

Peter's First Epistle

I-PETER

CHAPTER 1:9-12

TAPE SM. #247 ~ JANUARY 5, 1997

TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

"THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL APPEARS"
THE CHRISTIANS JOURNEY THROUGH THE WILDERNESS OF THE WORLD

THEME OF THE BOOK:

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 1:9-12

In Our Opening studies, we saw how Peter is reaching out to the believers who had been basically **ostracized from their former lives...**

That's good.... to a degree

Good, in that -

The old life-style that kept them in bondage, no longer held them

Good, in that -

They could more easily focus on God and the things of God

"To a degree"

Because there is **The Truly Painful Side**, since they would have lost all that they had been raised up into.

- #1.) The Close, Jewish Family Traditions.
- #2.) The Stability that comes with Unity.
- #3.) And the Inheritance that would have been yours as one of the Family.

But their Decision to follow Jesus Christ and to become Christians
would have cost them all that they had

A New Testament Example:

By Movies or by Stories, we have Glorified the "Calling" of the disciples as though it was
an easy thing for them to do...

Matthew 4:18-22

And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, **casting** a net into the sea; for they were fishermen... ¹⁹ Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." ²⁰ They **immediately left their nets** and followed Him. ²¹ Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, **in the boat** with Zebedee their father, **mending their nets**. And He called them, ²² and **immediately they left the boat** (ability to make money) and **their father** (all that was stable), and followed Him.

**Peter was writing to those who were being Tried
? is this Christian message true - does it have what I need ?**

Materially, they had lost so much already
(possessions - the things of this world)

We Need Possessions!

The Lord Has Promised Certain Possessions!

(cloths on us, roofs over us, food in us)

The Dirt on Possessions (*Scruffy*)

While Christmas shopping, I had picked up six-pack of cowhide chew bones for Scruffy, our 5 lbs. Yorkshire Terrier. As soon as I gave him his new cowhide chew bone, he stood perfectly still, looked straight at me, then his ears just kind of began to droop down. He took off looking for a corner, a table, or somewhere where he could hide this bone. Finally, he comes walking into the house with mud all over his nose and eyes because had to bury the thing!!!!

Scruffy has been completely fine and content for nine years until, he got his very own six-pack of "cowhide chew bones" - then he turned into a selfish possessive, worrisome K-9 with a dirty face.

Mark 4:19

WATCHOUT FOR "the cares of this world, the **deceitfulness of riches**, and the desires for **other things** that enter in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.

We've seen that God has protected us by telling us
that there are; **"TRIALS ALONG THE WAY"**

Then we saw that God has promised us a guarantee
that there is; ***“THE GRACE, THAT KEEPS US SAFE”***

In Verses 3-9 Peter gives a “Doxology of Security” to the church, using
very key words to encourage them...

Verse 3 - He begotten us & Living Hope

Verse 4 - An everlasting inheritance & reserved

Verse 5 - God will deliver us into Heaven

Verse 6 - Trails & test are common

Verse 7 - Our faith is founded upon fact

Verse 8 - That believing is seeing

Verse 9 - We have a destination in sight

The "ACTIVITY" of verse 9 is this,
that we are currently, as we speak, receiving the salvation of our souls.
This Salvation by Faith is bringing Heaven down to us, presently.

It's the Meaning of;
“To be Walking in the Spirit”

Living with Heaven, God, Jesus, Eternity in our conscientiousness
God in our Daily Living, Moment by Moment, hour by hour, day by day

1.) Salvation by Grace ~ The Mystery Package

Verse 10

***Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully,
who prophesied of the grace that would come TO YOU,***

- **The Prophets spoke** “that the worlds messiah would be a suffering King
(Isaiah 52,53) atop mount Golgotha, Calvary
- But **they Also understood** that He would be a conquering King
(Zechariah 14) atop the mount Olives.
- What **they did not see** was the valley between the two mountains that has stretched nearly
2,000 yrs, long

* **Inquired** GRK 1567 **ekzeteo (ek-zay-teh'-o)**
to search out as an investigate, to crave, to demand, to worship hard

G. Cambell Morgan tells a story of a man in London, England in the late 1,800's whose job it was to be a lamplighter. He would go down the streets just before dark and light the streetlamps. The amazing thing was, he was blind. He lite the streetlamps, giving light to others, but that light, he himself would never see.

Just like the Prophets of Old...

1a) This Salvation

“Of this Salvation...”

((He is pointing us back to what he has just “attributed” to;
The Salvation that comes from God Beginning in Verse 3-9))

....Of the Salvation

Man's Old Testament Approach ~ vs ~ Our New Testament
Approach

1b) The Grace

“The prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace”

In the Old Testament times, The Prophets in your Bible, where inspired (possessed) by the Holy Spirit to prophesy and to record The Salvation” that should come:

* **Searched** GRK 1830 **exereunao (ex-er-yoo-nah'-o)**
to explore and to spy out. To seek after

Romans 16:25-36 (NIV)

Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret since the world began ²⁶ but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all nations might believe and obey him--

1c) To You, Now, - Exclusively

“That would come TO YOU,”

SPECIAL DELIVERY

After the Resurrection of Jesus Christ...

Luke 24:25

Then He said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ "Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?" ²⁷ And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.

1 Corinthians 2:7

But we speak the wisdom of God in **a mystery**, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory,

In The First Dispensation

(The envelope addressed to the Jews. From Abraham to J.C.)

Now in The Second Dispensation

(The envelope addressed to the gentiles. From J.C. to the Rapture)

And When The Third Dispensation

(Another envelope addressed to the Jews - 7 yr. trib.)

Romans 11:25

For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be uninformed of **this mystery**,that blindness in part has happened to Jews until the fullness of the Gentiles has been completed.

There are Three Categories of People in the World today;

1. The **Unbelieving Gentiles**, whom Satan has Blinded
2. **Those who do believe** in Jesus Christ whom God has opened their eyes
3. And the **Jews**, whom God has Blinded

Satan has blinded the eyes of those who do not believe -
but not the Jew!

God has put the blinders on them - until....

2.) God has Ordained the Times and Seasons

Verse 11

“searching what (how), or what manner of time (when), the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.

2a) God’s Timing is always Right On

“searching what (how), or what manner of time (when),

Galatians 4:4-5

But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

Psalm 102:18

This will be written for the generation to come, that a people yet to be created may praise the LORD.

Psalm 78:4

We will not hide them from their children, telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and His strength and His wonderful works that He has done.

Daniel 12:4

"But you, Daniel, put away the words, and seal the book **until** the time of the end;... Many will go here and there to increase knowledge."

2b) God is Inviting us to Think

the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.

The Old Testament Needs to be a Daily Reading

(Jesus read the Old Testament,
Peter, Paul and Mary, they all read it)

John 5:39

"You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me."

Hebrews 10:7

Paul attributes the passage to Jesus Christ

'Behold, I have come-- in the volume of the book it is written of Me-- to do Your will, O God.' " - where did Paul get that -

Psalm 40:7

Behold, I come: in the volume of the book it is written of me,

A New / Old Testament Example:

Philip and the Ethiopian Official

Acts 8

The place **in the Scripture** (Isaiah 52&53) which he read was this: "He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so He opened not His mouth.... Acts 8:35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him.

3.) Our ancient message ~ is eternal ~ Now

o Lets wake up to what we have

Verse 12

"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."

This verse has built into it the element of "Prophecy" in that it challenges us to consider the fact that what is being heard now, or whenever the true gospel is being presented, is the fulfillment of what the ancient prophets spoke of.

This is, right now, a real Spiritual event

2 Corinthians 6:2

For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, and in the day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

3a) The Responsibility "to Believe"

"To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, BUT TO US

???? How Sure Can We Be ????

One Evening Jesus took Peter, James & John up a mountain to pray. And while Jesus was there, He was Transformed...

2 Peter 1:17-19a

For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." ¹⁸ And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain. ¹⁹ And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place,

- I can write you a letter - but you have to open it
- The message can be verified - search the scriptures
- The Sender can be known - dare to believe Him at His Word

3b) We Have Full Confidence in the Scriptures

things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven

* **Reported GRK 312 anaggello (an-ang-el'-lo)**
to rehearse, to show again, to speak again

The Bible Stands throughout time pointing the world to Jesus - Same Message, Same Power

Acts 17:1-2

Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. ² Then Paul, as his custom was, went in to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures, ³ explaining and demonstrating that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and saying, "This Jesus whom I preach to you is the Christ."

Acts 26:22-23,27

"Therefore, having obtained help from God, to this day I stand, witnessing both to small and great, saying no other things than those which the prophets and Moses said would come-- ²³ that the Christ would suffer, that He would be the first to rise from the dead, and would proclaim light to the Jewish people and to the Gentiles." ²⁷ "King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know that you believe."

Acts 9:22

But Paul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who dwelt in Damascus, **proving** to them that this Jesus is the Messiah.

Galatians 3:8

And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, "**In you all the nations shall be blessed.**"

"I am Going to tell you something that has been told throughout all the ages"

Genesis 15:5

Then God brought Abraham outside and said, "Look now toward heavens, and count the stars if you are able to number them." And He said "**So shall your descendants be.**"

There is Only One way to determine if
GOD is true, if Christianity Right, and if Jesus is the Only way

!!! Look to the Bible and Put it to the Test !!!

Look to the Bible - there's no other book

- The Tibetan book of the dead - senseless and morbid
- The Koran - hopeless and violent
- The book of Mormon - inaccurate and unconfirmed

Jesus Pointed John to the Bible to Prove His ministry...

Matthew 11:2-5

And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples ³ and said to Him, "Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?" ⁴ Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: ⁵ "The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them.

1. The Urgency - ***things which now have been reported to you***
2. The Witness - ***through those who have preached the gospel to you***
3. The Proof - ***by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven***

2 Peter 1:20-21

understand this, that no (revelation) prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, ²¹ for (the revelation of scripture) prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved (driven, possessed, inspirited) by the Holy Spirit.

I am not a Christian because:

- I was born into a Christian family - I wasn't
- Or because Greg Laurie reached me first - He didn't
- Or because I had a need in my life to fill - I wouldn't Accept it

I became a Christian because the truth of Christianity is

- Reasonable, makes sense
- Credible, it's been tested
- Powerful, it changed my life
 - Biblical, it's scientific

I am a Christian because Jesus DID come to the earth, he DID walk among men, he DID die on the cross, he DID rise from the dead and he is coming back....

I'm a Christian because Jesus Christ is Truth!!!

John 14:6

Jesus put it like this, "I am the **way**, the **truth**, and the **life**.
No one comes ~ to the Father ~ except through Me.

3c) The Value of This Salvation

-- things which angels desire to look into."

desire to look into

The beginning of this was at the incarnation of Jesus;

* **Desire** **GRK 1937 epithumeo (ep-ee-thoo-meh'-o)**
to set the heart upon, to long for something.
To covet after to the point of lust.

1 Timothy 3:16b

...God was manifested, displayed, visible, in the flesh,
justified in the Spirit, **seen by angels**,...

The Ark and the Bowing Angels upon the mercy seat

Ephesians 3:10

to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church
to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places,

A WARNING HERE

all biblical angels reject attention

There is an unnatural curiosity about angels sweeping the world today

Hey Stupid... Look what you have available to you!

Jesus didn't die for the Angels - he died for us
Angels were not created in the image of God - we were
Jesus died come to earth an Angel - he came as one of us

Angels Are Over Us Now... But Not For Long

1 Corinthians 6:3a

Do you not know that we shall judge angels?

How the mighty have fallen....

Invitation

1. **Stress clearly** and repeat **the benefits** of the teaching for those who believe.
2. **Help the uncommitted** to see that God wants this for them too.
3. That **the choice is theirs** to make freely.
4. Choice **demands responsibility**.
5. The decision is **now**.

Revelation 3:20

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

John 10:27-28

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.
²⁸ And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.

Matthew 4:17

From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Romans 10:9-11

that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. Romans ¹⁰ For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. ¹¹ For the scripture says, Whosoever trust in Him shall never be ashamed.

...All to be Praying and Still