

1 Peter Week 4

It's All about Glory

1 Peter 1:3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade-kept in heaven for you, 5 who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. 7 These have come so that your faith-of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire-may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. 8 Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, 9 for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

There is one thing all believers have in common---the path to glory leads all of us to a GRAVE.

I. Christians were BORN for Glory

- The glory of God is the sum TOTAL of all that God is and does.
- To understand this, glory is not a separate ATTRIBUTE or characteristic of God, such as holiness or wisdom or mercy.

Psalm 19:1 The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

7 The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul.

The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

8 The precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart. `

The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes.

9 The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever.

The ordinances of the LORD are sure and altogether righteous. NIV

- Peter gives us two descriptions to help us better understand the truth about glory:
 1. the Christian's BIRTH
 - Foreknowledge does not suggest that God merely knew ahead of time that we would believe. It also means to set His love upon a person or persons in a PERSONAL way.
 - Whether God chose me or by FAITH I responded to God's calling and truth, it does not change my responsibility to become like Christ, and to share the Gospel whenever I can and to live a holy life.
 2. the Christian's HOPE
 - Peter calls it an INHERITANCE.
 - Peter tells us this hope, this inheritance, is INCORRUPTIBLE.

- Peter tells us it is **UNDEFILED**. It means to be **PURE**. When we were born again, we **EXCHANGED** the passing glory of man to the eternal glory of God.

II. Christians are **KEPT** for Glory

- We are, according to Peter, being kept (guarded/ shielded) by the **POWER** of God.
- Christ's power will guard us and will **GUIDE** us into eternity.

III. Christians are being **PREPARED** for glory.

Trials of Life

1. Trials meet **NEEDS**
2. Trials are **VARIED**
3. Trials are not **EASY**

Peter is not preaching that we have a careless attitude towards trials— trials produce **HEAVINESS**. It means to experience grief and pain. It's a picture of the cross and what Jesus went through for us. Trials can, at times, be really hard.

4. Trials are **CONTROLLED** by God.

Final thoughts:

- Learn the **LESSONS** that trials bring, so that God can and will be glorified in and through us.
- Life on earth ought to be an **ENJOYMENT** of the resurrection of Christ.