

1 Peter: A Living Hope (1 of 8)
“Our Hope Is Secure”
Cornerstone Church of Poway
Pastor Ed Turley
February 5, 2023

Big Idea: Jesus is our living hope, who sustains us through the difficulties of life.

This letter is from Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ. I am writing to **God’s chosen** people who are living as foreigners in the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia. **1 Peter 1:1 (NLT2)**

Our Hope Of Eternal Life Is:

1. Founded Upon God’s Grace & Mercy

God the **Father knew you** and **chose you** long ago, and His **Spirit has made you holy**. As a result, you have obeyed him and have been **cleansed by** the blood of **Jesus Christ**. May God give you more and more **grace** and **peace**. All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by **His great mercy** that we have been **born again**, because God **raised** Jesus Christ from the dead. Now we live with great expectation,

1 Peter 1:2-3 (NLT2) Remember Verse

- **God the Father** – Chose us before the world was made (Ephesians 1:4)
 For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will-- to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. **Ephesians 1:4-6 (NIV)**
- **God the Holy Spirit** – sets us apart for God’s service (2 Thessalonians 2:13)
 But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers loved by the Lord, because from the beginning God chose you to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth. **2 Thessalonians 2:13 (NIV)**
- **God the Son** – Paid for our sins on the cross (Romans 5:6-10)
 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! **Romans 5:8-9 (NIV)**

Notes: _____

2. Protected By God’s Power

“Now we live with **great expectation**, and we **have a priceless inheritance**—an inheritance that is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay. And through your faith, **God is protecting you by His power** until you **receive this salvation**, which is ready to be revealed on the last day for all to see.

1 Peter 1:3b-5 (NLT2)

“**I give them eternal life**, and they will never perish. No one can snatch them away from me, for my Father has given them to me, and He is more powerful than anyone else. No one can snatch them from the Father’s hand. The Father and I are one.”

John 10:28-30 (NLT)

“For I am **convinced** that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the **love of God** that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”
Romans 8:38-39 (NIV)

“... Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them. **Hebrews 7:24-25 (NIV)**

Notes: _____

3. Being Tested And Purified By Trials

So be truly glad. There is wonderful **joy ahead**, even though you have to **endure many trials for a little while**. These trials will show that your **faith is genuine**. It is being tested as fire **tests** and **purifies** gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when **Jesus Christ is revealed** to the whole world. You love him even though **you have never seen him**. Though you do not see him now, **you trust Him**; and you rejoice with a glorious, inexpressible joy. The **reward** for trusting Him will be the **salvation** of your souls. **1 Peter 1:6-9 (NLT2)**

“To keep me from becoming conceited because of these surpassingly great revelations, there was given me a **thorn in my flesh**, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. **Three times** I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, “My **grace** is sufficient for you, for my **power** is made perfect in **weakness**.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that **Christ's power** may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I **delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties**. For when I am weak, then I am strong.” **2 Corinthians 12:7-10 (NIV)**

Notes: _____

➤ **Have you placed your hope in Jesus for your salvation?**

My next right step, I will:

- Place my hope in Jesus alone for my salvation
- Talk over some of these verses with a friend
- Attend a small group to deepen my faith

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[This is only a guide – select the points you want to discuss.]

Big Idea: Jesus is our living hope, who sustains us through the difficulties of life.

Open your group with a prayer.

Icebreaker:

How many times did your family move when you were growing up?
 Which time was the hardest?

Life Application Study Bible Commentary: The apostle Peter wrote this letter to encourage believers who would likely face trials and persecution under Emperor Nero. During most of the first century, Christians were not hunted down and killed throughout the Roman Empire. They could, however, expect social and economic persecution from three main sources: the Romans, the Jews, and their own families. All would very likely be misunderstood; some would be harassed; a few would be tortured and even put to death. However, they became the target of persecution when they refused to worship the emperor as a god, refused to worship at pagan temples (so business for these moneymaking enterprises dropped wherever Christianity took hold), or exposed and rejected the horrible immorality of pagan culture.

Peter wanted to warn them about what lay ahead, and they needed his encouraging words to help them face opposition. This letter is still helpful for any Christians facing trials. Many Christians around the world are living under governments more repressive than the Roman Empire of the first century. Christians everywhere are subject to misunderstanding, ridicule, and even harassment by unbelieving friends, employers, and family members. None of us is exempt from catastrophe, pain, illness, and death—trials that, like persecution, make us lean heavily on God's grace.

Our Hope Of Eternal Life Is:

1. Founded Upon God's Grace & Mercy

Read 1 Peter 1:1-3

In what sense are God's people strangers in this world?

For what purpose have you been chosen?

How does Peter describe God's process of saving us?

What does this mean for you?

What do you learn about God the Father, the Holy Spirit and the Son from the following passages?

- **God the Father** – (Ephesians 1:4-6)
- **God the Holy Spirit** – (2 Thessalonians 2:13)
- **God the Son** –Romans 5:6-10)

2. Protected By God's Power

Read 1 Peter 1:3-5

How does Peter describe our faith?

Read John 10:28-30

How is your salvation kept secure?

Read Hebrews 7:25

What do you learn about Jesus in this passage?

Read Romans 8:38-39

What can separate you from God?

What trials did Jesus go through to relate to us?

3. Being Tested And Purified By Trials

Read 1 Peter 1:6-7

How does this perspective help you deal with the past or present sufferings?

What are you going through right now that is helping to strengthen your faith?

Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

How do you react when God appears to be silent to your urgent request?

How do you feel about God's promise in verse 9?

How has God worked in and through you in a time of weakness?

What will you do to develop trust in God during times of weakness?

Close in Prayer: Start praying. Be bold and pray specifically.

Snack schedule:
