



Tested Genuine Faith
1 Pet. 1:3-12
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Bushawn Carpenter

I. Intro

A. Opening Reading: **1 Pet. 1:6-7**

B. In this you greatly rejoice...

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

1. Rejoice in the Blessed God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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)

- a. Rejoice that God has NOT dealt with us according to what we deserve.
- b. Rejoice that He is the God who deals with us according to His mercy...
2. Rejoice that because of His mercy, He caused us to be born again.
 - a. Salvation is a miracle that only God can perform.
3. Rejoice that he caused us... to be born again to a living hope.
 - a. Our hope (certain expectation) is a person.
4. Rejoice that He caused us to have an inheritance that is unchanging (inflation-proof, embezzlement proof, fraud-proof).

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

- a. Your inheritance is kept in heaven and guarded for you.
5. Rejoice that not only is our inheritance guarded, but we (ourselves) are guarded through faith.

⁵ *who 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. We are guarded in our now for complete deliverance in our later.

II. Body

- A. Content of our rejoicing, greater than the circumstances of our struggle.

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

- 1. Grieved by various trials
 - a. Various struggles.
- 2. Rejoice because it's just for a little while.
 - a. The endgame is eternal.
 - b. Trials ⇒ Temporary.

- B. Rejoice that the various trials ⇒ Genuine Faith

⁶ *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. (1 Pet. 1:6-7)*

- 1. It was necessary that for a little while, you were grieved by various trials.
 - a. Necessary that your faith be tested.
 - b. Necessary to have a faith that has experienced some ups and downs.
 - c. Faith that places its trust in Jesus no matter...
- 2. The temporary trials are necessary to produce genuine faith that is tested by fire.
 - a. Heat is turned up until all the impurities are exposed.
 - b. The trials ⇒ Temporary ⇒ Working for my good.

¹⁶ *So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, (2 Cor. 4:16-17)*

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3. Your faith in Christ alone brings Him glory, honor and praise.
 4. Faith in Christ alone is more precious to Him than pure gold that has been tested in the fire.

⁶ 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. (1 Pet. 1:6-7)

- a. Genuine faith in Him will bring Him glory, honor, and praise at the end of the age.
5. God has chosen to put His greatest treasure in broken vessels.
 - a. He chose to pour out His love on those who appear to be unlovable.
 - b. But His love is so fierce that we love Him back.
6. Here's the response that brings Him glory.

⁸ Though 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. You haven't even seen Him, but you love Him.
- b. Everything in your now is not picture-perfect, but you believe Him.
- c. All hell breaking loose around you, but you rejoice with a joy that is inexpressible and full of glory.
- d. This brings Him glory.

III. Conclusion

A. Rejoice That Genuine Faith \Rightarrow Complete Salvation

⁹ obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls. ¹⁰ Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully, ¹¹ inquiring what person or time the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glories. ¹² It was revealed to them that they were serving not

themselves but you, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look. (1 Pet. 1:9-12)

1. The outcome of genuine faith (faith alone in Christ alone) is our complete and utter salvation. (v. 9)
 - a. The outcome of simply trusting Christ the Lord.
 - b. Salvation of our souls = Complete deliverance.
2. This salvation is by the grace of God, accessed through faith alone, in Christ alone.
 - a. Genuine, tested faith.
 - b. The prophets who wrote of this salvation searched deeply, but couldn't fully comprehend it.
 - c. The angels in heaven are perplexed that God would offer salvation & righteousness to beings who are unrighteous, unfaithful.
 - d. This salvation (by genuine faith in Christ alone) is the greatest news ever.