

Serie: Things must change

Title: Expecting faith

**1 Peter 1:3-8** Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

**4** and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you,

**5** who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

**6** In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials.

**7** These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

**8** 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,

Some years ago it go cold here in Del Río, it was in the lower 50s.

I remember wearing a coat and many were wearing sweaters.

I saw a man and I know he was not from here because he was wearing a t-shirt.

I asked him; aren't you cold? No sir, I love this weather, nice and cool.

Next time I saw him, the weather was in the lower 90s.

How are you doing" Man, is hot over here. I just Smiled.

Perspective and what we grow accustom to, changes everything about how we experience life.

1 Peter, is a letter from the Apostle Peter, to persecuted and displaced Christians.

Peter know that those he was writing this Peter to, were living in a place of hardship.

Peter wrote these letters with deep personal passion to help these Christians.

He was reminding them to keep their Eyes on Christ so that we grow accustom to Him, not to the pattern of this world.

Our faith should no be on what we see, our faith should be based on who God is.

Is our faith firmly planted in the promises of God for our lives?

Or do we look to things, people, and culture for peace, satisfaction and direction?

Is your faith based on what you see or on who you know God is?

Do you see trails as opportunities to become more like Christ or a reason to quit?

So, Peter write these letters to encourage them.

We all need encourage not once in a while.

Someone more than others.

**1 Peter 1:3** Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

Peter begins with praise to God for the privilege He had given us as believers.

Peter encourages the reader by reminding them that through the resurrection of Christ, God had causes them to be born again.

Peter informed his reader that God had given them new birth into an inheritance that will never perish, be denied, or fade.

That salvation is to be revealed in the last time reminding us of the future aspect of salvation.

### **Romans 13:11**

And DO THIS, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.

This is what we, as believers are expecting.

## **1. Never lose expectation**

Expectation is the strong belief that something is going to happen.

You see, the first century church was going through persecution.

Peter was telling them that their expectation and hope **MUST** outweigh any Suffering.

You may be saying, I have hope and I am expecting.

Your hope and expectation **Must** outweigh.

**Must** be greater than any suffering and hardship.

Today's tells us to Live with great expectation.

God has given believers a new spiritual life that enables us to live in an entirely different dimension than the one we see.

Expectation of Hope in this passage does not simply imply wishful thinking **BUT** a dynamic confidence that does not end with this life but continues through eternity.

If you have ever had the honor of seeing God move on your behalf, your perspective should be different than those who have not.

If anyone has allowed God to move in such a way that you saw the hand of God do the impossible, then your perspective should be Greater than those who have not.

Your expectation should be greater.

Peter praises God that his mercy brings new spiritual life.

A new perspective of who God is.

Which produces confident expectation about the future despite suffering in the meantime.

David wrote:

**Psalms 119:114** You are my refuge and my shield; I have put my hope in your word.

Solomon wrote:

**Proverbs 23:18** There is surely a future hope for you, and your hope will not be cut off.

ITS NOT OVER!!

**Romans 5:5** And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

Even Human tribulation and hardship can produce expectation (hope) our sure hope will not be disappointed because we can depend on the love of God.

No matter what—LIVE with Great Expectation

(TYN) Never lose expectation

**1Peter 1:5** who through faith are SHIELDED by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

## **2. Don't lose faith**

There is difference between expectation and faith.

Expectation is a conditional approach to the future-dependent on the fulfillment of specific conditions. (If I do this then this will happen)

Faith is an unconditional trust in the flow of Gods grace.

God keeps His people safe from the attacks of the enemy and safe within the protective boundaries of His Kingdom.

The Bible tells us that our faith will be tested.

When I was in school, there was always someone absent when there was a test in a Class.

So, they fail the Class.

Whatever you do, do not miss the test.

Pass or fail, it does not matter just don't miss the test.

People now a days want everything to be easy.

It's a society of convenience.

If its not easy or convenient, we don't want it.

It happens in most areas of our lives.

We want things hassle free.

Our mentality is: the less we can do, the better. The easier it is the better.

Then when things are not easy.... we quit.

We quit out jobs, our relationships, our dreams, our goals, our plans, our Walk with God.

The Bible tells us that our faith is going to be tested.

It is going to be tested, because that is where Gods power is filtered through.

**Matthew 9:22** Jesus turned and saw her. "Take heart, daughter," he said, "your faith has healed you." And the woman was healed at that moment. (Woman with issue of blood)

**Matthew 9:29** Then he touched their eyes and said, "According to your faith let it be done to you" (2 blind men)

**Mark 10:52** "Go," said Jesus, "your faith has healed you." Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road. (Blind Bartimeeus)

Our faith is what God moves through.

Our faith is the conduit that His power flows through.

That is why it is tested.

It is not just tested to be tested, it is tested to see if God can do more through you.

Is your faith being tested today?

God tests the faith of those that believe.

Everyone in the Bible had to have expectation and faith.

With these two things.

It does not matter what you are going through.

Things must change.