



<sup>1</sup> Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,

To the pilgrims of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, <sup>2</sup> elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace be multiplied.

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

<sup>6</sup> In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, <sup>7</sup> that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, <sup>8</sup> whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, <sup>9</sup> receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of your souls.

<sup>10</sup> Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, <sup>11</sup> searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. <sup>12</sup> To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things which angels desire to look into.

**Main Idea:** Because our hope is in a resurrected, ascended, returning Christ, it cannot be lost or reduced..

**(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording referenced above)**

<p>Today we're going to be looking.</p> <p>At first Peter chapter one verses one through 12.</p> <p>First, Peter chapter one verses one through 12.</p> <p>Maybe a moment to get there.</p> <p>The survey really found Genesis its very beginning talking with my wife and kids actually going through some of our family.</p> <p>Worship at home.</p> <p>And one of the things that we've enjoyed doing other things I enjoy doing is when we're doing our family worship, going through the catechism, and it's fun listening to our kids try to piece it together and parse it out and figure it out.</p> <p>And sometimes they get it right on the head and.</p> <p>Sometimes you're a little bit off, and that that's OK.</p> <p>Because that's what mom and dad are for, right?</p> <p>To help them sort of navigate.</p> <p>Their way through it.</p> <p>But this only comes really from the what I would consider probably the most foundational question.</p> <p>That we find in the catechism.</p>	<p>And that question is something so simple that we gloss over it more times than we probably shed.</p> <p>It's question number one.</p> <p>What's the chief aim of mankind?</p> <p>It's very simple, right?</p> <p>The chief anytime we gloss whatever.</p> <p>Wants to look.</p> <p>For if I got an injury.</p> <p>Forever, and that's easy.</p> <p>That's simple it.</p> <p>But it's so simple that I think sometimes we miss really how deep and how elegant that answer actually is.</p> <p>What does it really mean to glorify God and doesn't really mean?</p> <p>Enjoying forever and that's kind of the point.</p> <p>For today.</p> <p>The plan for today is simply.</p> <p>It's only through living hope in the living Christ that we actually can glorify God and enjoy him</p>
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forever.

And this is what I think the apostle Peter is trying to get to.

And so when I say the word Peter going to hear me pause a little bit, and that's because I'm so used to seeing Paul.

But Peter is writing so much like Paul here, that my brain goes immediately to.

Paul, right, and I.

Want to make sure that I'm giving Peter?

The do that he's.

That he needs.

So let's take a look.

Peter chapter one verses one through 12 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ to those who are elect exiles.

In the dispersion of Pontus Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and.

Tonia, according to the four knowledge of God the father in the certification.

Of the spirit.

For the obedience to Jesus Christ and the sprinkling of his blood, may greet, may grace and peace be multiplied to you.

Must be the God and.

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

According to his great mercy has caused us to be born again.

To a.

Living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

From the dead to an inheritance that is imperishable, it's undefiled, its unfading is kept in heaven for you.

Who by God's power are being guarded through faith or salvation ready to be revealed?

At the last time.

In this you rejoice for now, for a little while.

If necessary.

You have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith more precious than gold at parishes.

Their excessive by.

Fire may be found to result in praise.

Glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

But you have not seen him.

You love him, and though you.

Do not now see him.

You believe?

In him, and we rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and.

Filled with glory.

Obtaining the outcome of your faith as salvation.

Of your souls.

Concerning his salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully inquiring what person or time the spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ in subsequent glories.

It was revealed to them that they were serving, not themselves, but you and the things that they have now been announced.

To you through those who preach the good news to you by the holy.

Spirit sent from heaven.

Things into which.

The Angels longed to look.

Let's pray together.

Every father we come here this morning, we thank you Lord for the opportunity just to open your word or do not pray that as we go through your word Lord, I pray that you would convict us of sin and I pray that you would.

Luminate our minds.

Power a sword to see your face and to glorify you.

Well, probably got through the preaching of your words or the seed of homes and through the scene of Psalms, or that we that we would live more Christs in their lives.

And be able to walk out.

Strengthen, encouraged, empowered to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ and all that we are and all that we do in Jesus name we pray Amen.

So first Peter chapter one verses one through 12 when we think of the apostle Peter.

We think of the man that is impressive us reading them and that gets his foot in his mouth, leaving the man that runs ahead of himself.

The man that doesn't feel right, we think of the demand that that looks at Jesus on the mount of Transfiguration in instead of going praise.

God for what's happening, he says, yeah.

We need to grow tents for everybody.

We think it remained at \*\*\*\*\* of Christ and says, yeah Jesus, you're not going to suffer.

I'm not going to do that.

I'm not going.

To let that happen to you, we think of the man who.

Who denied Christ three times.	Servant of Jesus Christ, Paul a bond servant of Jesus Christ, and so in both ways.
We think of the man who decided to.	Both men are saying that.
Cut off the.	Their apostles that they've seen the Risen Christ, and they have a special calling from God to go do the things that they have been doing with any games, or only says to those who elect exiles in their dispersion.
Ear of a temple servant, right at the.	
Garden of gas.	
Me, that's the man we typically think of.	And this sounds a little bit like James Chapter One, James chapter one.
And we often forget that.	He writes to those who are scattered to those who are in their diaspora, and then he means the countries Pontus Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, and is simple.
Peter is also the male that came out.	
With the revelation.	We can get a map, and we can look at it.
And said, you're the Christ, the son of the living God.	And go look, it's Turkey well good.
We forget that Peter is the mirror that.	So here's Christians that are started all over Turkey.
Was invited by.	But if we do that, we miss something extremely important.
Christ, along with James and John, to go to the temple or to go to the Mount of Transfiguration.	There's a little phrase.
We forget that Peter is the room that preached a great sermon in acts Chapter 2.	That pops up.
We forget that Peter is the man, that when it was time for him to be crucified, chose to be crucified upside down because.	In the bulletin.
He was unworthy.	It's the word Pilgrim.
He fought to be crucified in the same way that Christ was.	This version that I use.
Crucifixion itself is a horrible, nasty way of execution within to do it upside down just compounds the torture of it, but yet he did it willingly.	They parse it out.
And what we read here in first Peter is not the man who was impetuous, but a man whose mind and heart had been illuminated.	A little bit, I used the.
By the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost.	ESV and the ESV says the elect exiles.
And as we go through this, we're going to just walk through the text sentence by sentence.	And this says something.
As we look at how it's only through the living hope in the living Christ that we can truly glorify God and enjoy him forever.	A lot about the people that Peter is writing in.
The first sentence is versus one through 2 and he says this Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, for those who are elect exiles in the dispersion of Pontus Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, the final according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the spirit.	So the earth exiles.
For the obedience of Jesus Christ, and for the sprinkling of his blood.	Who are they well?
But May Grace and peace be multiplied to you?	The greater likely serves a theological reality.
Now he opens this letter much the way Paul opens up any of his Peterson.	There's these are men, women, and children that have been four days since eternity past to follow God.
Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ.	Sometimes election is hard to understand that God chooses some God chooses some for glory, he chooses, others not, and it's a hard thing to understand.
Paul does the same thing.	And if I'm being honest with you, it's not one of my favorite topics in the world.
He says Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ, Paul of	I do wish that everyone was elected to salvation.
	I do.
	Wish everyone could come to Christ.
	But at some level I have to.
	I have to resign myself and say, as the prophet said, God ways are not my ways.
	His thoughts are not my thoughts and I don't understand it, but I know God judgment is perfect.

But I also know that if he elects some to salvation and some do their nation, then I know.

That now I.

Understand what grace is.

I do understand that I also understand that if you're elected that he elects some to the exclusion of others and we.

See that in the Old Testament.

We see that all through.

The Old Testament he chose.

Noah's, who the exclusion of others?

He chose Abraham.

To the exclusion of others.

He chose Jacob to the.

Exclusion of Esau and so forth, and so on.

So it shows.

A theological reality that in eternity past God had chosen these people.

So there's a theological reality of being elect.

But there's another reality of being in exile, and that's a cultural reality, and these exiles aren't in where they belong.

They don't, wherever they belong.

There's sojourners someplace else.

They're all in their home.

That's why it's called Pilgrim in the bulletin.

But if you look at that, we put those together.

That says a lot about us as followers of Christ.

We are elect exiles.

We learned that God is chosen for salvation, but yet we're not living where we're supposed to live.

This is not our home.

I believe it was the writer of Hebrews says that our citizenship is in heaven, and Paul themselves talks about how we're moving from one place to another.

We're longing for that final day.

We're longing for heaven.

Here's what I would tell you as in it.

Like exile?

If you fit within the modern culture.

If everything you do in the modern culture is tracking the exact same way and we're tracking along with it, and you're in lockstep with the modern culture.

You need to go back and figure.

Out what it means to be an elect.

Exile see as follows of Christ we are.

Not meant to fit into this world.

We're just not.

We're meant to be different.

We're meant to be separate.

We're meant to be just unique or weird, unique because our citizenship is in heaven, where unique because we believe in a key, and that key is Jesus Christ and we follow him and we obey his commands.

We obey the law of Christ.

We obey the spirit of Christ.

We obey what God command tells us.

And it doesn't make.

Sense to the rest of the world.

It just doesn't.

Case in point.

One thing we do at home is you.

Know our family worship.

We do the catechism and we are on question.

50 something 5354 yeah what?

Is forbidden in.

The third Commandment is is where our family is.

So last night the Umm with we had.

A holiday party.

Right everyone comes in.

They they share gifts and they sing songs and all those.

Kind of good.

Things right, and so as one of the league.

Leaders I get.

To go and it's kind of mandatory fun.

I go and there was.

An ugly sweater contest, right?

If you don't have an ugly sweater, I'm just going to be honest with you.

You should have one because the more of us that have ugly sweaters, it makes me feel better.

About wearing them.

You can ask my wife.

I'm not a big fan.

Of those things.

I think they're hideous, but I think.  
That's the point.  
Actually, if they're supposed.  
To be it is.  
But anyway, so I was talking.  
To a friend of mine there.  
And he was wearing sweater and I didn't catch.  
On to it.  
But he had a picture of Jesus and he said the birthday boy, right.  
Funny ironic you can call it whatever you want to, but my wife immediately picked up.  
And said that sweater.  
Is breaking the third commandment.  
And I looked.  
At it I was like you know what?  
It is.  
It is now in every place that would have been funny, right?  
It's funny, it's it's.  
It's quiche.  
Whatever you want to say, but what it is.  
It's breaking with recommended and we understand that why?  
Because we're like, exiles, we're not meant to.  
Fit in with this culture.  
We're just not.  
This is why it's so important to catechize.  
This is why it's so important to go through scriptures as a family.  
This is why.  
It's so important.  
To make your family to make your household.  
Devoted to God.  
Because I don't.  
Know if you understand this.  
Right catechism inoculates.  
The family against heresy and it inoculates the family against false teaching and false doctrine.  
And then, when they see things coming up, they know it's wrong and they know what Scripture says about it.  
And so we see here that.

We see here that we elect exiles.  
We're not meant to fit.  
Into it, but then.  
But then Peter goes on in the same sentence and he gives us 4 prepositional phrases of, however, elect exiles.  
He says we're exercising.  
This begins the first two according to the full knowledge of God.  
That's the first one in the certification of the spirit for their obedience to Jesus Christ and for the sprinkling with him.  
Right, so there's four prepositional phrases that Peter uses to show why we're elect exiles and how it came to be.  
And if you look at it, what what?  
Pete Peter is doing is.  
He's showing us the work of the Trinity in our own salvation.  
He shows us that it's a sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ.  
That redeems us. Jesus is our propitiation. He stands in front of God's wrath and takes it.  
For us  
And then he says in the signification.  
Of the spirit.  
Well, a lot of times we like to talk about certifications that work of the Holy Spirit in us that is conforming us to the image of the invisible Christ that's transforming us into who God wants us to be.  
And all that is true.  
It's that process of working out the salvation and fear and trembling, but yet there's.  
Another aspect to it.  
And very simple aspect that it's very easy to get lost when we start taking.  
It's very easy it last year where we start thinking of big theological tones.  
The word certification works 8 to 5.  
The gourd sacred just means set apart.  
And what the Holy Spirit does is he sets us apart.  
To himself.  
He sets us apart because we're not bid to.  
Be part of this world.  
He sets us apart because when the world sees us, they're supposed to see something a little different and a lot of times we talk about what it means to be different as separated or whatever.

But I would submit to you that sometimes.  
What it means to be separated from the world means to be.  
A little strange.  
And I don't know about your family.  
My family is very strange to the world and it's strange in other ways too, but it's very strange to the world.  
Because they look at us and they don't understand.  
They look at us, they don't understand why we.  
Don't allow screens on Sunday.  
They look at us and understand why.  
We don't allow our kids to play.  
With other kids in the neighborhood on Sundays.  
They look at us, they don't understand why before dinner.  
Everything turns off when we gather.  
In the front room.  
And sing Psalms and read scripture and pray together.  
They don't understand it.  
They understand, and that's OK because we're being sanctified and we're being set apart.  
The Holy Spirit is setting us apart and all those other things are true and right that we are being conformed and transformed, and all those are true.  
But at the very simplistic level, sanctification is the Holy Spirit setting you apart.  
For his use, not for your use, but for his use.  
But then he says this is according to the.  
Full knowledge of God the Father, so we have.  
God the son, who's our propitiation in our sacrifice.  
We have God, the spirit who is sanctifying us.  
And holding us together.  
In fact, the apostle Paul says that the Holy Spirit is our guarantee of our salvation, and why because of the four knowledge, according to the four knowledge of God, the Father, that in eternity past before time ever began, God chose you.  
God shows me this wasn't a hoax.  
Something went wrong.  
Let's figure.  
This out.  
So you know.  
And if you don't know.  
You're about to find.

Out that as an army.  
Chaplain I get to work with green berets.  
That's what I do and they have a nasty habit of not planning anything.  
Now that's going all over.  
The Internet, so that'll be great.  
I'll probably hear about that if someone ever find from finds out about it, but they don't plan anything.  
They plan the first part.  
They just figure we'll.  
Figure it out as we go.  
And they're pretty good at figuring it out as.  
They go.  
They get paid to figure out as they go.  
God's foreknowledge, God election teaches US God did not figure it.  
Out as he goes.  
It was always the plan.  
It was always the plan, so if.  
If it's only through the living hope, involve living Christ that we can glorify God and enjoy him forever.  
And the first thing is that is, as Christians were never meant to fit in this world, and there was the second thing where the second sentence comes from versus 3 through 5.  
And it's it's that we were just because our.  
Hope is in.  
Our living hope because of God's great.  
Mercy, let's take a look.  
Blessedly, 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 to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled. Unfading kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for salvation.  
Ready to be revealed in that last time, so Peter opens the service roster.  
For the garden father.  
God or Jesus Christ?  
Because when it comes to.  
Salvation we praise.  
That's always our first.

First step we praise God for his salvation. We praise God that according to the \$4 of God the Father in the same dedication of the spirit, for the obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood, we praise.

God for that.

But then it goes on.

Says according to his great mercy.

So why are we supposed to praise, he tells.

Us here according to.

His great mercy.

Has caused us to be born again to a living hope.

This should remind you of John Chapter 3 when Jesus and Nicodemus are having this great conversation and Jesus says you must be born again in Nicodemus says.

How can that happen? I'm I'm old, I can't go into my mother's room again and plus, she's probably dead and that can't happen. And Jesus says, how are you a teacher of Israel and not understanding what I'm talking about?

Because there's a passage.

In Ezekiel that talks about that a very exact same thing.

That you must be born by the spirit.

So we've been born again.

Through what the resurrection of Jesus Christ, here's what I would submit to you, ladies and gentlemen.

The sprinkling of blood saves us, but our eternal hope is because Jesus defeated death.

Because he raised from the grave.

That's where our hope comes from, because not just he died and buried, but that he rose from the grave.

He ascended and he sits at the right hand of God the Father.

But then he goes on to say this.

He says in verse 14 inheritance that is imperishable.

Unfiled, Unfading kept in heaven for you, so that inherits aspect.

We haven't received inheritance yet.

Where errors were silenced, daughters of God the King, but we haven't received the inheritance yet.

We're looking forward.

To it.

We're not there yet.

We may be.

Kingdom people and we may live in the Kingdom, but we haven't experienced.

We haven't seen that final Kingdom when Jesus,

Andrew, when Jesus returns and is revealed.

But what does he?

Say about that inheritance wealth.

He says three things about it that it's imperishable.

It's unfiled, and it's unfading.

Those three words are huge.

By imperishable, it means it's free from physical decay.

It's not going to die.

It's not going to waste away.

It's not going to go away.

Right?

I don't know if you realize it yet, but.

You and I are.

Well, we're wasting away.

But the inheritance God has for us is not going to waste away.

It's it's under file, which means that it's free from moral decay that no matter what happens in this world, no matter how, how the morality of this world changes, and the morality of this world is changing.

The inheritance that God has for us.

Is not changing.

And it will never change because he is unchangeable and he's called us to himself.

Why, because we're elect exiles.

We don't belong, so our moles don't kill.

In the hands we.

Have won't change either, it makes sense.

It's unfading the idea of unfading is simply.

It's free from the effects of time.

There's there's no way that they're going to look back, but there's no way we're going to look for.

Look back at the enhance that God.

Has for us and say.

Well, that doesn't really count anymore.

That's not the way it's supposed to be anymore.

Right, so one of the most for those of you that are parents in your mid 40s looking forward to beyond that where I am.

One of the most frustrating and exhausting things.

I have as a dad.

Is trying to explain to a 10 year old or a nine year.

Old or A7?

Year old what A8 track is?  
Right I I grew up with eight tracks.  
I thought I was really big stuff from my mom and dad.  
Let me have an 8 track player in my room, right?  
My dad had a car, had an 8 track player in the.  
Car that was amazing.  
Never actually worked, but he had one, right?  
No one uses a tracks anymore.  
I I'm not.  
Really convinced anyone actually used.  
A tracks when they were afraid.  
But no room used a tracks.  
Right or if trying to explain to.  
Your kids how to use a.  
Pencil to re re spooling cassette tape, right?  
No idea they're not used anymore.  
I know that's an absurd illustration, but the reality is that the inheritance that God has for you is not a track.  
It's not a cassette, it's your, it's not.  
Obsolete and it never will be obsolete.  
Because it's being kept in.  
Heaven for you, in fact, Jesus.  
Says it like this.  
In Matthew chapter five, he says, rejoice and be glad for your reward is great in heaven for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you and in Matthew Chapter 6 verse 19, he says, do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy where thieves breaking in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys.  
Or where thieves do not break in and steal only 12, he says, sell your possessions and get to the needy.  
Provide yourselves with money bags that do not grow old with a treasure in heaven that does not fail where no thief approaches and no moth is stressed.  
So there's this idea that the inheritance that's kept in heaven for you is complete.  
It's not gonna change.  
It's set.  
Why? Because the holy?  
Spirit is the guarantee of that inheritance.  
The Holy Spirit is.  
Protecting us.

Informing us and empowering us.  
For that inheritance.  
And then he says something really fascinating.  
Verse 5.  
So we go on and says to heriots verse four is imperishable, undefiled.  
Unfading kept in heaven for U-verse.  
Five who by God's?  
Power are being guarded through faith for salvation, ready to be revealed in that last time.  
Paul says it like this in relation Chapter 3 says there is neither Jew nor Greek slave nor free male or female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus, like the inheritance itself, God salvation exists already in his saving.  
This present they got they not yet visible.  
It needs only to be revealed in that moment of the revelations coming.  
So there's this idea that God is guarding it.  
It's actually a wrong pronoun, guys not guarding it.  
It's in heaven.  
It's safeguarded God guarding you.  
God protecting you.  
One of my favorite verses in Romans and the one that gives me probably the most comfort.  
And there's a lot of.  
Verses in Romans that you can pull out that are amazing.  
The first that.  
That gives me the most comfort is knowing that I'm guarded.  
When Paul says that the Holy Spirit makes intercession for me.  
That the Holy Spirit makes intercession for you when we don't know what to pray.  
Sometimes I think I'm praying the right thing, but I'm probably not.  
But yet I know the Holy Spirit is guarding me as he prays for me as he intercedes for.  
Me and that is a great ministry.  
His great encouragement and it's a great blessing to know that the God of the universe.  
Is guaranteeing your salvation that the God of the universe is guarding and protecting you?  
Even when you don't know what to do when you think.  
You're doing the right thing.  
We were Joyce in our living hope.

And then it goes on in verses 6 and seven, the next sentence.

So then this you rejoice.

Then now for a little while if necessary.

You have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith more precious than gold that perishes through, though it is tested by fire, may be found to result in the praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

So welcome.

This sentence up.

Right, so the idea is that somebody threw a living hope in.

The living Christ.

That we can truly glorify God and.

Join forever and if it's only and.

If we go with that and.

Then as far as the price, we're not.

Meant to fit in and that we.

Were just because our hope is a.

Living hell because of God's Great mercy, then what are we supposed to do?

We're supposed to.

Rejoice not rejoicing, what well rejoice in suffering.

That's a hard one.

Edit other like.

You when things aren't going my.

Way I've heard tangents.

I throw really big tantrums, but that's not what.

It says here.

In verse six, he says in this you rejoice, so the question.

About that word rejoice.

Grammatically, what does that mean is that in in?

Is that a verb that announce something you're supposed?

To do or.

Is this something that describes the state?

In which you're in.

Or is it really kind of a both and 'cause Paul tells us to rejoice?

Jesus says to rejoice.

Peter is saying for Joyce, but he's also saying.

This is just.

Who you are?

You're just people that rejoice if you.

Really want to make your neighbors freak out.

And and now I have.

A clue what to do with.

You when things are.

Going bad.

Be honest about how bad they are, but then say you know what God is good and God is faithful and all these things are bringing me closer to him and I praise God for it.

Your neighbors aren't going to know what to do with you because you're supposed to be mad and angry.

But he shows industry rejoice.

So now for a little while.

If necessary you have been.

Grieved by various?

Trials, so the idea is that you're going to suffer for little while.

Who knows how long that?

Little wild is.

In the army, the unit I work with.

The idea 'cause the people?

I work with like to.

Suffer, they put themselves in positions to suffer and they say, you know what little sub suffering goes a long way.

It's good for.

You and I'll say, well, when are we supposed to be done with this?

And their answer is.

Kind of like gods.

When we're over, when it's done, when you're done suffering, you don't know it.

You know that that's what we get, but it says for a little while.

Now there's a phrase in the ESV that only shows up in the ESB that.

Kind of tripped me up a.

Little bit, and that phrase was is it's rejoicing that for a little while and then.

There's this prepositional phrase that says, if necessary.

You've been agreed by various files.

It's only through before.

I am a grammar nerd.

I I'm an absolute grammar nerd.

I was talking about this with my wife yesterday when she was trying to grade a math test that our girls had done 'cause we homeschool our kids and she was totally great at math.

Since we were talking about it and she was spouting off formulas for the.

I'm not a math guy for something for circles and shapes and stuff, stuff like.

That right and she was like.

How do you not know this?

I'm like I I got degrees and things I could read because I don't do math at all.

I'm I'm horrible with math, but I do know how to read and so I'm very good with grammar.

So this prepositional phrase, if necessary, threw me off.

Because it almost indicates that.

Is suffering really necessary?

Because he says you suffer now if necessary, only for a little while.

So this suffering actually necessary.

The answer is well, yes, because dramatically this, if I throw you off being a no deal, that's fine.

It's a first class conditional cost, which means that it is a necessary clause to show that everything that's happening is necessary.

Right, so suffering is necessary, but it's only necessary.

For a little.

While well, when it comes to suffering.

The thing I would tell you is when we talk about suffering growing up in church all my life in in small groups and Bible studies from the pulpit where people go to suffering, they immediately go to the persecuted church.

They just do.

And and there's theories for that.

My theories for that is because it's easier to talk about them than it is to talk about us.

That's one theory, the other it's been very.

Is everything I've heard about the persecuted church.

It's never been a moment to pray for them.

It's never been a moment to support them.

It's usually used as an emotional appeal to get you in the Pew to give more money or to do more things right.

So you don't look at them, they're persecuted.

They're doing it, but you're not doing anything, so you should do something.

Because they're persecuted, right?

Here's what I would tell you about that.

When when that comes along, do you ever hear that your response should simply be this you don't pray God that they are counted?

Right?

Worthy to be persecuted.

And then you can praise God that so.

Far we're not.

But ultimately, praise God that they are.

But here's what I would say about suffering.

Suffering comes in many forms, not just in persecution.

It does.

Our numbers are a.

Little bit low today.

Because of sickness going through.

I would.

Submit to you.

That those at her home right now suffering under the pandemic.

Are suffering.

Because Jesus says this.

Paul Peter says this, he says.

That this suffering draws you closer to Christ.

Sickness draws you closer to Christ.

Loss of relationship draws you closer to Christ.

Persecution draws you closer to Christ crises draw you closer to Christ when we see the word suffer.

Sometimes it is persecution, but sometimes it can be anything.

God wants it to be that draws you closer to Christ that hurts a little bit.

About two weeks ago.

The unit I'm with, we decided well.

It was decided we had to go because.

That's the way things work in the army.

We decided to go on a 19 mile ruck March with £20 on her back. Doesn't sound like much until you realize that there's a time standard you have to meet, right? And I did that rock March in about four hours and 40 minutes or so.

And then I I told January we're doing another.

One and then.  
A week after we do that when.  
We're doing a 30 plus mile ruck March.  
It's gonna suffer it's gonna hurt but you know?  
What it does?  
It makes me stronger.  
You know what suffering for Jesus does?  
It makes you stronger in him.  
It builds your faith.  
It grows your faith and you realize what Solomon really meant.  
When he said we not on your own understanding, but in all your ways, acknowledge him, you really begin to understand that.  
But then he says this.  
He says in verse 7.  
So that the tested genius.  
Of your faith or precious than gold that perishes, though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.  
So that way when you see him when Christ is finally revealed, you're excited because now?  
Everything that you.  
Pray for longer.  
Had faith in is now reality, but he says the gymnos.  
Of your faith, he's referring back.  
To verse 5 for the power of God's power that's being guarded through faith for salvation. So it's the genius, because remember, our faith is not in our own strength to do good things.  
Our faith is not in our ability to remain steadfast.  
Our faith is in the one who actually is faithful and true.  
It's not in ourselves.  
The 4th sentence comes from verses 8-9 says, though you have not seen him.  
You love him.  
Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and we rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory.  
Obtaining the outcome.  
Of your faith, the salvation of your souls.  
Paul is making an assumption about the.  
People that he is writing to.  
Peter is making the assumption of.

The people he is writing to.  
See Peter had seen Christ.  
He'd been called by Christ before he was resurrected.  
He had walked with Christ for three years.  
He was at the tomb after he was resurrected.  
He'd seen the resurrected Christ on several occasions.  
He saw him ascend to heaven.  
He had seen Christ.  
And because he had seen Christ in this cycle, he was an apostle of Jesus Christ.  
But now he's calling the churches, you don't see him.  
He's making an assumption that maybe they.  
Will never see it.  
We said even though you don't see him.  
You love it even though you don't.  
See him, you believe.  
In them, even though you don't see.  
It you have faith, and in fact Christ said it exactly.  
Almost just like.  
That to the apostle we called doubting Thomas.  
Said bus or those who?  
Haven't seen and still believe.  
I have people from time to time to come up to me and tell me they.  
They they have seen Christ.  
Now what I will tell you.  
As a grammar nerd.  
Thirty 4050 years ago.  
I would have understood what they meant.  
Now I understand what they mean.  
It means a little bit differently.  
Right, so it says.  
You believe why do they believe they believe?  
On the testimony.  
Of them that have come before them.  
They believe on really the word of God.  
In fact, what is the 4th solar right before Solo is according?  
To the scriptures.  
Right so scriptura? Well, because it's through

scripture that Jesus is revealed to us is through the preaching of the word that Jesus is revealed to us 4050 years ago.

If someone would have come to.

You and said I've seen Jesus.

You would have understood what that meant.

It meant that they.

Had had their.

Nose in the book.

And that Jesus had been revealed through the white application, the white teaching of the word now in 2020.

If someone comes to you.

And says they've seen Jesus.

You need to ask.

Him to go see.

A mental health special.

Because they have this idea that they've taken a walk in the woods and experienced God, or they've seen.

The sunset and now.

They know who Jesus is, which is possible.

According to Romans 1.

But the reality is we have the word of God and men have been called to rightly preach it.

You as parents have been called to lightly teach it.

And so you believe because he's revealed through Scripture.

I have a Catholic priest friend.

Who he now will go back and forth.

On reformation issues, mostly because it's fun.

I'll just be honest with you.

I it's just.

It's it's fun for me.

I don't know if it's fun for him or not.

But it's fun.

Fun for me.

And we would always talk.

About the souls and he would say, how do you know Mark wrote the Gospel of Mark?

And he would say before you.

Answer that if you say.

Because of a dictionary or concordance or commentary or historical critical or historical criticism, you're no longer using Scripture alone.

Right, so that's a wrong interpretation of Scripture alone, right?

Scripture alone says that we need that Scripture loses that we find everything we need about Jesus.

We find out what it means to be a follower of Christ.

We find out what God intends for our life.

Through Scripture alone is completely sufficient, and everything it says.

And if you.

Look at it from a 30,000 foot view.

It's worth a complete, coherent story.

That tells us who Jesus Christ is.

And tells us what God's plan is.

I just finished reading the scripture through to the end.

It usually takes me.

About three years to do it, but.

If you look.

At it Genesis, one in the beginning God, that's all you really need to know.

In the beginning God.

But then God created the heavens and earth.

By speaking the end of Revelation, he creates a new heaven and new Earth.

By speaking.

Everything is encapsulated from God's word to God's word.

And that's what it means.

Even though you haven't seen him.

You believe in him, why?

Because the scripture?

Draws us to it.

The scripture, the Holy Spirit effectually calls us to himself through the reading, the teaching in the right application.

Of his word, and because of that.

We rejoice in that final.

Salvation because he says they though you do not see it now.

You believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, whose word dodge, glory, obtaining the outcome of your face which is the salvation of your souls.

The outcome of.

Faith is the.

Salvation of our souls.

And just because we have made a public profession, doesn't.

Mean it's over.

It's over when Jesus is revealed and we've finally called out.

There were five Griffin we were in that perfect eternal state that is talked about because right now we're still decaying right now.

We're still dealing with the.

Effects of sin.

Right now we still.

Have consequences of sin and if you don't believe me, just look around.

So having a discussion before we.

Came in here kovid.

Is green as as much as we?

Probably don't want to say it.

Is really an effect of the fall.

Because of the fall we.

Have natural evil in this world.

Friday, yes Friday night we had an amazing crazy storm come through the area, one of the largest tornadoes that Western Kentucky ever had come through about 3 miles from where my wife and I lived.

Right?

Tornadoes are natural evil.

Forest fires are natural, evil pandemics are natural evil.

Their result of sin.

And so we have all for that day.

When there is no more curse of sin.

We long for that day when our bodies are made whole and made complete.

We long for that day when we don't have to worry.

About who's knocking on our door.

We lost that day.

We don't have to worry about kids.

Not saying the right thing or going in the wrong place.

We're looking for that salvation of our souls.

There's been a shift.

And a lot of Christian thought I I don't.

I I do understand it but I don't understand it at.

The same time.

If you read the ancient church fathers and the early church fathers, the people that went to the steaks and were burned and murdered, and all those things they would, why?

Because they were looking for that future hope that future salvation, that future in time result.

They weren't so concerned about what's happening right now.

They were concerned about getting to heaven.

And doing it in a way that glorified Christ.

For whatever reason, a lot of Christianity has shifted from looking toward the end times, looking toward that final scatological event to go in.

How do I have my best life now?

What does scripture tell me about how to be nice daughters?

What does scripture tell me about how I can be successful?

That's not what Scripture tells us.

Scripture tells us that we're elect exiles.

And that these few.

Years we have on Earth might be painful.

Like they're probably going to be painful.

And it's not going to be as much fun.

As you would like.

It to be, but it's preparing us.

For that future Eternal glory, where we are in the presence of God the Father, God signed, always buried, praising and worshiping him.

So the whole idea that Scripture reveals Christ and we see that in verses 10 and 11 he says concerning this salvation.

The prophets, who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully, inquiring what person or time the spirit of Christ, and then was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glories.

Remember all the scripture points to Jesus Christ?

That idea that they searched diligently with surgeries as they look for something lost.

They look for a lost treasure.

It kind of reminds me of one of our kids when they've lost something that is of immense value to them and they.

Tear the house apart.

Finding whatever that little trinket or treasure was.

And so these people that wrote the Bible are searching scripture trying to find out who this personal promise is, who this personal promise is going to be when they're going to come.

In fact, if you look at the way Scripture is laid out from Genesis.	Read through the Book of Judges.
All the way through Malachi.	You see failure after failure after failure after failure.
You see this, sometimes we get lost in the.	But says they searched through scripture trying to figure out who this was.
Details, but it's there.	Inquired carefully inquiring what person or time the spirit of Christ and there was, indicating 'cause they may not have known women and have understood who they were prophesying about.
Genesis chapter 3.	They may not understand that.
The God tells the serpent that from the seed of Eve will come someone who will crush his head.	This is going to be.
But he will bruise the heel.	This man Jesus.
So then maybe it's able.	Christ, the second person of the Trinity, that God himself is going to come in the form of a man they may.
Able gets killed.	Not have understood that, but yet.
What's not able?	They were predicting the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glories.
Maybe it says.	And here Peter makes a turn and the turn is, he says.
Maybe it's enough, maybe it's Lambda, in fact then.	Earlier he says, listen, you're going to suffer.
Lower is born.	But then he reminds us that you want this.
His father, Lamech, actually says.	Isn't about you after all.
This is the.	This is actually about Jesus.
Child of promise.	Sufferings he took on our behalf.
Well, it's not Noah either.	That's what it's about.
He messed up.	It says.
You think OK?	It was Reeve.
Well, maybe it's label him well, no, not.	Says inquiring with personal time.
Even him, either because he.	The spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he predicted the sufferings and the subsequent glories.
Was faulty, well, maybe it's.	When you're reading scripture.
Isaac, maybe it's Jacob.	And you're looking at Scripture.
It continues on and on, and we'll finally get to.	The question is not what does this.
Well, maybe it's David.	Verse mean to me.
Well, it's not David either.	I guarantee you if you ask this question, what does this first mean to me?
And so at Malachi, do you come to this place before the gospel start going OK?	You're going to come up with the wrong answer.
There has to be someone who is this person.	I mean it would be.
That's coming to bring about guides.	A good answer.
Who is this perfect person that's coming and you realize going through the Old Testament that the only man that can truly save the only way that can truly redeem the only man that can truly do anything can't be immortal in it has to be God himself.	It'll probably be a great tome of philosophy, emotional whatever, but it's.
He has to come down himself in the.	Going to be the wrong answer.
Form of a.	The question you should ask yourself is not what this verse means to me the question you should answer yourself is what does this verse mean to God?
Man in order to save us.	That's the question.
Because every other man that we thought might be a man of promise failed.	
If you want to look at many felt just.	

That we need to ask ourselves.  
What does this passage mean to God?  
What does this story mean?  
You got?  
What does this verse mean to God?  
What does this promise me to God?  
What is this?  
What does this?  
Show us about who God is.  
And then lastly.  
In verse 12.  
He says it was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves.  
But you.  
And the things that have.  
Now been announced to you through.  
Those who preach the good news to you.  
By the Holy Spirit sent from heaven themes into which the Angels longed to look.  
It was revealed to them they were not serving themselves but you.  
There was a book that came out about 30 years ago.  
Most of it is problematic.  
I'm just.  
Going to be honest with you.  
It was written.  
By a pastor in Southern California named Rick Warren, and again most of the book is problematic, but.  
He opens up his.  
Book The very first line in the very first chapter in the very first page and he has this one little sentence.  
It's not about you.  
All you need about the book.  
It's not about you.  
You don't need to read the rest of it.  
It's not about you.  
Right, our Christian life is not about.  
Our faith is not about us.  
Our hope is not about us.  
Following Christ is not about the benefits that.  
We're going to get.

Eternity in heaven.  
It's not about that.  
It's about the glory of Jesus Christ.  
But what I love about this?  
And there's a premise here that's subtle.  
Says it was real to them that they were.  
Not serving themselves, but you.  
God uses us to proclaim his message.  
To others.  
God uses us to live out the transformation of the gospel so that others can see.  
Him and glorify God.  
This is why.  
The apostle Paul says.  
That we are God's workmanship, created for good works.  
And those good works aren't for ourselves.  
Those good works are to give God glory so that other people can, say, listen, God is real and I want to serve God, and I want to.  
Know God because.  
I can see the change in your life.  
I don't see the.  
Transformation in your.  
Life I can see that things are different because you're the left exile in this world.  
We don't really fit in, but yet somehow no matter what's going wrong and no matter what.  
For long you have a whole and you.  
Can say as.  
Peter's gonna say later on in the book.  
Well, let me tell you about that.  
Hope in gentleness and respect because you have a living hell because you were like XI, you'll fit in the world and you're glorifying God in jail forever because your hope is not living Christ.  
It's not in.  
A dead Christ.  
The living Christ.  
But then he says.  
And the things that have not been announced to you through those who preach the good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things with angels wanting to look there is this idea that Peter saying, is that preaching isn't.

Just for the apostles.

He realized that there was going to come a time where the Apostolic Age is going to end and something was going.

To have to continue on.

It just will.

And it continues on today for those moves that have been called and rightly ordained to preach God's word, to encourage and exhort.

Those that sit in a few.

To go study scriptures and teach them how to study scripture so that they can go out with Chrysler drives that show the glory of God in their life.

So they can be more fully devoted followers.

Of Christ and everything that they.

Do it never really means to love God with all their.

Heart, soul and strength.

And that is the role.

That we have is to carry.

Out God's message.

Of hope

In salvation.

And sometimes even the wrath.

Throughout our daily lives.

He says those who preached.

Those who preach.

The good news to you by the Holy Spirit.

As I think about this and I read this, I can't help but think about Hebrews 11.

Now think about Hebrews 11 that Hall of faith and it talks about all these men.

Women that followed God.

And if you look at them.

It's they're putting in a specific order, beginning from the very beginning.

All the way through.

And it shows God's sovereignty.

Shows lives propriety.

It shows how God is working through people, his salvation history.

And yet he's using people because.

Every one of those men and women.

Well, not just heroes, but they're scoundrels as well.

That's when you get to the end getting.

To some of the judges.

They're scoundrels, but yet God used them.

God using me, God using you.

And sometimes we rose, but Muslims were scoundrels.

But yet God loved us.

They sent this sound down the cross for us.

And through the Holy Spirit, he's empowering us to live faithful lives to him.

And when I think about Hebrews 11.

But I also think about.

Now I see this here.

Is that God never made a noose?

Dad never made.

It, we'll figure it out as we go.

From the very.

Beginning there's a continuity that stretches from eternity past all the way to eternity future.

There was never a misstep.

God's plan is always in action from.

The word go.

And it will continue to be that until Jesus is finally revealed and.

That's what our hope is in.

Our hope is in not how.

Do we get through?

Today, not how we get through the.

Next minute our hope.

Is in.

Longing for that day when Jesus is finally revealed and our faith is made complete.

And we attain that final salvation.

That final salvation in heaven with him.

Let's pray.

Have any father thank you for who you are.

And your goodness and your grace.

And your mercy Lord, I pray that you would watch over us that you would cause us to.

Just really Lord love.

You with all of our heart, soul and strength.

Well, we love that day when you return.

And our faith is made complete.

In Jesus name to break.