

DEVOTED

GOING DEEPER- 1 Peter 1

Read 1 Peter 1:1-12

God has rescued us from our deserved eternal punishment because of our sins; through the precious sacrifice of Jesus! To enjoy the fulfillment of this salvation, we need to be guarded through faith, by the power of God, so that the genuineness of our faith might endure, along with the love and joy that comes from God despite our circumstances!

So what great joy we can have for:

- He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ (3);
- We have an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for us (4);
- God's power guards us through faith for our salvation (5);
- Our tested faith can result in even more praise and glory and honour at the revelation of Jesus Christ! (7)

God was working through prophets and preachers by His Spirit. The prophets prophesied about this grace by the Spirit in them, who was revealing Christ to them. The Apostles proclaimed the good news by the Spirit's power all towards one aim, the proclaiming of the good news of Jesus for eternal life!

Question: How does God's saving activity in the past, present or future most encourage you in your life right now?

Jesus, thank You for what You have done, are doing and will do in the future. We renew our faith and trust in You this day. Amen!

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Read 1 Peter 1:13-2:3

To make possible our:

- Redemption, God ransomed us with the precious lifeblood of Jesus the sinless, spotless Lamb of God (19)
- New birth: God gave the eternal everlasting word of God, the good news to give us new birth (23)
- Growth to full salvation: He has given us pure spiritual milk, this is the milk of His word to nourish us to full maturity (2:2)

To enjoy these benefits fully, we need to:

- Think clearly (13);
- Exercise self-control (abstain from sin) (14-15);
- Set our hope on the blessings to come (13);
- Purify ourselves by obedience to the truth (22).

Our perspective and our hope should shift to the eternal.

Instead of conforming to our passions, there should be a radical shift to holiness and purity expressing itself through love that is sincere and deep for other believers (22).

Questions:

1. How might you express thanks to God for what He has given us? How might you partner with God to continue growing?
2. Which of the four ways to enjoy God's blessings do you need to focus on this week?

Lord, thank You for your loving generous provision to rescue me. I choose to thank You and respond in loving obedience. Amen.