

Peter's First Epistle

I-PETER

CHAPTER 3:18-22

TAPE SM. #259 ~ MAY 18, 1997

TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

"A LIFE THAT SAVES" - PT.2

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 3:18-22

JESUS - "A LIFE THAT SAVES"

and we too are saved through the suffering, death and the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead

There's a story about a railroad operator who once managed a draw bridge over the great Ohio river. As barges would pass by, he would rise the bridge allowing them passage while making sure that all trains that used that bridge were stopped. His son loved to go to work with him and play that he was the operator of the bridge. Well, a time came when a new train route was introduced and celebrated but no one notified the bridge operator of a new train and a new time to have the bridge lowered, he saw the train approaching...

The son was sacrificed to save the hundreds of people aboard that train, and they never knew of it...

Why did Jesus Have to suffer so brutally?

BECAUSE HE WAS PROVEN TO BE GOD'S GREAT DELIVERER

Why did Jesus Have to Die so Alone?

SO WE WOULD HAVE TO BE SEPARATED FROM GOD

Why did God have to Die for Man?

BECAUSE ONLY GOD WAS RICH ENOUGH TO PAY THE DEBT

why Did he do this?

Verse 18

“that He might bring us to God...”

- * **Bring** GRK 4317 **prosago** (pros-ag'-o)
to take and lead toward something, to take hold of and to pull near
to approach with intent to hold on to...

In The Hebrew Culture;

What's Implied is This...

That Jesus, as the **prosago**, Our Great High Priest, when He finished His duties at the altar, then stepped away from the Holy of Holies and went out into the court of the gentiles, He then took you by the hand and led you right back into the prescience of God the Father, in the most holy place!!!

(It's His firm "Grasping" upon Us)

In The Greek Culture;

a **prosago** was an attendant to the king. His job was to determine if a particular visitor should have access to the king or not. Only in rare cases was his job different. One of those cases is when a close friend was visiting the king. Then the **prosago** was to see to it that the visitor was presented to the king without hassle or delay with a smile of joy.

How did He do it?

*“being put to death in the flesh
but made alive by the Spirit “*

Romans 5:6

For when we were still **without strength**, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

Romans 5:8

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, **in that while we were still sinners**, Christ died for us.

What Was Once in my Life, a Great Sense of GUILT,
Now has Becomes the very Focal point of My Liberation

2 Corinthians 5:20-21

Now then, we are **ambassadors** (in a hostile setting) for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. ²¹
Because He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Who's forgiven much - loves much

Thats why Paul,

with great passion, preached the gospel

1 Corinthians 15:1,3-4

Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand..... ³ For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that **Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures**, ⁴ and that **He was buried**, and that **He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures**,

The Fact is...

the world doesn't need a cure for its illness,
It needs a savior for its sins

Galatians 4:4

But when the **fullness of the time had come**, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law,

FOR SOME REASON, THE TIME WAS RIGHT 2,000 YEARS AGO.

When Death Comes;

If you are “**Born Again**” - believer, you will instantaneously arrive in Heaven

But if you are a “**Unconverted**” Believer - you will instantaneously arrive in

Hebrews 9:27

for it is appointed for men once to die, but after that the judgment,

There’s no make-up quiz after the grave

Verse 19a

*by whom (H.S.) also He went and preached
to the spirits **in prison**,*

* **Preached** **GRK kerusso (kay-roos'-so)**
to announce, not evangelize, but to inform

Jesus, The Cross, The Thief, The Day

Paradise

2 Corinthians 12:1-4

It is doubtless not profitable for me to boast. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord: ² I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago-- whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows-- such a one was caught up to **the third heaven**. ³ And I know such a man-- whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows-- ⁴ how he was caught up into **Paradise** and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.

Paradise Relocated

Revelation 2:7

"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."

Verse 19a

On “*preaching to the spirits **in prison**,*”

There are Two Views, so I’ll give you Three

- #1 Is that Jesus “revealed His evidence” to the Old Testament believers who were on hold in Paradise. At that time, he would have **announced to the demons** held across the way of His victory as well.
- #2 Is that Jesus “revealed His evidence” to the Old Testament believers who were on hold in paradise and **to the unbelievers of the Old Testament period** who were in Hades,
- #3 I believe that Jesus “revealed His evidence” to **the Old Testament believers and unbelievers, including the demon powers** there. Then taking those who the believers to heaven Leaving the unsaved there.

Prior to Jesus going to the cross - all believers went to Hades, Sheol, also known as Abraham’s Bosom, Paradise - in the spirit realm referred to as being in the center of the earth.

Turn to Luke 16:20

this is not a parable - note the man Lazarus, a real person

Verse 20a

who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine long-suffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water.

• *who formerly were disobedient*

Life in the days of Noah

Extreme and continuous violence,

Genesis 6:5

Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

Matthew 24:37-39

"But as the days of Noah were, so also will the (second) coming of the Son of Man be.
³⁸ For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.

Verse 20b

*when once the Divine long-suffering waited in the days of Noah,
while the ark was being prepared*

The love of God waited!

*that is, eight souls, were saved **through** water.*

1. Saved Through (delivered through the) Water?
2. Saved by being taking through the watery judgment of the flood
3. The water was the mode by which the judgment came

Their souls were saved in the Ark

(THE ENTIRE HUMAN RACE HAD BECOME POLLUTED)

Verse 21

*There is also an **antitype** which now saves us-- baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), **through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,***

(vv.21 NIV)

and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also-- not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

The Ark was their salvation,
a symbol of Jesus Christ,

1. Noah was instructed to build an ark
2. Noah preached to the lost, while building the ark
3. Noah was told to get into the ark
4. Noah watched as God shut the door to the ark

5. Noah heard and saw the rain from inside the ark
the eight souls were saved not by water - but by the ark !

Baptism in water is a symbol or antitype of death & resurrection

Romans 6:3-4

Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? ⁴ Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Baptism's result is...

Receiving a good conscience?

A good conscience toward God, **through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,**

Colossians 2:9-13

For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; ¹⁰ and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power. ¹¹ In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, ¹² buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. ¹³ And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses,

What was the meaning to the flood? JUDGMENT

What is the meaning of baptism? JUDGMENT

Just as "The waters of the flood symbolizes the act of baptism. So, baptism symbolizes the act of regeneration through the resurrection

Think Now!

It's the blood alone that saves us, not water. Yet the Scriptures teach that we are to be baptized as an "act of obedience"

Water baptism is an outward display of an inward decision

Just as circumcision was an outward display of dedication to God, so going under water is an outward announcement that you have died, buried, and have been risen with Jesus Christ in newness of life

What is the Biblical requirement for being baptized -
Repentance!

A logical, educated and willful decision to follow
Jesus Christ as Lord

((WHAT BAPTISM CANNOT DO
- IS BRING US TO GOD))

Verse 22

who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.

A PROMISE OF ETERNAL ASSURANCE

1 Corinthians 6:14

And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power.

Paul Give Testimony to this Assurance

Paul at Athens
(TO THE UNKNOWN GOD)
Acts 17:29-31

"Therefore, since we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, something shaped by art and man's devising. ³⁰ Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, ³¹ because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead."

Romans 8:11

But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead **dwells in you**,..... He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who **dwells in you**.

WHAT IS THE HOLY SPIRIT TRYING TO TEACH US ?

That as Jesus' suffering had a purpose, so my suffering in this life does too vv.18

That salvation comes through Jesus alone vv.18

The weight and validity that Jesus was the Christ vv.19

The flood washed away the sin, the ark saved the believers, new life vv.20-21

That His place and position is forever secure in heaven vv.22

HOW DOES IT APPLY TO ME PERSONALLY?

It answers the questions of life and death, producing peace

It causes me to take inventory of my reason for living

That in Christ, all is new

That baptism is an act of holiness

WHY SHOULD WE BE BAPTIZED?

Because Baptism is our Identification with Christ

Matthew 3:13-15

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ And John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?" ¹⁵ But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit it to be so now, **for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.**"

Then he allowed Him.

Do I have to be Baptized to be saved?

No, we have the honor of being baptized. Every effort is to be made to be because God has commanded us to.

Matthew 28:19

"#1 - Go therefore and #2 - make **disciples** of all the nations, #3 - **baptizing them** in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

What good is baptism if it doesn't really save me?

It clears the consciences, It creates unity, It is Obedience, It brings blessings

Mark 1:5

And all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, **confessing their sins.**

If I be a Christian, then my Life should be different then what it once was. God re-creates in us
a new life, a life

JACK NOW HAS - "A LIFE THAT SAVES"

Baptized from an evil
conscience, filled with the Holy
Spirit, knowing His will,
we go forward to a lost world...