

OPEN WITH: “In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, 7 so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire - may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”

Verses 1-5 - Peter reminds them of the lavish grace, mercy and salvation they have in Christ. He emphasizes their inheritance that they have awaiting them in eternity, and how God Himself is safeguarding it for them. They are people of hope - redeemed, secure and cherished by God.

- ◆ **“In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials...”** – 1 Peter 1:6
 - **“Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all.”** - Psalm 34:19
 - **“Through many tribulations we must enter the Kingdom of God.”** - Acts 14:22
 - **“...no one be moved by these afflictions. For you yourselves know that we are destined for this.”** - 1 Thessalonians 3:3

VARIOUS TRIALS: physical, circumstantial, relational, financial, spiritual, cultural, emotional

- ◆ **“...so that the tested genuineness of your faith - more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire - may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.**
- 1 Peter 1:7
 - **“tested genuineness”** - proof; term describes the assessment of a metal’s purity and content after being placed under fire and having impurities removed. What is left over after the fire is the true value of the metal.
 - **God uses trials and suffering to remove spiritual impurities from our lives. Through testings, our faith is purged of superficiality and increased in its ultimate value. This results in a greater reward for us when Jesus returns at the end of the age. Peter emphasizes here that our enduring of trials will also bring divine commendation from Jesus at the end of the age. Amazingly, the Christian who endures suffering and continues in faithful trust will receive from Jesus honor when He returns. Enduring suffering brings about from Jesus the declaration, “Well done, My good and faithful servant.”**
- ◆ **“When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.”** - Psalm 34:17-18