach the precious blood of Christ, the assurance of our forgiveness.

We live this life with fear because our old tendencies linger. We’re redirected to what’s precious through verses 20 and 21: “Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, who by him do believe in God that raised him up from the dead and gave him glory, that your faith and hope might be in God.” This redemption wasn’t a last-minute decision. Christ’s role as the sacrificial lamb was planned before the world’s foundation, before time existed (Acts 2:23, Ephesians 1:4, Romans 8:29, John 17:24). God spoke through His Son in these last days (Hebrews 1:2, 9:26), putting away sin by His sacrifice. We were elect according to God’s foreknowledge, His unchanging plan.

Through Christ’s resurrection, God gave Him glory so our faith and hope might be in God, reconciling us to Him. Acts 3:13 and John 17:5 affirm Jesus’ glorification. This assures believers everything was planned for our salvation—a profound act only God could do. May we rehearse this in our lives, knowing one day we’ll see Him face to face, and our faith and hope will rest in God forever.

May this encourage you to sojourn, knowing your place and what's important to God. Live according to His ways, and your purposes will be precious in His sight.

Let's go to the Lord in prayer. Father, thank You for Your Word. Thank You, God, because we could never have devised this plan. Only You, sovereign God, could display such love. Thank You for the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ and the shed blood for the remission of our sins. Thank You that we live this temporal life knowing everything in it is empty. Thank You for bringing that to our lives. I pray these words stay in our hearts, knowing our pains and trials are temporary. Help us live with Your perspective, so You are glorified and we point the lost to the true way—salvation in Jesus Christ. Give us conversions for Your honor, glory, and praise. We thank You in Jesus' name. Amen.