

The Hope That is in You – 1 Peter

Lesson 1

Our Eternal Inheritance

Believers in Jesus Christ cannot help but clash with the world forces of darkness. We live as aliens in a hostile foreign world. The clash of truth with error, the children of God with the children of God's adversary, and the competing systems of purpose and meaning; cannot help but result in trouble for Christians. Peter, the leader of Christ's disciples in the Gospels, had moved to Rome (5:13) by 64 A.D. when Nero began his intense persecution of Christians. Nevertheless, Peter wrote his letters to the church exhorting them to stand firm in the grace of God based on the hope of their heavenly inheritance. Because of all that Christ has done for us in our salvation and He promises to give us in eternity, we live now triumphantly above our difficult circumstances.

1. In Peter's greeting in 1 Peter 1:1-2, how does he describe his audience? What is his greeting at the end of verse 2?
2. What part did God play in them being saved?
3. Can you locate the Trinity in verse 2, and distinguish the function of each of the three persons in the Godhead?
4. Where is our eternal inheritance (1 Peter 1:3-5)? When will we receive it, and what is our "living hope"?
5. In spite of their adverse circumstances in this life, what was the hope that caused them to rejoice (1 Peter 1:5-6)?

6. In what do we find tested and proven genuineness of our faith (v. 7)? When will this be fully evident?

7. Is our love and trust in Christ based on what we see now in this world (1 Peter 1:8)? What is the end result of our faith (v. 9)?

8. In what way do we now enjoy privileged status even over the prophets and angels (1 Peter 1:10-12)? Matt 13:17

9. What would some of the Old Testament prophecies be that Peter spoke of in v.10-12 (Isa 7:14; 9:6-7, Isa 53:4-12, Psalm 2:6-12; 16:10; 22:1; 110:1-2, Deut 18:15-19; Zech 12:10)?

10. The prophets spoke of both the suffering of Christ and His return as the conquering king. Jesus had to experience both according to God's divine plan of redemption for man. Do you see a parallel between the experience of Christians who are now suffering, but expect the glory promised them later (Romans 5:3-11, 1 Peter 5:10)?