

I. Intro

A. Text: **1 Pet. 1:6-8**

⁶In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷so 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. ⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory. (1 Pet. 1:6-8)

B. Preview

⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, (1 Pet. 1:8)

1. There is a joy available (to believers) that is beyond description and full of luster. (v. 8)
2. This Joy was actually present and available in the middle of incredible distress.
 - a. Letter was written to Jewish believers who were aliens, dispersed throughout the Roman world (Asia).

¹Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who are elect exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, (1 Pet. 1:1)

- b. Challenge to the contemporary idea of “Happiness”.

II. Body

A. Joy Based on the Future Focus. (v. 3-5)

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, (1 Pet. 1:3)

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1. **Praise to God that we are born again. (v. 3a)**
 - a. According to His abundant mercy, He did it
 - b. Praise to God who birthed us into a living hope (**v. 3b**)
 - i. Our “living hope” is based on a resurrected Savior who is coming back for us.
 2. **Praise God that we have an inheritance that is being kept for us in heaven.**

⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, (1 Pet. 1:4)

- a. Our inheritance is not subject to probate fees or legal challenges.
3. **Praise God that we are kept by Him.**

⁵who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. (1 Pet. 1:5)

- a. Examples
 - i. **John 17:12:** ¹² *While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.*
 - ii. **Phil. 1:6:** *Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the Day of Jesus Christ.*
 - iii. **Ps. 138:8:** *The Lord will perfect that which concerns me...*
- b. God is keeping us for ultimate salvation (revealed in the end) by His power.

B. Joy Based On Present Reality (**v. 6-9**)

1. **Praise God that these trying circumstances are but for a little while. (v. 6a)**

⁶In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, (1 Pet. 1:6)

2. **Praise God that these trials are in the hands of the Father. (v. 6b)**

- a. If necessary
 - i. Implies that trials are subject to someone or something.
- b. God is in complete control.

3. **Praise God that these trying circumstances have purpose. (v. 7)**

⁷so 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 Pet. 1:7)

- a. Purifying fire is applied to our faith.
 - i. Much like fire is applied to gold.
 - ii. Fire removes dross (impurities) from gold.
- b. Lemon Example
- c. Tested/tried/ purified faith brings praise, glory and honor to Jesus... now and then.

4. **Praise God that in your present trial there is great benefit/reward: Inexpressible Joy**

⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, (1 Pet. 1:8)

- a. The One you haven't seen, you love.
 - i. The One you haven't seen, you believe.
 - ii. The One you haven't seen, lives inside of you.
- b. You now rejoice with joy inexpressible AND full of glory
- c. That which you shall receive, you've already received!

⁹Obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls. (1 Pet. 1:9)

- i. You've shall receive a reward, but you already have your great reward: Jesus!

C. Sidenote: Jesus is the most joyful man this world has ever seen.

⁶ *Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness;* ⁷ *you have loved righteousness and hated wickedness. Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.* (Ps. 45:6-7)

1. Walking bundle of engagement and excitement.
 - a. Glutton and a winebibber
 - b. Greatest Event in History: The marriage feast
 - c. Everywhere He went, He threatened to bring joy that was contagious.
 - i. Elizabeth & John the Baptist (Lk. 1:44)
 - ii. Simeon (Lk. 2:29-32)
 - iii. Anna (Lk. 2:36-38)

III. Conclusion

A. What Again (Review)?

1. Joy Based on the Future Focus. (v. 3-5)
 - a. Praise to God that we are born again.
 - b. Praise God that we have an inheritance that is being kept for us in heaven.
 - c. Praise God that we are kept by Him.
2. Joy Based On Present Reality (v. 6-9)
 - a. Praise God that these trying circumstances are but for a little while.
 - b. Praise God that these trials are in the hands of the Father.
 - c. Praise God that these trying circumstances have purpose.
 - d. Praise God that in your present trial there is great benefit/reward: Inexpressible Joy

B. What Now?

1. Arm Your Mind With These Truths

¹³ Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. (1 Pet. 1:13)

- a. **Jn. 15:9, 11:** “As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love... These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full”

2. Pursue Holiness As Dear Children

¹⁴ As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, ¹⁵ but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, ¹⁶ since it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.” ¹⁷ And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one’s deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, ¹⁸ knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. (1 Pet. 1:14-19)