

Peter's First Epistle

I-PETER

CHAPTER 1:3-9

TAPE SM. #246 ~ DECEMBER 1, 1996

TITLE:

"GRACE THAT KEEPS US SAFE PT. II"

THE CHRISTIANS JOURNEY THROUGH THE WILDERNESS OF THE WORLD

THEME:

"1 Peter 5:12

I have written to you briefly, exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God in which you stand.

INTRODUCTION: Reading of the Text 1:3-9

Last Week

1.) By Grace, We are Born into Glory vv. 3

*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,*

It's not just "A hope"

hopes greatest enemy is time, time destroys hope

It's "The hope" Based on Fact

And The Fact Is...

through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

We are blessed and excited *to hear about a group of FBI agents in the southeast who are gathering for Bible studies using our cassette tapes from the messages here...*

These Agents are taught *many things regarding our national security, but of those things is learning how to stop counterfeit currency. The most counterfeited bill in the world is the US \$100.00 Dollar Bill*

((The New \$100.00 is the most electronically advanced currency in history))

Whenever there is anything of Value, there will always be those around who will seek to counterfeit the true, for their own gain

Biblically Christianity (I say Biblical Christianity because there those who desire you to embrace another Christianity, another Jesus, another gospel, another testament which is not of God) But Biblically Christianity Strongly Opposes the False

Galatians 1:6-9

I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you into the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, ⁷ which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. ⁸ But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. ⁹ As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.

*..... I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you into **the grace of Christ,** to a different gospel,*

Another GRK 2087 heteros (het'-er-os)

an altered representation, some else, that which is strange.
Another of a different kind

- It's Possible to be pulled away
- There are other gospels

So Sure is Paul of Jesus' Gospel,

- He says "don't even listen to me if I change my message"
- "don't even listen to an angel that's come from heaven"

2 Corinthians 11:2-4

I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy. I promised you to one husband, to Christ, so that I might present you as a pure virgin to him. ³ But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. ⁴ For if one comes to you and preaches **another** Jesus whom we have not preached, or if you receive a **different** spirit which you have not received, or a **different** gospel which you have not accepted-- you may well put up with it!

CONSIDER THIS;

That God, In Relating to us and our faith, has chosen to use types symbols, and analogies that depict a hostile environment...

2 Corinthians 10:3-5

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not **war** according to the flesh. ⁴ For the **weapons** of our **warfare** are not carnal but **mighty** in God for **pulling down strongholds**, ⁵ **casting down** arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into **captivity** to **the obedience** of Christ,

That Our Christian Walk is a **WARFARE**

2 Timothy 4:7

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

That Our Enemy is a **LION**

1 Peter 5:8

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

That we are to be dressed for **BATTLE**

Ephesians 6

- Breastplate of Righteousness. • Feet shod. • Shield of faith.
- helmet of salvation. • the sword of the Spirit

That there are **ENEMIES** to the cross of Christ

Philippians 3:18

For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ:

UNDER ATTACK IS:

"GRACE THAT KEEPS US SAFE"

- Truth that will be Under Attack because of it's Value

Ephesians 2:7-8

that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. (WHAT IS IT THEN?)⁸ For by grace you **have / been / saved** through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,

JESUS TAKES THIS VERY SERIOUSLY

Matthew 23:13-15, 25,27 (NIV)

"Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You shut the kingdom of heaven in men's faces. You yourselves do not enter, nor will you let those enter who are trying to.¹⁵ "Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You travel over land and sea to win a single convert, and when he becomes one, you make him twice as much a son of hell as you are.....:25 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of extortion and self-indulgence.... :27 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness.....

Luke 11:45-46 (NIV)

One of the experts in the law answered him, "Teacher, when you say these things, you insult us also." Jesus replied, "And you experts in the law, woe to you, because you load people down with burdens they can hardly carry, and you yourselves will not lift one finger to help them."

John 8:36

"Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

PAUL TAKES THIS VERY SERIOUSLY

1 Timothy 1:18-20

This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare,¹⁹ having faith and a good conscience, which some having rejected, concerning the faith have suffered shipwreck,²⁰ of whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I delivered to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme.....

2 Timothy 4:14

Alexander the coppersmith did me much evil:
the Lord reward him according to his works:

John 8:32

"And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

1.) By Grace, We are Born into Glory

vv. 4

Verse 4

1b) Grace Guarantees Us Security

vv. 4

to “**an inheritance**”
(#1 incorruptible) and (#2 undefiled) and that (#3 does not fade away), (#4 reserved in heaven) for you,

Cool But, - Who Died?

It is unlike any will or testament on earth

(#1 Incorruptible: it cannot be ruined by something or someone one)

(#2 Undefiled: it cannot be stained or tainted in quality or value)

(#3 Does not fade away: it cannot be worn out or weakened by time)

(#4 Reserved in heaven: it is eternal, it is everlasting & on lay-a-way)

THERE ARE TWO THINGS ABOUT HOTEL RESERVATION THAT I DON'T LIKE

#1 - DO THEY HAVE MY RESERVATION?

#2 - CHECKING OUT - WILL MY CREDIT CARD WORK?

Awhile back I had gone from Chino Hills to Moscow to Chino Hills to Cor'da lene Idaho in about a week and half, while checking out

Reserved - under my name !!!

Revelation 3:5b

"I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; BUT I WILL CONFESS his name before My Father and before His angels.

There will be no mistakes - no computer glitch - no confusion

Reservation being taken,
heaven or hell, smoking or non-smoking

2.) By Grace, We are **Kept** for Glory vv. 5

Verse 5a

*who are **kept** by the power of God*

* **Kept** GRK 5432 *phroureo* (*froo-reh'-o*)

to be watched over in advance, to post guards all around you.
to protect at all cost. to garrison

Jude 1:24

Now unto Him (God) who is **able** to **keep** you from stumbling, and (who is **able** to) present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,

The Greatest Picture of Security is Here;

John 10:28-29

"And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. ²⁹ "My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand.

John 17:12a

"While I was with them in the world, I **kept** them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have **kept**; and none of them is lost..."

Verse 5b

*through faith...
for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*

Our faith does not keep us...
- but the one in whom we have the faith in.

For faith to be true:

- @ It must be challenged by the world
- @ It must be attacked by doubt
- @ It must perform obedience
- @ It must accomplish great things
- @ It must triumph in the here and now

True Christian Faith is a Faith that is obvious!!!

It cannot be hidden

All “true Christian” activity
comes from the realm of faith

Behind what you are doing, is it all for you or is it for Jesus Christ

3.) By Grace, We’re Being Prepared for Glory vv. 6-7

Verse 6

*In this you **greatly** rejoice, though now for a little while,
if need be, you have been grieved by **various trials**,*

Trials ! -

The Christians Boot Camp !!!

Point #1 to Trials
(Trials Perform a Need in Us)

To rejoice about something,
you must first be able to understand the purpose for it
- like getting a tooth pulled

- You will first get a shot in the mouth - it hurts but you want it
- Second, the cracking and pulling sounds terrible - but you need it
- Thirdly, you can eat like a pig again - with greater appreciation for teeth

if need be, you have been grieved by various trials,
**Christian Boot Camp is Made up of Trials - Trials are
what work into us God's truth...**

James 1:2-4

My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, ³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. ⁴ But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

Trials

(There is rhyme and reason)

- To correct our disobedience...
- To prepare us for spiritual growth...
- To prevent us from falling into sin...

1 Thessalonians 5:18

in everything give thanks;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Point #2 to Trials

(Trials are Varied for the Cause)

“Various trials”

Multi-colored trials. One for every day of the week

2 Corinthians 6:4-7 (NIV)

Rather, as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: in great endurance; in troubles, hardships and distresses; ⁵ in beatings, imprisonments and riots; in hard work, sleepless nights and hunger; ⁶ in purity, understanding, patience and kindness; in the Holy Spirit and in sincere love; ⁷ in truthful speech and in the power of God; with weapons of righteousness in the right hand and in the left;

In The Negative Sense;

for our pride, for our lusts, for our lying, for our evil

In The Positive Sense;

for our faith, for our peace, for our character, for our growth

(By the looks of this trial - I need to learn trust!)

(Well by the looks of this trial - I need to learn faithfulness!)

Point #3 to Trials
(They will be Difficult to Endure)

*If need be, you have been **grieved** by various trials,*

- * **Grieved** GRK 3076 lupeo (loo-peh'-o)
to be in distress; to be depressed. To be in heaviness soul

It's the word used for when Jesus was in the garden of Gathseamne, when He wept with sweat & tears

- * **Trials** GRK 1383 dokimion (dok-im'-ee-on)
to daily pressures and events. A general and constant test a trustworthiness:

Point #4 to Trials
(Trials are Custom, Just for You)

Listen, We All Go Through these Times
(Cheer Up, There Coming Your Way Too)

In this you greatly rejoice, though now (((for a little while))), if need be, you have been grieved by various trials,

Trials Will Not Last Forever!

When we're in the oven of trial & testing
God keeps His eye on the Timer so that we come out just right!!!

The Middle Eastern Goldsmith's were *known for purifying their metals to the point of being able to see the reflection of their face in the heated metal...*

There is Coming A Day When All trials Will Cease

1 Corinthians 13:12a

For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face.
(At the return of Christ)

Psalm 17:15

As for me, I will see Your face in righteousness; I shall be satisfied when I
awake in Your likeness.

How do you **look** when you wake up ?

Job 23:10

But He knows the way that I take; when He has tested me,
I shall come forth as gold.

God, who loves us the most, is preparing us for heaven

(I thank God for **my earthly father** - my brother and I learned early that if we broke a window, we had to paid for it... if you took up so cause, you had better know it and stand behind it)

Trials

set deep into the soul what God wants us to know
there is no other way to learn it

Verse 7

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,

4.) By Grace, The Glory is Ours Now

vv. 8-9

4a) Grace Guarantees Us Acceptance

vv. 8-9

Verse 8a

whom having **not seen** you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,

“We Love Him...”

John 14:15

"If you love Me, keep My commandments."
#1 Love God - #2 Love the guy next to you - & all will be well

Do you love God “Intimately” that is Privately, when your alone

Who or what is your focus when you’re alone
Can You Be Alone with God ?

(((Do You “Lust” to be Alone with Him?)))

Luke 22:15

Then He said to them, "With **fervent desire** I have **desired** to eat this
Passover with you..."

*

Desire

GRK 1939 epithumia (ep-ee-thoo-mee'-ah)

a deep and passionate longing for what is forbidden.
To lust with an intensity

What you do privately, is it O.K. for Jesus to do too
(He’s with you anyway)

HOW CAN I EXPLAIN *This to You*
who do not Know Jesus Personally?

There is a reality that is greater and more real than what you can see and feel in this life here and now...

Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

The Example:

John 20:25-29

The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." ²⁶ And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!" ²⁷ Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing." ²⁸ And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" **29** Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. **Blessed** (happy are those) who have not seen and yet have believed."

Verse 8b

*yet believing, you **rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory***

There are Moments that the Prescience of the Lord is greater than what I can handle

((It's a Feeling, an Awareness that comes over me from the shear Reality that God is With me))

Romans 5:5

Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been **poured out in our hearts** by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

All of a Sudden...

There's a Recklessness - A Childlikeness - A Reality that Screams... *"I am His & He's Mine"*

Verse 9

*receiving **the end of your faith--(what is it) the salvation of your souls.***

There's coming a day when Faith
will no longer be necessary

The Journey will have been completed
- Eternity will have begun for me, for you

Let Him Now "Wrap You Up" in His Arms,
Warm & Tight