

REMEMBER YOUR GREAT SALVATION

Sunday, July 3, 2025 -- 1 PETER series -- msg 8 -- Pastor Andrew Coleman

1 PETER 1:10-12

English Standard Version (ESV)

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.

REVIEW:

- 1) **First Peter** is written to Christians in ancient Turkey who were suffering under persecution.
- 2) **The greeting infers**, 'You may be rejected by the world, but you are chosen by God!'
- 3) **The first section (1:3-9)** is a HUGE, encouraging reminder of the following:

You can **REJOICE** because...

- God's great mercy has brought you a living hope through Jesus's death and resurrection that leads to an inheritance that is beyond comprehension and being guarded until eternity.
- The trials you go through are necessary because they validate and grow your faith for God's glory and your joy.
- Your love and trust in God brings about the greatest blessing you could hope for -- the eternal salvation of your soul.

BACKGROUND REMINDER: vs 10-12

2. Remember and imagine the circumstances of the initial readers of 1st Peter.

Just a decade or so before they had been living in utter lostness without Christ.

They lived in dry, out-of-the-way towns in Northern Turkey. Little respected culture. Desolate in terms of earthly living. Even worse, they had no hope spiritually.

'Life is hard, and then you die -- without Christ.'

Then, someone had showed up and shared about JESUS. The Spirit blew in and hopelessness turned to faith. Despair turned to hope. And the joy of Christ brought them out of their meaningless sorrow.

Now, apparently at the writing of this letter, time had gone by and the initial euphoria of coming to Christ had faded as the pressure of growing persecution was upon them. They were discouraged.

In verses 3-5 Peter declares to them Salvation's FUTURE REWARD.

In verses 6-9 Peter acknowledges Salvation's PRESENT TRIALS.

In verses 10-12 Peter declares Salvation's GLORIOUS PROPHETIC PAST.

Peter is telling these discouraged people -- **REJOICE! Your coming salvation is GLORIOUS!**

GOD has used the PROPHETS, faithful MISSIONARIES, the HOLY SPIRIT and ANGELS to bring you so great a salvation. THIS IS ENCOURAGEMENT FOR THEM!

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1) The PROPHETS prophesied this glorious gracious salvation! vs 10

Concerning this salvation, **the prophets** who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully,

The **prophets** searched, studied, investigated God's gracious salvation carefully.

- They sought to understand salvation.
- They sought to understand the Messiah.
- They studied God's means of salvation -- HIS GRACE.
 - **God is a gracious God.**

Genesis 43:29 Joseph says to Benjamin 'God be **gracious** to you.'

Exodus 22:26-27 God says to Israel, 'Be gracious to one another **for I am gracious**.'

Exodus 33:19 God says to Moses, 'I will be **gracious** to whom I will be gracious...'

The Psalms over and over the Psalms declare the gracious nature of God

Jonah 4:2 Jonah says 'I fled to Tarshish for I knew that you are a **gracious and compassionate God** and that you would show mercy to them if they repent'.

Isaiah 45:20-24 'Who has declared it? Is it not I, the Lord? And there is no God besides Me, a righteous God and **a Savior**.'

Isaiah 55:1-5 A salvation that cannot be bought -- it is **completely free** by the covenant of grace
 - **His Messiah is a suffering servant.** vs 11

Isaiah 53 -- the suffering of the messiah who would be *pierced for our transgressions*.
- They suffered great persecution -- many of them were tortured and killed. Hebrews 11:32-38
- They served God for the benefit of His people (not themselves). vs 12

2) The MISSIONARIES (APOSTLES) faithfully brought the message to them. vs 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***

We do not know who 'those' were. Was it Paul's friends? Peter's friends? Titus's friends? Apollos's friends? John? Barnabas? Philip? Luke? We do not know.

But what we DO know is that they were obedient to Christ's command to take the Good News to those who do not have it. THEY WERE FAITHFUL.

What was their message? It was bold proclamation of the death and resurrection of Christ.

1 CORINTHIANS 2:2 "I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified."

ROMANS 1:16 "I am not ashamed of the Gospel, for it is power of God for salvation..."

1 CORINTHIANS 1:18 "The word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God."

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3. The Holy Spirit's SAVING POWER was in their proclamation of the Gospel. vs 12

As Jesus was raised by the power of the Spirit, so we are saved by the power of the Spirit.

(Romans 8:11; 1 Peter 3:18; Acts 2:24; Acts 10:40; Romans 1:4; 1 Corinthians 15:45)

There is NO SALVATION apart from the work of God's Holy Spirit.

Salvation is a work of God, and that work is done through the Holy Spirit.

John 3:5–6 (Jesus speaking to Nicodemus)

"Jesus answered, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.'"

Titus 3:5 (Paul to Titus)

"He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit."

Acts 16:14 (Lydia's conversion came through the Spirit)

"The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul."

1 Corinthians 12:3 (The gifts of the Spirit and salvation only come by the Spirit)

"...no one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except in the Holy Spirit."

Galatians 4:6

"And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!'"

Ezekiel 36:26–27 (God promises to restore His people after their rebellion)

"And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you.

...And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes..."

The Holy Spirit leads the preacher in 'what, when, where, how' to share the Gospel.

The Holy Spirit leads the hearer in conviction, repentance, belief and obedience to the Gospel.

So, the persecuted readers of Peter's letter are REMINDING that their conversion to Christ came through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Very often, **great encouragement** comes through REMEMBERING what God has done in the past... especially your salvation!

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4. The ANGELS -- their involvement and interest in our salvation.

This is so mysterious and intriguing.

Angels do not save us, but God often uses them in proclaiming the Gospel.

Angel = ἄγγελος (ánggelos) = literally means 'messenger'

The end of verse 12 is indicating that our salvation is so great and glorious that even the angels (as powerful and glorious as they are) want to see it and understand it more.

A Few Facts about Angels:

- 1) Holy angels have no need of salvation.
- 2) Fallen angels cannot be saved.
- 3) Holy angels played a role in the lives of the prophets and judges.
(Moses, Gideon, Daniel, Isaiah, Joshua, Ezekiel, Zechariah etc)
- 4) Holy angels played a role in the life of Christ.
(his birth, his temptation, his resurrection, his ascension).
- 5) Fallen angels (which includes Satan) sought to derail the ministry of Christ.
(his temptation, his preaching, his miracles, his betrayal)
- 6) Fallen angels often assault Christ's work and His people throughout history.

ANGELS want to GLORIFY GOD in His SALVATION of His PEOPLE:

LUKE 15:7&10 Jesus speaking...

- 7 "Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance."
- 10 "Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

REVELATION 5:8-12 See how the angels join in the chorus of the saints in worshipping God around His throne in heaven!

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

God's gracious salvation is awesome and precious to the PROPHETS, to the APOSTLES, to the SPIRIT and to the ANGELS... but is it awesome and precious TO YOU?

Has sin, your own agenda or shiny things of the world caused you to lose sight of your salvation?

Revelation 1-2 reveals that you can lose your FIRST LOVE -- have you lost it?