



First Peter Temporary Residents in a Foreign Land

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THE EMOTIONAL DIMENSION OF RESILIENT FAITH

I Peter 1:8-12

May 19, 2019

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Theme: We continue our series on the Epistle of 1 Peter, entitled “Temporary Residents in a Foreign Land.” This morning we will be considering another section of the opening chapter, this one consisting of five memorable verses. Here Peter reflects on the improbable fact that persons who had never physically encountered Jesus nonetheless believe in Him, love Him, and are willing to pay a price for following Him. Perhaps the most remarkable aspect of all of this is the deep joy they experience in the midst of their ordeal. Clearly, this emotional aspect of their experience is essential to the resiliency of their faith.

Outline:

1. Introduction
2. The Experience of Believers (8-9)
 - a. Against All Odds: The Mystery of Faith and Godly Affection
 - b. Joy: The Consequence
 - c. Joy as Foretaste: A Preview of Our Coming Salvation

3. Faith Grounded in Scripture (10-11)
 - a. The Writings of the Prophets Were Inspired
 - b. The Understanding of the Prophets Was Limited
 - c. The Prophets Discerned a Pattern of Suffering and Glory
4. Our Privileged Vantage Point (12)
 - a. Beyond the Prophets' Grasp
 - b. Beyond the Angels' Apprehension
5. Conclusion

Takeaway: There is an emotional dimension to resilient faith, the kind of faith that survives adversity. This emotional aspect is characterized preeminently by joy. This joy is a foretaste—an anticipation, a sneak preview, if you will—of what awaits us when we finally cross the goal-line of our life journey. As with Christ, so with us: first the cross, then the glory. There is more to such joyful faith than subjective feelings, however. Such faith is anchored in the inspired testimony of centuries-old Scripture.

Next Cove:

Date: May 26, 2019

Title: Be Holy

Scripture: 1 Peter: 1:13 - 2:3