



# 1 PETER INTRODUCTION

March 23, 2012

## THE THEME:

The three principle ideas found in the book of 1 Peter: 1) Suffering. 2) The glory that follows suffering. 3) The grace of God that is sufficient for our suffering.

Note: Peter's first epistle is not about suffering. It is about the peace that is MULTIPLIED (vs. 2) as God gives us grace through our suffering.

## SOME COMPARISONS:

### AARON

### JOHN

As the high priest, he got to enter into the "Holy of Holies" when nobody else could. At the time, this represented the closest any man could get to God.

Laid his head on the breast of the Lord Jesus Christ (God manifest in the flesh). He heard the heartbeat of God. His writings are about "love."

### JOSHUA

### PAUL

Joshua was told to "rise up" (Joshua 1:1,2) and lead God's redeemed people into the Promised Land.

Paul was told to "rise" (Acts 26:16) and point those who have been redeemed to their inheritance and to instruct them to live in it.

### MOSES

### PETER

Under Moses, the children of Israel (the redeemed) had to endure one trial after another.

Peter fills this gap for the New Testament believer. He encourages us during this time between the day we were redeemed until the day we get to heaven. During this time we'll have to endure many trials.

## A DIFFERENT KIND OF STRANGER

Paul Said, "Ye are no more strangers and foreigners." (Eph 2:19). Points to the fact that we're not strangers to Heaven. We have a home there. This is a SPIRITUAL reality; an ETERNAL truth.

Peter says, "To the strangers." (1 Peter 1:1). Points to the physical life here and now. This world is not our home, but we're stuck here for now as "pilgrims and strangers" until we get home to glory. This is the PHYSICAL reality; TEMPORAL truth.

PETER'S GOSPEL WAS THE SAME AS PAUL'S GOSPEL. Peter didn't preach "baptismal regeneration." He clearly baptized only those "that gladly received his word" (Acts 2:41). His "word" was the Gospel: Christ was "crucified and slain" (Acts 2:23) "Whom God hath raised up" (Acts 2:24).

THE "CHURCH" EXISTED BEFORE PAUL WAS CONVERTED. In Acts 2:47, "the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." In Acts 8:1, there was "a great persecution against the CHURCH!" and Saul "made havoc of the CHURCH" (Acts 8:3).

PERSECUTION RESULTED IN THE JEWISH CHURCH SCATTERING. (Acts 8:4). So Peter opens his epistle "to the STRANGERS... SCATTERED!"

Persecution resulted in the preaching of the gospel "to all the world," as the Lord intended. (Mark 16:15)

**PETER WAS A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LORD ON 3 OCCASIONS. IT REVEALED HIS CHARACTER.**

1. Luke 12:41. He didn't pretend to know something if he didn't. He wasn't afraid to ask questions when he wanted to know something. He had an appetite for the truth.
  - a. Peter asked the Lord for clarification concerning His 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming.
  - b. So you read in 1 Peter 1:5, "ready to be revealed in the last time." And in 1 Peter 1:7, "at the appearing of Jesus Christ." And in 1 Peter 5:4, "when the chief Shepherd shall appear."
  
2. Matthew 18:21. Peter gave serious thought and meditation to the Lord's teachings as they applied to actual situations. Then he went back for necessary details. He was willing to go as far as the Lord wanted him to.
  - a. Peter asked "How often should I forgive my brother?"
  - b. So God has him write a book about how to treat people that do you wrong.
  
3. Mark 10:28. He was open and honest with the Lord and would ask the questions that everybody else wanted to ask, but were afraid to.
  - a. Peter asked "Lord, what do we get if we give up everything and follow you?"
  - b. So God let him write a book about the GLORY that is to follow!

**PETER'S HEART WAS RIGHT WHERE HIS KNOWLEDGE WAS FAULTY:**

1. In defending the Lord with his sword in the garden (Matthew 26:51-52).
2. In defending the Lord's honor to the tax collectors (Matthew 17:24-27).
  - a. Because Peter's heart was right, the Lord miraculously provided for the need of the hour.
    - i. The Lord's miracle was performed through Peter's employment (fishing).
  - b. Lesson learned, concerning not offending the people of the world, Peter writes 1 Peter 2:11-17.

**PETER, JAMES, AND JOHN: SPECIAL EVENTS WITH THE LORD:**

Three times the Lord singled out these three disciples. Three times the Lord told Peter "Feed my sheep." Peter responds accordingly in his epistles.

1. Raising Jairus' daughter from the dead. (Luke 8:51). Jesus turned the situation from sorrow to rejoicing.
  - a. "Peter... feed my lambs." (John 21:15)
  - b. The food: Peter writes "suffering now... but glory to follow."
  
2. The Mount of Transfiguration. The Lord is seen in his millennial glory with Moses and Elijah. (Matthew 17:2, Mark 9:2). Jesus spoke of the death that He should *accomplish* at Jerusalem.
  - a. "Peter ...feed my sheep (John 21:16)
  - b. The food: Peter writes, "**the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.**" (1 Peter 5:9). Afflictions first, glory to follow.
  
3. Jesus prays in the Garden of Gethsemane, "O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt."
  - a. "Peter...feed my sheep (John 21:17).
  - b. The food: Peter writes "Don't be afraid to take that cup. It will work out in the end."

<b>SUFFERING</b>	<b>GLORY</b>	<b>GRACE</b>
1 Peter 1:6-7, 11 2:19, 21-23 3:14,18 4:1, 13, 16, 5:10	1 Peter 1:7- 8, 11, 21 2:12 4:11-16 5:1, 4, 10 and 11	1 Peter 1:2, 10, 13 3:7 4:10 5:5, 10, 12.



# 1 PETER CHAPTER 1

## Lesson 2

### What Does the Blood do?

April 13, 2012

TEXT: 1 Peter 1:2, “<sup>2</sup> Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.”

Cults and all religions say, “Good works get you to Heaven.” Bible Christianity says, “Only the blood of Jesus Christ can get you to Heaven.” Hell is full of good people and bad people. They’re not there because of their deeds. They’re there because they never trusted in the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ that saves you from sin.

#### I. JESUS’ BLOOD CLEANSSES THE SOUL FROM SIN; SECURES OUR SALVATION.

- a. Hebrews 9:19-22. The Law was a BLOOD COVENANT between God and man under the Old Covenant. The Law was holy, righteous, and just. But man was a failure. -

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- b. Hebrews 10:1-14. The Old Testament sacrifices could only say, “I’m sorry I sinned.” They could not take AWAY the sins. It was God’s will (verse 9) to take away the FIRST covenant and to establish the SECOND (the New Testament). Jesus Christ (verse 12) offered Himself “**one sacrifice for sins for ever.**” By doing so He “**perfected for ever them that are sanctified.**”

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- c. Exodus 24:3-8. Moses brought the Law to the people and said, “This is the Word of God. Will you keep it?” The people answered “**All the words that the LORD hath said will we do, and be obedient** (verse 7).” They failed because the responsibility for obedience rested on man.

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- d. In 1 Peter 1:2, Obedience was accomplished by the Lord Jesus Christ, not man. He kept the Old Covenant. He was obedient. Through His blood the believer can say, “I’m sanctified forever through the one offering!” My salvation is not dependent upon my obedience, but on His.

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#### II. JESUS’ BLOOD SAVES FROM THE WRATH AND JUDGMENT OF GOD.

- a. Exodus 12:3-13. Passover pointed to “**The Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world.**” John 1:29
  - i. Verse 3: everyone must have their own lamb.
  - ii. You must ensure everyone in your household has the lamb.
  - iii. Verse 4: You must take the lamb to your neighbor.
  - iv. You must eat the lamb; take it and receive it into yourself.
  - v. Verse The lamb must be a male without blemish.
  - vi. Verse 6: Killed by the whole assembly in the evening on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of the first month.
  - vii. Verse 7: apply the blood to the side posts and the upper door post. Points to the cross.

- viii. Verse 8: Roast with fire. "I Thirst!" (John 19:28). His soul was not left in Hell (Acts 2:27).
  - ix. Verse 12: "**I will execute judgment: I am the LORD.**" Only the blood will spare them. Good deeds won't do it. God is looking for the blood of the lamb.
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### III. JESUS' BLOOD CLEANSSES ME FROM SIN.

- a. Leviticus 14:1-7: Leprosy is a picture of sin.
    - i. It defiles the man from the inside out till it defiles the entire man.
    - ii. It defiles everything you touch.
    - iii. It defiles your relatives and loved ones.
    - iv. It defiles your house.
  - b. Only God could cleanse the leper and make him whole.
  - c. The blood was the seal and the testimony that God had cleansed the leper.
  - d. 1 John 1:7 "**The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin**".
  - e. 1 Peter 1:2. The sprinkling of Jesus' blood is the testimony that Jesus has cleansed me.
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### IV. JESUS' BLOOD HALLOWS US AS PRIESTS

- a. Exodus 29:19-21. Aaron and his sons were sprinkled with the blood of a ram to hallow them for the priesthood.
  - b. 1 Peter 2:3-5. New Testament believers are "**An holy priesthood.**" We must be hallowed (holy, pure, undefiled). Not just a priesthood, but a HOLY priesthood.
  - c. Apply the blood to everything you listen to, look at, handle, spend your time with, or visit. Ask yourself, "Did Jesus die on the cross so I could do this?" -
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### V. JESUS' BLOOD CONSECRATES US FOR GOD'S USE.

- a. Exodus 40:10-12. The Levitical priests anointed the altar and all the vessels that pertained to it with blood so that those vessels would henceforth only be used for holy purposes.
  - b. 2 Corinthians 4:6-7. Our bodies are called "earthen vessels."
    - i. The blood of Jesus Christ has sanctified (set apart, consecrated) your "vessel" (body) for His use.
    - ii. You are now unfit for use by the world.
    - iii. You can no longer commit worldly and sinful acts.
      - 1. You can do the dirty deed, but you can no longer enjoy it.
      - 2. You might as well give it all to God (Romans 12:1).
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# 1 PETER CHAPTER 1

April 20, 2012

## Lesson 3 Strangers Scattered

### THE NAMES OF PETER:

1. In the Epistle written by Peter, he introduces himself as “Peter.”
2. John 1:42. “Simon the son of Jona.” “Thou shalt be called Cephas.”
3. Matt. 13:13-18. “Simon Peter answered” (vs 16). “Simon Bar-jona” (vs 17). “Thou art Peter.” (vs. 18).
  - a. It is significant that Peter introduces himself as “Peter” in a book about suffering. Yes, there will be suffering and troubles and trials, but “Peter, the gates of hell shall not prevail.”
    - i. Because you’re built on the solid rock of faith in Jesus Christ.

### THE APOSTLE’S TITLE

1. Peter, an apostle OF Jesus Christ.
  - a. This is given in contrast to an apostle FOR Jesus Christ.
  - b. “OF Jesus Christ” signifies that Peter BELONGS to Jesus Christ. He is the possession of the Lord.
  - c. Many men have done things FOR Jesus, but they died and went to Hell. You’ve got to belong to Him.

### BELIEVERS ARE CALLED “STRANGERS... SCATTERED.”

1. There are four terms used to describe the traveler:
  - a. STRANGER: one who is dwelling in a place where he does not belong. (Ex. 22:21)
  - b. PILGRIM: Someone who is making a journey and has a destination. (1 Pet. 2:11)
  - c. VAGABOND: Someone who is wandering on a journey with NO destination. (Gen. 4:14)
  - d. SOJOURNER: One who dwells for a time in a temporary residence. A traveler in a foreign land. (Gen. 12:10)

### WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A STRANGER AND A PILGRIM

1. Hebrews 11:13-16. “Strangers and pilgrims.” (vs. 13).
  - a. Born-again believers in Christ are citizens of a new country, which is not on this earth. Therefore they feel like an outsider no matter where they go on earth.
  - b. The church is a called-out assembly. Christians are called to come out of this world (Rom. 12:2, 1 John 2:15-16) and fellowship with one another (Heb. 10:24-25). The church is the only place on earth where a Christian fits in.
2. Hebrews 13:13. Jesus Christ was reproached in this world. If you want to follow Him, you’ll bear reproach in this world too.
  - a. When you avoid the normal activities of your society (movies, music, dancing, etc) you won’t fit in here. Instead you look forward to the day you move to New Jerusalem.

3. Philippians 3:20. Our conversation (manner of life) is in Heaven. We look forward to moving to a place where we're NOT a stranger. We ought to live our life as a citizen of heaven now.
4. 2 Corinthians 5:20. We serve as ambassadors on earth, representing Jesus Christ in Heaven.
  - a. We are to represent our leader. You're here to tell this world what Jesus Christ said they are supposed to do ... and what He's going to do if they don't do what HE said.
  - b. Ambassadors are never left in harm's way. They are called out before disaster strikes. God won't leave His ambassador's to face the Great Tribulation.

### **THE PURPOSE OF THE SCATTERING**

1. Acts 2:5, 9. People from many lands were in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost. The "strangers" that Peter addresses in his epistle are from the lands mentioned in Acts.
2. Acts 2:37-47.
  - a. Peter's message is to be carried to the Jews, their children, and to "them that are afar off" (vs 39). (Defined in Ephesians 2 as the Gentiles).
  - b. In verse 42, we find all of the believers (1) fellowshiping together (2) taking meals together (3) calling on the Lord together (4) sticking together and sharing everything.
  - c. The believers (from distant lands) came to Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost and stayed there!
3. Acts 1:8. God gave His Holy Spirit to believers (Acts 2) so that they could witness near and far.
  - a. The fellowship was so good in Jerusalem that nobody wanted to leave.
4. Acts 8:1, 4. Persecution spread the church far and wide (as God intended) ... preaching the Word.
5. Acts 16:6-7. The Gospel is going out to the far regions, but controlled by the Holy Ghost.
6. Acts 19:10, 26. The regions where the Holy Ghost did not allow Paul to go previously were eventually reached.

### **THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER**

1. Luke 8:4-11. In this parable, the sower sows his \_\_\_\_\_
2. Matthew 13:37-38. Here, the sower sows his \_\_\_\_\_
3. Mark 16:19-20. Wherever you go to preach the Word, the Lord promised to be with you. You're not doing it alone!

Summary: Enjoy the fellowship, but don't neglect the witnessing (near and far).



# 1 PETER CHAPTER 1

## Lesson 4

### Strangers Shouldn't Fit In

April 27, 2012

**“ELECT... according to the foreknowledge of God the Father.”** We are strangers in this world, cast off by our friends, rejected by our family, scorned by the world, and pushed out of the way, yet God has chosen us and embraced us and tells us to come to Him (Matthew 11:28).

People worry about losing friends by receiving Jesus Christ. The Bible says **“A friend loveth at all times.”** (Prov. 17:17)

Jesus Christ is **“a friend that sticketh closer than a brother”** (Proverbs 18:24). The world will let you down. Jesus won't.

- STRANGERS:**
- 1) We are living in a land where we're not citizens.
  - 2) We ought to be living a life that the world considers strange.
    - a) Be happy that the world sees the difference and counts you as strange.
    - b) If you fit in, you're not a stranger. You should hate to think that the world considers you one of them. It should bother you. You should be ashamed.

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  - 3) Should abstain from fleshly lusts (1 Peter 2:11).
    - a) Just because “everybody's doing it,” that doesn't make it right. The Bible tells you what's right.
    - b) Examine your words. Do you use phrases and exclamations that use the Lord's name in vain? Is your speech vulgar, rude, rough, or bad mannered?
    - c) A Christian's entertainment choices should also be strange. Don't follow your flesh.

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  - 4) When you do good works and clean up your life, the world will **“speak against you as evildoers.”** (1 Peter 2:12). They'll get upset with you when you do right. You don't fit in now.
    - a) They won't criticize the true criminals and wicked people, but they'll talk you down.

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  - 5) You don't have to live this life after the lusts of the flesh (1 Peter 4:1-2); you are under no obligation to live a life that is pleasing to the world, the flesh, or the devil.
    - a) This world wants you to reject Jesus Christ, to live the party life, to be unfaithful, to be immoral, and to be loose and lewd in your living! They want to CORRUPT you!

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  - 6) We already lived wicked lives before we were saved. That should be enough! (1 Peter 4:3).

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  - 7) That's why they think it's strange that you no longer partake of the wickedness. (1 Peter 4:4).

a) Rather than get saved themselves, they “**speak evil of you**” because you’re no longer in bondage to the sins that they’re still in bondage to. So, they’ll condemn the believer and try and drag him back into sin.

b) You **MUST ACTIVELY** witness to your friends and your relatives... or they will drag you back into the world! They’ll overpower YOU with their worldly pressure... if you don’t overpower THEM with GOSPEL pressure!

c) They will give account to the Lord for every ugly word they said about you.

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8) Hebrews 10:32-33. You’ll be ridiculed for the new way that you live AND for the new people you associate with.

a) They approve of wicked things (gay pride, abortion, adultery, etc), but disapprove of you because you started attending a prayer meeting and you abstain from evil practices.

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9) Hebrews 10:34. Knowing that we have something better than what the world has to offer, we are able to suffer reproach gladly. We have an enduring substance.

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10) Hebrews 10:35. “**You have need of patience.**”

a) If you’re not patient, you’ll fall by the wayside as a result of worldly pressures.

i) Boyfriends, girlfriends, alcohol, drugs.

ii) Mostly they quit because they can’t stand not fitting in; being an oddball.

b) Don’t worry about what people are thinking about you. They’re NOT!

i) They didn’t die for you. Jesus died for you. Care about what HE thinks.

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11) Philippians 1:27. The fact that you have adversaries is proof to your adversaries that you’re not right. (That’s just what they conclude, but they’re wrong).

i) The believer can say, “I know I’m saved. I know I’m right. All these adversaries that are against me are evidence to that fact.”

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12) John 15:16-19. If this world is not giving you a bad time, it’s because you are part of this world!

i) It’s also evidence that you are not telling the world about Jesus Christ.

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**CONCLUSION:** Why are you trying to fit in with the world? They crucified your Savior. They reject your Savior. They mock and ridicule Him. You don’t owe them your allegiance. On the other hand, you owe EVERYTHING to your Savior! Let Him change you. Let His Word change you. But don’t let this old world change you just because they don’t accept the new life you’re living. Make a choice and stick with it. Choose to follow the Lord. Be a stranger to this world. Don’t try and fit in.





# 1 PETER CHAPTER 1

## Lesson 6

### The Inheritance of the Saints

11 May, 2012

1 Peter 1:3-5.

- God **“hath begotten us again.”** He gave us a new birth; a born-again experience. It was a free gift (Ephesians 2:8-9)
- **“Unto a lively hope.”** It is a real and living and permanent hope because our hope is in Jesus Christ.
  - The world can't give any real hope. Men seek satisfaction in worldly treasures, but those can never satisfy. But when your hope is in Christ, you find that it is a hope that never fails.
- Our hope comes **“by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.”**
  - You can fail in some things and try again; all hope is not lost. But when you get to the end of your life, your hope had better be in the resurrected Lord or ALL hope is lost.
- **To an inheritance...** I'm on my way “to” a destination. When I get there one day, I'll find “an inheritance.”
  - You don't receive your inheritance in this world, but it is yours. You have to go somewhere to get it. It's waiting for you in your heavenly destination.

#### THE CHARACTERISTICS OF MY INHERITANCE

- My Inheritance is **“incorruptible.”** It is not capable of decay or wasting away or diminishing.
- My inheritance is **“undefiled.”** That means there is nothing dirty about it and it can't become dirty.
  - In this world, things become defiled. Men, women, and the world itself are defiled.
  - But where I'm going, nothing is defiled. My inheritance is undefiled.
- My inheritance **“fadeth not away.”** We may miss opportunities in this life on earth, but we'll not miss out on our inheritance. Our heavenly hope is getting closer and closer and more real by the moment. “Your redemption draweth nigh.” (Luke 21:28).
- My inheritance is **“reserved.”** I made a reservation when I called upon the name of the Lord. (Rom. 10:13, Jer. 33:3).
  - You are ready to go whenever the Lord comes to pick you up. (1 Thess. 4:13-18)
- My inheritance is **“in heaven.”** That's where I'm going.
- This inheritance is **“For you.”** For who? For those who have received the **“sanctification of the Spirit”** (vs. 2) and **“the sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ”** (vs. 2) and those who claim that the LORD **“hath begotten us again?”** (vs. 3). If you don't have that, you don't have a reservation in Heaven.

-This inheritance is for those **“who are kept by the power of God.”** I’m not keeping myself saved. God keeps me saved. It took the power of God to save me. It takes the power of God to keep me.

-My inheritance is obtained **“through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed.”**

-Notice that I’m not waiting for my inheritance to be GIVEN, but to be REVEALED... **“in the last time.”** It’s already mine. I already have it. It’s just not revealed yet. You can’t see it yet.

Romans 8:16-17, What do we stand to inherit?

- If you are a child of God, the Holy Spirit will bear witness with your spirit (Romans 8: 16.)to confirm it.

-**“Children of God”** are **“Heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ.”** (Romans 8:17).

- God owns everything in the universe. Jesus Christ is God’s heir. He gets everything. Believers are “joint-hers.” Everything that is Christ’s is ours also.

Ephesians 1:13-14, God’s promise of inheritance comes with a sure promise.

-When I became a child of God, the Holy Spirit sealed me, **“Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession.”** (vs. 14). All that the Holy Spirit of God does for me today is just a down-payment towards all that God has promised me.

Hebrews 9:13-17, In order for us to receive an inheritance, somebody has to die.

-Jesus Christ’s “Last will and Testament” is a NEW Testament, which provides for our “eternal inheritance” whereas the Old Testament could not. The New Testament was “of force” when Jesus died on the cross on Mt. Calvary.

#### **4 THINGS THAT ARE INCORRUPTIBLE**

1. Our inheritance (1 Peter 1:4)
2. Our new body (1 Corinthians 15:49-53)
3. A crown (1 Corinthians 9:24-25)
4. The Word of God (1 Peter 1:23)

Jeremiah 2:1-7. A comparison between the Old Covenant and the New Covenant.

-The Old Covenant was dependent upon man to do right. Man failed and defiled God’s land and made His heritage an abomination.

-The New Covenant is dependent upon Jesus Christ, the righteous Lord. It cannot become defiled because I don’t have anything to do with it. God won’t defile it.

2 Timothy 1:12.

-I entrusted my soul to Jesus Christ. I know that it is safe.

Galatians 3:23. Before Christ I was kept by the Law in sin. I couldn’t keep the Law.

1 Peter 1:5. I received Christ. Now I’m kept by the power of God. I can’t lose my salvation.



# 1 PETER CHAPTER 1

## Lesson 7

18 May, 2012

### The Future Revelation of our Salvation

1Peter 1:5 teaches of our “**salvation ready to be revealed ...in the last time.**” Believers in the Lord Jesus Christ have a threefold salvation (past, present, and future). Today we’ll study the future aspect of our salvation.

1. In 1 Peter 1, Peter is clearly speaking to born-again believers in the Church Age.
  - a. They are already *begotten again* (verse 3).
  - b. They already have an *inheritance* (verse 4).
  - c. They are already *kept by the power of God through faith* (verse 5).
  - d. But the *salvation* that he speaks of will not be revealed until a future time.

### THE BREADTH (EXTENT) OF OUR SALVATION / THE 3 TENSES

#### 1. Romans 5:8-10.

- a. While we WERE sinners... Christ died for us. (Past)
- b. Being NOW justified by His blood. (Present)
- c. We SHALL BE saved from wrath. (Future)
  - i. This “wrath” includes any form of wrath since it is not specified. It’s all covered in this statement
- d. Verse 10: we WERE reconciled to God by the death of his Son. (Past)
- e. Much more BEING reconciled (Present).
- f. We SHALL BE saved by His life (Future).
  - i. Since our reconciliation was “**by the death of his Son**” and NOT by works of righteousness, we have assurance of salvation; no need to worry about “losing it.” You are “kept by the power of God.” (1 Peter 1:5)

### THE FUTURE SALVATION OF THE BELIEVER

1. Saved believers look forward to a day when they will be saved from all the consequences of sin (trials, sorrows, heartaches, sickness, etc).
  - a. Many Christian denominations teach that prosperity (wealth) and good health are indications that you are saved. This is not a biblical stand. As long as you are in this body of flesh, there are no guarantees concerning health and wealth. That’s part of our future salvation.
2. Romans 8:18-24.
  - a. Notice that the people who are said to be suffering at “this present time” (verse 18) are “the children of God” (verse 16) who are “heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ” (verse 17).
  - b. Glory... SHALL BE (future) “revealed in us” after this present day of suffering is over.
  - c. All of God’s creation (saved or lost, man or beast or nature) is going to be groaning and travailing in pain until Jesus comes again. (Verse 22)
  - d. Verse 23: just as “THEY” (the rest of God’s creation) groan and travail, even WE OURSELVE (born-again believers) groan... until “the redemption of our body.”

- i. Your SOUL has been redeemed (Romans 5). Your BODY has not yet been redeemed. (Romans 8)
  - ii. There is no VISIBLE evidence or indication that you are a child of God. You must speak out.
    - 1. Many unsaved people appear to live righteous lives. You can't trust outer appearances today. There are many actors in the world today playing the part of a "Christian."
    - 2. Lifestyle evangelism doesn't work. You must proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
  - e. Verse 24: We are saved by a hope that is not SEEN. Nobody can see your salvation (including you), but it will be manifested one day in the future. (Verse 19).
3. First John 3:1-3. "We should be called the sons of God" as a result of receiving and believing in Jesus Christ (Jn 1:12).
- a. "The world knoweth us not, because it knew him not." There's no way anybody can look at you and SEE that you're a child of God. It hasn't been made manifest yet. It will be in the future.
  - b. Verse 2: It doth not yet appear what we shall be (again, we can't see it now).
  - c. We shall be like him (Jesus Christ)... we shall see him as he IS.
    - i. This is not talking about the Lord's physical appearance. Everybody's not going to look exactly the same physically.
    - ii. To be "like him" "as he IS" ... means we'll have all the same characteristics of Jesus Christ: Love, kindness, joy, longsuffering, meekness, mercy, etc.
    - iii. Today there's a strange contradiction between what I profess to be and what other people judge me to be, based on my actions and my appearance. That won't be the case in the future.
  - d. Verse 3: If you have this hope, you will do your very best to live a life of purity for the Lord.

#### **BIBLICAL EXAMPLES OF HIDDEN IDENTITY**

1. Genesis 45:1. Joseph was not known by his own brothers until he "made himself known."
2. John 1:24-27. John tells the Pharisees, there's one standing among you that "ye know not." (Jesus Christ).
3. Mark 6:2-3. The people of Jesus' "own country" (vs. 1) know things about Him, but they don't know Him.

#### **IDENTITY REVEALED**

1. First Thessalonians 1:7-10. Jesus will be glorified IN His saints. His glory will be seen in the saints. He will be admired in the believers.
  - a. We will have all the admirable qualities of the Lord.
2. The manifestation of the saints will not take place until the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ at the end of the Tribulation period.
  - a. It can't refer to the time of the rapture. Even though that is when our bodily change takes place, nobody on earth is going to see it happen.

**1 PETER CHAPTER 1**  
**Lesson 8**  
**Rejoicing in Times of Trial and**  
**Trouble**

25 May, 2012


1 Peter 1:6 says, **“Wherein ye greatly rejoice...”** As a Christian, we can always find reasons to rejoice:

1. By looking back and remembering the abundant grace and peace that was bestowed upon us through Jesus’ blood (verse 2).
2. By looking back and remembering our born-again experience (verse 3 “begotten us again”).
3. By remembering that we have a living, ongoing hope in Christ Jesus (verse 3 “lively hope”) because our hope rests in the resurrected Christ.
4. By looking forward to our promised inheritance (verse 4), which is in heaven.
5. By remembering that in the future we will be saved from the presence of sin when we get our glorified body because we are “Kept by the power of God.” (verse 5)

On the other side of verse 6 we see the words, **“though now.”** Christians suffer in this life **“if need be.”**

1. Our rejoicing is not based on our current circumstances. In fact, our current situation may provide nothing to rejoice about.
2. We can rejoice by looking BACK and remembering what God has done for you “though NOW” you may be going through trials, troubles, or heartaches.
3. We can rejoice by looking FORWARD to what awaits us in heaven “though NOW” our present situation does not give us any joy.

**THE PROBLEM WITH THE PHILOSOPHY “LIVE FOR TODAY:”**

1. Our “today” is not constant. It varies day by day. The philosophy only works on a “good day.”
2. Our days don’t follow a straight pattern (-----)
3. Our days are not “comfortably hilly” (  )



4. Real life is WAY up...and WAY down! Up and Down

**THE SOLUTION TO THOSE UPS AND DOWNS IS TO STEP BACK AND GET THE BIG PICTURE:**

**THE PAST IS GREAT**

**THE PRESENT HAS IT’S UPS AND DOWNS**

**THE FUTURE IS GREAT**

Feelings are shallow. If you rely on your feelings, you'll be subject to your present situation.

Happiness is shallow. Happiness is dependent upon what "happens."

JOY can be found at all times; whether you're happy or not; whether you feel good or not; whether you're up or you're down. Changing circumstances do not affect joy. Joy runs deep.

2 Corinthians 6:9. The high mark of Christianity is not how "Bible smart" you are. It is: can you rejoice when things go wrong; when your days are not happy days; when you're lacking things materially?

**Heaviness:** When you're burdened down with a load of care and trouble.

**Trials:** Outward circumstances.

**Temptations:** Inward weaknesses.

### FIVE THINGS THAT CAUSE HEAVINESS

1. 1 Peter 1:6. "Manifold temptations." It should bother you and be a heaviness to you that you are so prone to sin. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Romans 9:1-3. Knowing that your family and friends are lost and going to go to hell. \_\_\_\_\_
3. 2 Corinthians 2:1-3. The sin of other people whom you care for. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Philippians 2:26. When your situation causes others to be full of care. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Proverbs 10:1. Disappointing your mother with your foolish living. \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. We are supposed to honor our father and mother. (Exodus 20:12, Deuteronomy 5:16, Matthew 15:4, Matthew 19:19, Mark 7:10, 10:19, Luke 18:20, Ephesians 6:2 "**the first commandment with promise**"). \_\_\_\_\_

### THE HEAVINESS EXPERIENCED BY THE LORD JESUS

1. Matthew 26:36-37. We have a Lord who knows what our burdens feel like.
  2. Psalm 69:20. Jesus had no Comforter in His heaviness, but we do. (John 14:16)
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
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# 1 PETER CHAPTER 1

## Lesson 9 The Necessity of our Seasons of Trials

1 June, 2012

### Verse 6

**“Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations.”**

In this world, it is certain that we shall have trials. How can the Christian have peace while undergoing a trial?

1. John 16:33. Remembering that you are in Jesus Christ; the One who has overcome the world.

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2. James 1:2-4. Remembering that the LORD is accomplishing something in your life that will be for your benefit. \_\_\_\_\_

3. James 1:12. Looking for the immediate blessings in every situation. “Blessed IS the man.”

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4. 1 John 1:7. By making sure the controlling influences in our life encourage godly behaviors and reactions.

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*Because the Devil is ever waiting for an opportunity to present you with the temptation to do wrong.*

5. John 4:4 Remembering that each particular trial did not come at random. I need it. It serves a great purpose. \_\_\_\_\_

6. Job 42:10. Remembering that the trouble will only last a “season” and then you’ll be through it. In the end God’s blessings upon you will be greater than the trouble.

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7. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18. By not looking at the things which are seen (the afflictions, tribulations, etc.), but at the things which are not seen (Jesus Christ and His blessings). \_\_\_\_\_

8. Hebrews 10:35-37. Remembering that the Lord will be coming in “a little while.”

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9. Genesis 8:20-22. Considering the temporary nature of a season; a cycle, which God said would not cease.

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10. Isaiah 43:1-2. Knowing that the Lord is with you in whatever situation you’re going through. (Daniel 3:25).

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11. Romans 8:17, 2 Timothy 2:11-12. Remembering that we have an inheritance in our future. We shall reign with Christ, just as we have suffered with Him. (Compare suffering “with” Christ and suffering “for” Christ). (Acts 5:41 and Acts 9:16 for comparison) \_\_\_\_\_

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# 1 PETER CHAPTER 1

8 June, 2012

## Lesson 10

### Your Precious Faith

THEME: First Peter 1:7 “**your faith, being much more precious than of gold**”

**1 Peter 1:9** It is by faith that you receive the salvation of your soul. \_\_\_\_\_

**Psalms 49:6-9** Riches can't pay for your salvation. \_\_\_\_\_

**1 Peter 1:18-19** The purchase price for you salvation is \_\_\_\_\_

Jesus Christ paid the price required for your salvation. But no one can partake of salvation and eternal life and a home in Heaven until they also give God something precious. What precious thing can you offer God?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Hebrews 11:1** Faith is precious because it is the evidence of things not \_\_\_\_\_. We can't lay our hands on any physical proof that God exists, was manifest in the flesh, born of a virgin, ascended back to Heaven, and is the means of our salvation. We must believe it or die. The proof is only found once you believe.

\_\_\_\_\_

**Hebrews 11:6** Without faith you cannot please God. Good works, abstinence, religion, etc. cannot please God without faith. \_\_\_\_\_

**Ephesians 2:8-9** God's grace is administered “through faith.” It is freely given, but only to those who believe.

\_\_\_\_\_

Religion cannot pay for your salvation. Many devoted religious people will die and go to Hell because they did not believe; they did not place their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Romans 5:1-2** We are JUSTIFIED by faith. We have PEACE with God by faith. We have ACCESS to God by faith.

\_\_\_\_\_

Many people are counting on the goodness of God to save them. The Bible says the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance (Romans 2:4). God's goodness won't save you. It will show you that you need to be saved.

**Philippians 3:4-9** The best, most religious person in the world can't get saved without faith.

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**John 3:16** Everlasting life is given to “whosoever believeth” in Jesus Christ. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**1 John 5:1-4** Faith is the victory that overcomes the world. \_\_\_\_\_



Verses 9-11

The Prophets testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.

# 1 PETER CHAPTER 1

## Lesson 11

### Jesus Christ in the Old Testament

15 June, 2012

The Old Testament Prophets lived in the days of the Law and the Commandments, but they wrote about the saving grace of God, which benefits New Testament believers today.

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**LUKE 24:13-27--**

**The Emmaus Road**

Verse 16 says, **“their eyes were holden that they should not know him.”**

The Old Testament prophets were also blinded to the revelation of the Lord when they wrote about the death of Jesus Christ and the glory to follow.

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**KNOWLEDGE IS NOT ENOUGH!**

The disciples had KNOWLEDGE of the Lord’s death (verse 20). They had knowledge of His resurrection (verse 23), but they don’t BELIEVE it. Therefore their eyes are “holden.” Unbelief will prevent a person from “seeing” the Gospel when it is clearly presented to them. (Matthew 13:15-17, 1 Cor. 2:14). Head knowledge must become heart belief.

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**THE ENTIRE OLD TESTAMENT IS ABOUT JESUS!**

Verses 25-27 **“beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.”** Jesus can be found from Genesis to Malachi. If you look for Him, you will find Him.

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**“CONCERNING ME” (Luke 24:44)**

The Hebrews divided their scriptures into three groups. The **Law** (Gen-Deut), the **Writings** (Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon, Lamentations), and the **Prophets** (everything else). Jesus spoke of the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms and said these are “concerning ME.”

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**HE OPENED THEIR UNDERSTANDING (verse 45)**

The disciples received what the prophets had desired; understanding of the scriptures. After the Lord’s resurrection, He revealed Himself in the Old Testament so that even today when we read Psalms or the Prophets, we can see Jesus where the prophets couldn’t.

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**NOT ABOUT THE LAW. (Verse 46)**

The Old Testament was written for ALL nations to know the Gospel once it was revealed.

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**JOHN 5:39**  
**SEARCH THE**  
**SCRIPTURES**

What "scriptures" were available to men when Jesus said to search them? \_\_\_\_\_  
The scriptures speak of whom? \_\_\_\_\_. In them (the Old Testament scriptures) you  
can find what? \_\_\_\_\_. You can't get this by Law, but only by faith!

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**LUKE 16:27-30**  
**THE RICH MAN**  
**IN HELL**

Abraham told the rich man, "**If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.**" You can find sufficient information to stay out of Hell by reading the Old Testament Scriptures. If you don't believe them, you won't believe any great miracle either, such as one rising from the dead.

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**ACTS 8:28-36**  
**THE ETHIOPIAN**  
**EUNUCH**

Phillip "preached unto him Jesus" from the book of Isaiah. Even Isaiah didn't understand who he was writing about, but today those Old Testament Scriptures have been revealed.  
Phillip preached from the Old Testament book of Isaiah that you **MUST BELIEVE** in order to be saved (Verse 37).

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**ACTS 10:38-43**  
**CORNELIUS**

Peter preached the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ to Cornelius' house. Peter said the Old Testament Prophets gave witness concerning Jesus Christ and salvation through faith in Him (verse 43). The prophets never taught salvation by Law.

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**ACTS 17: 1-4**

When Paul preached from the scriptures in the synagogue in Thessalonica, what scriptures did he have? \_\_\_\_\_.  
What was his message? The \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ.  
MANY people got saved as a result of the salvation message from the Old Testament.

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**2 TIMOTHY 3:14-15**  
**TIMOTHY**

Timothy had the scriptures as a child. What scriptures did he have? \_\_\_\_\_  
Those scriptures "**are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.**"

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**A challenge:**

Read the Old Testament and look for Jesus. He's there! You'll get a blessing!

Old Testament Prophets “prophesied of the grace that should come unto you.” (1 Peter 1:10)

# 1 PETER CHAPTER 1

## Lesson 12

### Old Testament Application for the Believer Today

13 July, 2012

#### REVIEW:

**Old Testament writers:** Wrote about salvation by grace. (Verse 10)  
Wrote about the sufferings of Christ and the glory that should follow. (Verse 11)  
Were told by God that their writings would minister unto us and not unto them. (Vs 12)  
Wrote about the Gospel of Christ. (Verse 12) (Death, burial, resurrection)  
Recorded the message which we are to report today. (Verse 12) (Isaiah 53:1)  
Preached “**with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven**” (Verse 12) and had the “**Spirit of Christ dwelling in them.**” Thus they prophesied concerning Jesus Christ. (Jn 16:14)

#### Hebrews 10:1-7

Verse 1. You couldn't get saved in the Old Testament by offering the sacrifices of the Law.  
Verse 3. The Old Testament sacrifices reminded the Hebrews of their sins. That's what they were to remember. The New Testament believer is to remember their Savior. (Luke 22:19).  
Verse 4. The Old Testament sacrifices could not take away sins.  
Verse 7. Jesus said the Old Testament was written about Him. **(In the volume of the book it is written of me).**

#### WHAT PART DO THE OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES PLAY IN THE LIFE OF THE NEW TESTAMENT BELIEVER?

**Two Non-Biblical Extremes:**

1. “You are saved by believing in Jesus, but you have to keep the commandments to stay saved afterwards.”
2. “We're not under the Law, therefore... NOTHING in the Old Testament has ANY application to the New Testament Christian.”

#### **Four Things The New Testament Believer Can Apply from the Old Testament**

1. SALVATION: The Old Testament Saints were saved by faith (Hebrews 11). Though they did commit sins, God remembered their faith.
2. The person and work of Christ.
3. How to live.
4. The fact that much of the Old Testament can ONLY apply to us.

#### SALVATION:

#### 2 Timothy 3:14-17

1. Timothy, as a child, learned about salvation by faith in Jesus Christ. He only had the Old Testament Scriptures.
2. The Old Testament plan of salvation was simple enough for a child to understand it.
3. You can get assurance of eternal life from the Old Testament Scriptures (verse 14).
4. A New Testament preacher can find doctrine for the Church out of the Old Testament Scriptures (verse 16) “All scripture... is profitable for DOCTRINE...”

**RULE:** If something in the NEW Testament tells you specifically that it is REPLACING something in the OLD Testament then replace it. If the New Testament is SILENT on an Old Testament truth, the Old Testament truth stands!

**EXAMPLES:** Homosexuality, bestiality, and rape are not specifically condemned in the N.T.

**DEFINITIONS:**

**LIB'ERTINE:** Licentious; dissolute; not under the restraint of law or religion; as libertine principles; a libertine life. Liberal. A libertine will approve of certain sins if they're not specifically condemned by Jesus or the Apostles.

**LEGALISM:** Like a Pharisee; loving tradition more than the Word of God. Enforcing severe Restraints and requirements upon the church members based upon traditions, but claiming that the Bible teaches such things.

**1 Corinthians 15:1-4**

1. The Apostle Paul received the Gospel first.
2. Paul passed on the Gospel to us. "Christ died for our sins... according to the Scriptures."
3. Those "Scriptures" had to refer to the Old Testament Scriptures since Paul got saved by them.

**O.T. Scriptures  
Regarding the  
Person and Work  
of Jesus Christ**

1. Jesus said, "**Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of ME.**" (John 5:39)
2. God commanded all the do's and don'ts, likes and dislikes in the Old Testament.
3. Jesus is God manifest in the flesh (1 Tim. 3:16). His commands still stand. He did not change His likes and dislikes.
4. Therefore I can look to the Old Testament Scriptures and find out what Jesus loves and what Jesus hates, what Jesus is for and what Jesus is against. I can find out what Jesus thinks.

**Example from Acts 8.**

1. Phillip preached to the Ethiopian about Jesus. He was preaching from Isaiah 53, which reveals to us the Lord Jesus' character. He's meek, He's lowly, He was despised (so we'll be despised), He was a man of sorrows, He had a burden for souls. We learn about Christ Jesus in the O.T.

**HOW TO LIVE****1 Corinthians 10:1-11**

1. The Old Testament Hebrew fathers were given the Law, but that wasn't their Rock. The Temple wasn't their Rock. The sacrifices weren't their Rock. Jesus was their Rock. (Vss 1-4)
2. The things that happened to the O.T. saints were EXAMPLES to US so that we can read about it and learn how God wants us to live and how not to live. (Vss. 5-6)
3. O.T. idolatry is described as putting pleasure and worldly appetite ahead of God. (Vs. 7)
4. All the things that happened in the O.T. stories were ensamples for us. They are to admonish us. We learn not to do wrong so we won't be punished. (Vss. 8-11)

**WRITTEN FOR US:**

**Acts 10:43** – The O.T. prophets gave witness of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.

**1 Peter 1:12** – The O.T. prophets ministered to US, not to themselves, concerning Christ.

**Hebrews 11:39** – The O.T. saints did not receive the promise "without us." But they were eventually made perfect when Jesus Christ shed His blood on the cross for them.

- The "better thing" that we have is not a different salvation, but the fact that we know what we have now and don't have to wait to find out.
- We don't have to wait in Abraham's bosom when we die. We go straight to Heaven.
- My salvation is already accomplished.

**Verses 5-6** The born again believer in Jesus Christ can **“greatly rejoice...”** Why? Because you are saved and **“Kept by the power of God.”** Nothing else in this world can give a person cause to rejoice.

**Verse 7** **“The trial of your faith.”** God is not on trial. There is no need to prove God. It is your faith that is being proved. Will you keep rejoicing and trusting God even in times of trouble?

- The failure of your faith does not result in the loss of your salvation. You are kept by the power of God. The failure of your faith will result in the loss of your joy.

**“Being much more precious.”** Nothing in this world is more valuable than our faith.

**“Though it (our faith) be tried with fire.”**

- Malachi 3:2-3. God is the refiner. He will put the nation of Israel through the fire at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ so **“that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness.”**
  - N.T. application: The New Testament Christian will pass through the refining fire so that we can receive a reward.
- Numbers 31:21-24. How do you find out if something is valuable? How do you make it clean? Put it through the fire.
  - N.T. application: 1 Corinthians 3:13. The Christian’s works will pass through the fire. Only the things worth keeping will survive. That will be our reward.
  - The process of cleaning up your life starts as soon as you are saved. Your works, desires, affections, etc. are put through the fire (troubles) now to begin the process of becoming like Christ.
  - If you choose to live your life for YOU and not for CHRIST, everything you do will be burned up at the Judgment Seat of Christ. Sell out to Christ now and you will reap many rewards later.

**“Might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ.”** Your faith will be praised by Jesus Christ when He returns.

- Do nothing for Christ now. You’ll do nothing in eternity.
- Live for Christ today. Live by faith today. You’ll do plenty for Christ in eternity.

**Verse 8** **“Whom having not seen, ye love... yet believing...”** The Christian has 2 links to the unseen Lord. Our love and our belief.

A Christian doesn’t have to see Jesus in order to love Him.

We receive a blessing when we believe without seeing (John 20:29).

Your sight is not on trial. Your faith is on trial.

You see Jesus, but not with your eyes. You see Jesus by faith through your heart (2 Cor. 4:5-6).

You WILL see Jesus at a future time face to face, but NOW we see through a glass darkly (1 Cor. 13:12, Revelation 22:4).

**Verse 9**      **“Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.”** Your salvation will be revealed at Christ’s 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming. See Ecclesiastes 7:8 for a great cross reference to this verse.

**Summary**      Joy in sorrow is possible through three things:

\_\_\_\_\_ of the unseen Jesus.

\_\_\_\_\_ in the unseen Jesus.

\_\_\_\_\_ of the unseen Jesus.

Perfect peace comes from trusting God (Isaiah 26:3). Example: Daniel 3; the three Hebrews in the fiery furnace with the Lord. Their great faith came as a result of many difficult trials (Daniel 1).

**Verse 10**      **“The prophets... prophesied of the grace that should come unto you.”** God saves sinners by grace. There is no other way to get saved. Old Testament Saints were saved by faith (Hebrews 11).

**Verse 11**      Old Testament prophets wrote about our salvation and enquired about it.

**Verse 12**      God did not show the prophets what they had written, but it was there; hidden until it was time to reveal it to the people it pertained to.

Examples:      Daniel 12:8. The words Daniel wrote were **“sealed till the time of the end.”**

Daniel 9:1, 2. God showed Daniel some truth that Jeremiah wrote down that Jeremiah didn’t understand. It didn’t apply to Jeremiah, but it DID apply to Daniel, therefore God revealed it to him.

Habakkuk 2:1-3. God told his prophet to write down the words, but said that those words would not speak until the end of time.

Ephesians 3:1-7. The mystery of Christ was not revealed in other ages (vs. 5), but is NOW REVEALED to God’s holy apostles (plural) and prophets (plural); not just Paul. The “gospel” (vs. 6) that Paul preached was in the Old Testament Scriptures.

Matthew 13:3-23. The Parable of the sower. Here, Jesus was beginning to reveal the gospel before it actually went into effect (verses 16 and 17).

# 1 PETER CHAPTER 1

## Lesson 14 Suffering before Glory

27 July, 2012

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<b>1 Peter 1:11</b> “The sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.”	<b>THIS IS THE BIBLE PATTERN FROM BEGINNING TO END:</b>  Suffering first and glory later. EARTH... then HEAVEN. The GRAVE, then the RESURRECTION. DARKNESS, then DAWN	HARDSHIP first... and ease and comfort LATER. The CROSS... then the CROWN. DEATH, then LIFE.
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<b>A Non-Biblical Teaching:</b> (Promoted by TV preachers and Charismatics)	“If anything goes WRONG, GOD’S not in it.” “If there’s any suffering; any trial; any heartache, it’s all the Devil!” <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• This teaching ignores the pattern established by Scripture and by Jesus Christ Himself.</li></ul>
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<b>Not the judgment of God</b>	Don’t assume that every bad thing that happens is the judgment of God. It’s simply the pattern established ever since Adam sinned in the Garden of Eden. Jesus Christ followed the pattern: suffering and death first, life and glory after.
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<b>Genesis 3:16</b> <b>Sorrow in child birth</b>	Because of sin, what would have been a woman’s happiest moment becomes sorrowful. Babies come forth from the womb crying; never laughing.
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<b>Exodus 15:23-27</b>  <b>I will put none of these diseases upon thee</b>	The children of Israel had to experience the bitter waters of Marah before God gave them sweet water. The purpose was to prove them (verse 25). They failed, but God had mercy on them. These words in verse 26 are misapplied by Charismatics. This is a conditional promise to the Israelites. They had to obey all of God’s commandments and statutes. The wilderness wanderings came before the Promised Land.
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<b>The example of young people today</b>  <b>John 2:3-10 Man’s way: “The good first, then the bad.”</b>	Young people want to disregard the natural order of life events. They aren’t willing to start at the bottom and work their way to the top. They’re not willing to wait until they can afford things before they buy (on credit) all the things they want.  New Christians aren’t willing to wait until they are spiritually mature before they decide to take on too many responsibilities.  David was anointed to be King of Israel at a young age, but didn’t take the throne until he was ready many years later.  Jesus was God manifest in the flesh, but he lived an ordinary life until it was the right time.
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**Philippians 2:1-9**

Christians are commanded to be “likeminded” (vs. 2). How? Lowliness of mind (vs. 3).

Jesus Christ was the example. He was better than me:

1. **“But made himself of no reputation”** (vs. 7) Down ↓
2. **“And took upon him the form of a servant”** (vs. 7) Down ↓
3. **“And was made in the likeness of men”** (vs. 7) Down ↓
4. **“And became obedient unto death (!)”** (vs. 8) Down ↓
5. **“EVEN... the death of the CROSS.”** (vs. 8) Down ↓

The turning point:

1. **“Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him”** (vs. 9) Up ↑
2. **“And given him a name which is above ...every name”** Up ↑
3. **“That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow”** Up ↑

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**Proverbs 27:2**

**“Let another man praise thee, and not thine own mouth; a stranger, and not thine own lips.”**

If you’re doing right, you won’t have to tell everybody about it. They will know it.

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**Luke 24: 26, 46-47**

Jesus Christ suffered first -- then entered into his glory. (vs. 26)

Jesus Christ suffered first -- then he was resurrected. (vs. 46)

Repentance comes first -- then remissions of sins. (vs. 47)

It’s important to preach repentance. People’s souls are at stake.

Churches today don’t do it for fear of offending somebody.

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**2 Corinthians 4:16-17**

Your OUTER man has got to die so your INNER man can be strengthened. (vs. 16)

The OLD stuff has got to go first before the NEW stuff can happen.

You’ve got to deal with the WRONG before you can get anything RIGHT.

Affliction comes first; then glory. (vs. 17)

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**Psalm 126:1-6**

A broken heart comes first. Soul winning comes second. (vs. 5)

Sowing in tears comes first. Reaping in joy comes second. (vs. 6)

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**Psalm 66:8-12**

We’ll go through some afflictions before God will bring us “out into a wealthy place.”

The key word in this passage is “through.” We go THROUGH the trials, not INTO them. They will pass.

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*"which things the angels  
desire to look into."*

# 1 PETER CHAPTER 1

3 August, 2012

## Lesson 15

### Better Than Angels

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#### **ANGELS ARE INFERIOR TO BELIEVERS**

##### **1. IN REGARDS TO SALVATION**

Christ died for our sins. Angels can't get in on that.

- God is their Creator
- God is their Sustainer
- God is not their Savior or Redeemer

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##### **2. IN REGARDS TO POSITION**

**Hebrews 1:13.** They are "Ministering spirits." They serve God by ministering to those who "shall be heirs of salvation." They minister to born again believers. Your station in life changes the day you are saved.

- Angels assist us in doing the work of preaching the Gospel.
- They can't do it without us.
  - The example of the angel telling Cornelius to send men for Peter so that Peter can preach the Gospel to him. (Acts 10:3-5)

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##### **3. IN REGARDS TO REVELATION**

**Ephesians 3:9-11.** God reveals His wisdom to the angels "by the church."

- God puts born-again believers on display so that angels can behold the wisdom of God concerning salvation by observing the believers' changed lives.

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##### **4. IN REGARDS TO JUDGMENT**

**1 Corinthians 6:1-3.** We shall judge angels one day.

- The lesser always gives account to the greater. (Rom. 14:12, 1 Peter 4:5, John 13:16, Luke 22:27)
- The Bible never says that we are to honor angels.
- There are verses instructing us to honor the brethren. (1 Thess. 5:12-13, 1 Peter 2:17).

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#### **SIX THINGS THAT ANGELS DESIRE TO LOOK INTO.**

##### **1. SALVATION BY GRACE**

**Hebrews 2:6-9.** Jesus Christ died for every man. He didn't die for angels. He died for our sins, not the sins of the angels.

- The sacrifice of Jesus Christ takes care of the sin problem for EVERY descendant of Adam.
    - Angels are not descendants of anybody. They are direct creations of God.
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**2. ASSURED FORGIVENESS**

**Ephesians 1:6-8.** Our forgiveness is through the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

- The blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from ALL sin (past, present, and future).
- Angels have no assurance that they'll be with God forever.
  - Some fell with Lucifer in the past (2 Peter 2:4, Jude 1:6).
  - More will fall in the future (Rev. 12:7-9)

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**3. FELLOWSHIP OF THE BRETHREN IN ONE BODY.**

**Ephesians 2:8-16.** Jews and Gentiles, who once were at enmity with one another, can now have sweet fellowship together in the Body of Christ.

- Jesus Christ has reconciled "both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby." (verse 16)
- Fellowship is only possible in and through the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - A believer has no fellowship with angels.
  - A believer has no fellowship with unbelievers. (2 Cor. 6:14)

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**4. DIRECT ACCESS TO GOD.**

**1 Timothy 2:5-6.** Jesus Christ is the mediator between God and MEN.

- The angels have to wait for a day when they can appear before the Lord. (Job 1:6, 2:1)
- Believers today can speak to God at any moment of the day. (Hebrews 4:16, 10:19-23, Ephesians 2:18, 3:12)

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**5. REMOVAL OF THAT WHICH STOOD IN THE WAY OF OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD.**

**Colossians 2:9-14.** Our inability to obey God's righteous commandments prevented a relationship with God. Jesus took them out of the way.

- The commandments still apply and I want to live by them, but God moved them out of the way.

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**6. IMPUTED RIGHTEOUSNESS**

**2 Corinthians 5: 19-21.** Believers receive the righteousness of Jesus Christ so that when God looks down at us, He doesn't see us in our sin.

- Accusations brought to the throne of God in Heaven may be true, but God sees us in Christ Jesus, His righteous Son.
  - No angel has the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ.
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1 Peter 1:13

# 1 PETER CHAPTER 1

10 August, 2012

## Lesson 16

### Holiness 1: Gird Up The Loins of Your Mind

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#### Girding up the loins of your mind must be the starting point

1 Peter 1, Verses 13-16 are all connected, but the things that we are instructed to do will NOT be possible if we don't do the FIRST thing on the list.

- Be holy (verse 16). Be separate from ALL sin.
- In all manner of conversation (all the time, everywhere) (verse 15)
- Not... according to the former lusts (verse 14). Don't live like you used to.
- Gird up the loins of your mind (verse 13).
  - Vigorously occupy your thought processes with the things of God.
  - Focus all of your attention on ONE thing: the high calling of God in Christ Jesus (Philippians 3:14). Aim at becoming like Jesus Christ.
  - Make up your MIND that you will get your HEART right.
  - Make up your MIND that you are going to LIVE right.
  - Make up your MIND that you are going to treat the brethren right.
    - You will wander in your THINKING before you wander in your LIVING.
    - Your THOUGHTS will wander before your STEPS will wander.
    - You will stray from the high ground MENTALLY before you do so spiritually or physically or emotionally.
  - You must PLAN to do the right thing. This requires a mental effort to stop doing the wrong thing and to be prepared to do what is right.
    - Your sinful acts begin with a plan to do those acts (in your thoughts). We are prone to wander.

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#### Matthew 22:36--38

**“Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.”** You can't keep the Lord's commandments unless you love Him with all your mind.

- You've got to make up your mind if you want to accomplish anything in life.
  - Talented athletes fail in life because they didn't make up their mind to succeed.
  - Brilliant, intelligent people fail in life because they didn't make up their mind to use their abilities to succeed.
  - Saved people live like the devil because they didn't ever make up their mind that they were going to serve the Lord.

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#### 2 Peter 3: 1-2

You may have a pure mind, but it needs to be stirred up (or it will get cold and hard)

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You may have a pure mind, but it needs to be full of the words of the Lord (or it will become full of other undesirable things).

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**2 Corinthians 10:3-5**

How can a Christian be mighty through God and pull down strongholds?

- By casting down imaginations (wandering thoughts).
  - By “bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.”
    - The Bible doesn’t say anything good about the imagination.
    - The imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth (Gen. 8:21)
- 

**FIVE REASONS WE NEED TO GIRD UP THE LOINS OF OUR MIND**

**Exodus 12:1-11**

**The example of  
Passover.**

1. To enable you to get away from your past life (typified by Egypt) as quickly as possible.
    - a. Quickly distance yourself from old friends, old ways, and old habits.
- 

**1 Kings 18:41-46**

**The example of Elijah  
bringing God’s word to  
Jezreel.**

2. To enable you to get where you need to be in order to deliver the Gospel message as God told you to.
    - a. Think about the things that you need to do. What is more important?
      - i. Working overtime to put more money in your pocket, or giving the Gospel to a soul who is headed for Hell?
      - ii. Going to the gym to build a better body, or going to the streets to save a soul?
      - iii. Spending time on home improvements, or spending time helping a new believer to learn and grow. **THINK!**
- 

**Luke 12: 31-36**

3. Because Jesus is coming.
    - a. Is your mind the way Jesus would like to find it when He comes?
- 

**John 13:4-15**

**The example of Jesus  
washing the disciples’  
feet.**

4. To enable you to sacrificially live for others.
    - a. If your thinking is not right, you won’t serve others.
      - i. You won’t serve if you THINK you’re better, more spiritual, more important, more deserving, etc.
      - ii. Control those thoughts!
- 

**Ephesians 6:10-14**

5. To enable you to stand against the devil’s attacks.
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Keep your mind on the things of God at all times. Never retreat from the things of God. Seek out Christian fellowship in all your journeys. Don’t fill your mind with junk.



# 1 PETER CHAPTER 1

17 August, 2012

## Lesson 17

### What the Bible Teaches About the Imagination

Genesis 6:5	
Genesis 8:20-21	
Genesis 11:5-8	
Deuteronomy 29:19-20	
Deuteronomy 31:21	
1 Chronicles 28:9	
1 Chronicles 29:17-19	
Job 6:25-26	
Job 21:26-27	
Psalms 2:1-3	
Psalms 10:2	
Psalms 10:6, 11, 13	
Psalms 21:11	

Psalm 38:12	
Psalm 62:3	
Psalm 140:1-2	
Proverbs 6:16-19	
Proverbs 12:19-20	
Lamentations 3:60-62	
Hosea 7:15-16	
Nahum 1:9-11	
Zechariah 7:9-11	
Zechariah 8:17	
Luke 1: 46-52	
Acts 4:23-28	
Romans 1:21	
2 Corinthians 10:1-5	



# 1 PETER CHAPTER 1

24 August, 2012

## Lesson 18

### Holiness 2: Expecting The Lord's Coming

Verse 13

*Be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ*

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#### TO "BE HOLY" (VERSE 16) YOU MUST "BE SOBER" (VERSE 13)

Maintain full control of your thought life and thought processes.

- Don't allow your flesh to control your thoughts.
- Don't focus on worldly things.
- Keep your thoughts on the things of the Lord.
- One of the things we can think upon is the Coming of the Lord.
  - **"The revelation of Jesus Christ."** (verse 13)

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#### CONSEQUENCES OF NOT LIVING A HOLY LIFE.

1. It gives unsaved people cause for rejecting our Christian witness.
  - a. We become a stumbling block.
  - b. Unsaved people expect Christians to be holy.
2. It causes unsaved people to mock and ridicule Christianity.
3. We'll have a tendency to recommend ungodly activities to others.
4. We'll compromise our beliefs to avoid criticism from unbelievers.
5. It hinders the work that we're supposed to be doing.
  - a. A pastor can't preach on holiness if he doesn't judge the sinful behavior of individual church members and take appropriate action.
  - b. Christians have more difficulty witnessing when unsaved people hear reports of worldly or sinful Christians.

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#### HOW TO AVOID SIN:

Keep your mind stayed upon the fact that Jesus could come back at any moment.

- If you settle down in this world (trying to fit in) you will lose the anticipation of the Lord's coming.

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#### First John 3:1-3

**The world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.**

- You should not fit in to this world.
- Unsaved people should not feel comfortable inviting you to their social activities.

**We shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.**

- Knowing that Jesus is going to change us in the future should cause us to want to begin making changes today.
- Consider your everyday activities and habits. Will you be doing those things in Heaven?

**Every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.**

- If you want to be holy, you'll purify yourself. God won't force you if you don't want to.
  - Once you take positive steps toward your purification, God will step in and help you.
    - Consider the example of Jonah. God didn't stop him.
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**2 Corinthians 3:17-18**

**But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image.**

- You will behold (look at, gaze at, watch, observe) somebody if you want to be like them.
- If you set your focus on the Lord, that will begin to change you into His likeness.
- You will be conformed to what you behold.

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**Romans 15:13**

**Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing.**

- The hope of Jesus coming will give you joy and peace.
- If you're not looking forward to Jesus' return, it's because your eyes are set upon the world.

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**Colossians 3:1-7**

**Seek those things which are above**

**Set your affections on things above, not on things on the earth**

**Mortify (put to death) your members**

- These are actions you must take. God won't do it for you.

**fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:**

- When an unsaved person commits any of these immoral acts, he is powerless to overcome them. He is on his own. He will fail come under the wrath of God.
- When the saved person falls into sin, the wrath of God does not come upon him. He is a child of God, not a child of disobedience.
  - However, we should not frustrate the grace of God and commit sin. We are told to seek, set, mortify.

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**Ephesians 5:6-8**

**Let no man deceive you with vain words: because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. Be not ye therefore partakers with them.**

- The wrath of God is reserved for "children of disobedience."
- However, Christians are warned NOT to be partakers with them.
- Are you going to be an obedient child or a disobedient child?

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**Ephesians 2:1-2**

**The spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience.**

- The Holy Spirit works in the children of God.

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**Romans 6:14-15**

**To whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness.**

- You control whether or not you will sin.
  - If you yield to the flesh, the flesh will take over.
  - If you yield to the Spirit, the Spirit will take over.
-



*“But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.”*

1 Peter 1:15-16

# 1 PETER CHAPTER 1

## Lesson 19

### Holiness 3:

#### Holiness is More Than What Meets the Eye

31 August, 2012

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#### THREE RESULTS OF FAITH IN THE LORD’S COMING:

1. OBEDIENCE (verses 13-14) “**as obedient children...**”
2. FORSAKING SIN (verse 14) “**former lusts.**”
3. HOLINESS (verse 15) “**be ye holy...**”

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#### THE CHRISTIAN’S RESPONSIBILITY FOR LIVING THIS LIFE:

Most people have a faulty idea that separation from sin = holiness.

But separation from sin is only half of the requirement.

Forsake your old life; yes... but now you must live the new life.

[NEGATIVE]

[POSITIVE]

= BALANCE

**DON’T**

**DO**

DRINK

LOVE THE BRETHREN (1 Pet 1:22)

SMOKE

BE GRACIOUS WHEN SOMEONE ERRS

DANCE

CONDESCEND TO MEN OF LOW ESTATE (Rom. 12:16)

CUSS

ESTEEM OTHERS BETTER THAN YOURSELF. (Philippians 2:3)

WATCH DIRTY/WICKED MOVIES

BE LONGSUFFERING

FORNICATE

BE MEEK, GENTLE, MERCIFUL, etc.

[EXTERNAL]

[INTERNAL]

“**Knowledge puffeth up**”

“**But charity edifieth.**” (1 Cor. 8:1)

You are obligated to separate yourself from all known sin and to be holy.

You are not permitted to separate others from THEIR sin. They might not know that it IS sin yet. God has to show them.

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**THREE PLACES IN THE BIBLE  
WHERE GOD SAYS, "BE  
HOLY"**

1. **Leviticus 11:43-45:** Be careful what you eat (physical)
  - a. New Testament: I can eat whatever I want (1 Tim. 4:1-5)
  - b. But I am warned to be careful what I HEAR. (Luke 8:18)
    - i. Preaching, teaching, doctrine, music, conversation, language, gossip, etc.
2. **Leviticus 19:1-11:** Be holy in your relationships with others.
3. **Leviticus 20: 22-27:** Put a difference between the clean and unclean; have a proper attitude toward falsehood. Stand against it.

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**1 CORINTHIANS 2:11, 14**

The natural man can't receive spiritual things, but he knows if you care about him.

- If you approach a lost person with the right (biblical) facts, but a wrong heart, he's not going to listen.

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**EXODUS 40: 3-16**

The instruments used in the Tabernacle service were just ordinary objects until they were sanctified; separated unto God's use. God does that with you too. He takes you out of the world, out of sin, out of false religion, etc. and then he sanctifies you for holy purposes.

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**JOHN 10:30-37**

Jesus Christ was sanctified AND sent into the world (vs. 36). If He only came and lived a good life and proved how good He was, it would not have helped us. He did something to benefit others. He died to pay for our sins.

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**1 CORINTHIANS 7:12-14**

You can keep your whole family on the high ground if you will be holy.

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# 1 PETER CHAPTER 1

## Lesson 20

### Fear God

<b>Psalms 130:3-4</b>	God's forgiveness causes me to fear Him. I'm not afraid because He's marking my every sin. If He did that, I could not stand (I wouldn't have a chance). Thank God for His forgiveness!
<b>Psalms 112: 1-3</b>	<p>Blessings come to the man who fears God. Why? Because the fear of God will keep you living right. The man who is living right will receive direction from God. God leads you to the right paths.</p> <p>If you don't fear God, He won't direct you to those right paths because you wouldn't receive His direction anyway.</p>
<b>Proverbs 1:7</b>	Knowledge begins with the fear of the Lord. Many intelligent men are lacking knowledge because they don't fear (or even acknowledge) God.
<b>Proverbs 28:14</b>	<p>The people who get themselves into trouble are those who don't fear God. The fear of God will cause a person to live straight and avoid trouble and be happy.</p> <p>Kids need to be taught to fear God, obey their parents, and trust that they are being loved and cared for and protected by those who are wiser by experience.</p> <p>Friends and other Christians will apply peer pressure to get you to compromise in your Christian walk and disobey.</p> <p>Fear God and one day you'll be happy you didn't give in to the peer pressure because it enabled you to avoid many troubles and heartaches that go along with sin.</p>
<b>1 Corinthians 2:1-3</b>	<p>Paul said he ministered to the believers in the church at Corinth "in fear and in much trembling."</p> <p>He didn't have a fear of the people there. His fear was in God.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• He wanted to deliver the message right.</li><li>• He wanted to live right.</li><li>• He wanted to set the right example</li><li>• He didn't want his testimony to discredit his message.</li></ul> <p>Paul didn't have a reputation of being afraid of man. He was bold.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In his correction of Peter (Galatians 2:11)</li><li>• In his witness to Agrippa (Acts 26)</li><li>• In his witness to Festus (Acts 25)</li><li>• In his witness to the people of Athens on Mars Hill. (Acts 17:22)</li><li>• In his warnings to the Church at Corinth to make corrections. (2 Cor. 12:20-21)</li></ul>

<p><b>2 Corinthians 7:1</b></p>	<p>There are 2 things that Christians must do:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit.</b> This is separation; the forsaking the lusts and sins of the past.</li> <li><b>2. Perfecting holiness in the fear of God.</b> Let God perfect you in holiness. Holiness must be perfected. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. If you don't fear God, you won't live the way God told you to live. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Towards your brothers and sisters.</li> <li>▪ Towards your fellow man.</li> </ul> </li> </ol> </li> </ol>
<p><b>Luke 12: 3-5</b></p>	<p>If you fear God, you won't fear man.</p> <p>The fear of man will cause you to compromise what you know to be the truth.</p> <p>The person who fears God will stand against sin (even if it is a sin that society has accepted as "normal.")</p> <p><b><u>Isaiah 5:20</u></b>  <b>Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!</b></p>
<p><b>Isaiah 8:9-13</b></p>	<p>If you feared God, you could face the whole world without fearing them.</p>
<p><b>Job 41:33</b></p>	<p>Leviathan is the Devil. (Isaiah 27:1, Revelation 20:2)  <b>"Upon earth there is not his like, who is made without fear."</b>  The Devil is the author of the "No Fear" campaign.</p> <p>Fear God.</p>

**1 PETER CHAPTER 1**  
**Lesson 21**  
**Without Respect of Persons**

<p><b>GOD DISCRIMINATES</b></p>	<p>He divided the human race into nations (Genesis 11:8, Acts 17:26, Deut. 32:7-8)</p> <p>He chose the nation of Israel to be separate from all others (Genesis 12, Nehemiah 9:7, Deuteronomy 7:7)</p>
<p><b>GOD MAKES DISTINCTIONS</b></p>	<p>Between the man and the woman (Genesis 3:16, Titus 2:5, 1 Peter 3:1-7)</p> <p>Between the rich and the poor (Exodus 30:15, Leviticus 19:10, Proverbs 22:2)</p>
<p><b>BUT HE JUDGES ALL EQUALLY</b></p>	<p>Without respect of Persons (1 Peter 1:17, Genesis 18:25, 2 Chronicles 19:7, Romans 2:11)</p> <p>Man says, "All men are created equal." The Bible does not support that theory.</p>
<p><b>HE JUDGES WITH FAIRNESS</b></p>	<p>A man or woman who lies is called a liar, rich or poor.</p> <p>A man or woman who commits adultery is called an adulterer/adulteress.</p> <p>A man or woman who steals is called a thief.</p>
<p><b>NO PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT</b></p>	<p>God won't excuse a man because of his status (rich or poor, bond or free, etc.)</p> <p>God does not show favoritism when it comes to judgment.</p> <p>God sends the rain upon the just and the unjust (Matthew 5:45)</p> <p>Jesus Christ did not die for good men or righteous men, but for sinners (Romans 5:7-8). (All are sinners, Romans 3:23)</p>
<p><b>WE OUGHT TO TREAT EVERYONE THE SAME</b></p>	<p>That is not possible without the Holy Spirit controlling our life.</p>
<p><b>GOD SAVES PEOPLE ON EQUAL FOOTING</b></p> <p><b>ACTS 10:34-47</b></p>	<p>Peter found out that God will save anybody that believes the Gospel; not only the children of Israel.</p> <p>It is important to preach the Gospel at every opportunity; whether in a fancy rich church or a small house church; to rich and poor alike; the same message, the same zeal. God wants everybody to be saved.</p>
<p><b>GOD REWARDS PEOPLE ON EQUAL FOOTING</b></p> <p><b>ROMANS 2:2-11</b></p>	<p>God will render to every man according to their deeds (Verse 6)</p> <p>Good and bad rewards are based on your deeds, whether good or bad.</p> <p>Truth is truth, right is right, wrong is wrong, evil is evil, no matter who you are.</p>

<p><b>GOD WILL USE ANYONE THAT WILL BE USED</b></p> <p><b>FIRST SAMUEL 16:1-7</b></p>	<p>God does not reserve positions of service to men and women who have the best outward appearance, the best voice, the best qualifications, etc.</p>
<p><b>GOD WILL GIVE AN EQUAL INHERITANCE TO THOSE WHO DO WHAT THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO DO</b></p> <p><b>COLOSSIANS 3:22-25</b></p>	<p>Man distinguishes between great works and small works.</p> <p>God looks to see if you did what you were supposed to do. The reward is the same.</p>
<p><b>WE ARE TO SERVE GOD NO MATTER WHAT OUR STATION IN LIFE</b></p> <p><b>EPHESIANS 6:5-9</b></p>	<p>“With good will doing service, as to the LORD, and not to men.” (verse 7)</p> <p>Whether you are rich or poor, master or slave, you serve God.</p> <p>There are people that you will be able to reach with the Gospel that someone else cannot. They’ll listen to you because you are one of them.</p>
<p><b>TREAT PEOPLE EQUALLY IN THE CHURCH HOUSE</b></p> <p><b>JAMES 2: 1-4</b></p>	<p>If they’re in the church, they’ve been bought with the same price, the blood of Jesus Christ.</p>

*Not redeemed with  
corruptible things.*

Verse 18

# 1 PETER CHAPTER 1

## Lesson 22

### The Limitations of Religion

21 September, 2012

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<b>REDEMPTION DEFINED</b>	<p>Redemption means bought and released, describing the act of buying a slave from the market in order to give him freedom.</p> <p>Redemption refers to the Lord Jesus Christ <u>paying</u> the awful price required by our sin. Jesus Christ came into the slave market of this fallen world and paid the full price to redeem men by His blood and death.</p> <p>Jesus not only paid the purchase price, He completely removed the <u>believing</u> sinner from the position of condemnation and from Satan's dominion. We are purchased, brought out, and released to a life of spiritual freedom in Christ.</p>
<b>A LOOK AT RELIGION</b>	<p>Exodus 30:11-15</p> <p>This is God-ordained religion. The Israelite's were to give to God. In return, God blessed them.</p> <p>Any system of religion can provide temporary, earthly blessings in this life. Adhering to religious principles of right and wrong can make your life better on this earth.</p> <p>But religion can't help you after you die.</p>
<b>RELIGION COMPARED TO REDEMPTION</b>	<p>1 Peter 1:18-21</p> <p>New Testament: Man only has to believe to be redeemed. <i>Old Testament:</i> Man must give to God. God takes from man. New Testament: God gives to man. Man takes from God. <i>Old Testament:</i> Man's offering to God can't help in regards to eternal things. New Testament: God's offer of redemption to man provides eternal salvation.</p>
<b>WHAT IS: "VAIN CONVERSATION RECEIVED BY TRADITION FROM YOUR FATHERS?" (VERSE 18)</b>	<p>God established and ordained many things for Christians to observe and do. When man takes those things and changes their purpose, they become vain.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Baptism: God ordained it, but not as a means of salvation.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The teaching of baptismal regeneration is a vain thing!</li></ul></li><li>• Sacrificial giving: God ordained it, but it won't get you to Heaven.</li><li>• Assembling together in the church: ordained by God, but won't save.</li></ul>
<b>ISAIAH 50:1-3</b>	<p>God is not to blame if a person ends up separated from him in eternity. God didn't leave man. Man separates himself by his own iniquity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Adam: Hid from God when God searched for him. (Genesis 3:8)</li><li>• Noah: God would have saved more than 8 people, but no one else would get on the ark. (Genesis 6)</li><li>• Lot: Only 3 people were saved from the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. God had to drag them out. (Genesis 19:16)</li><li>• People today see bad things happening and blame God, but they won't turn to God so they can receive help.</li></ul>

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**GALATIANS 3:13**

Jesus Christ revealed the long, outstretched arm of God's redemption when He came to this earth to die on the cross for man. God is able—where man is not. God can—where religion cannot. "Not redeemed with corruptible things."

---

**GALATIANS 4:1-5**

Without Jesus Christ, we are "in bondage to the elements of the world." We are slave children who belong to the world, the flesh, and the devil. Nothing we do on our own will change that status; you can't redeem yourself. Jesus Christ had to be willing to redeem us with his own blood. We must receive Jesus Christ and trust in what He did in our behalf.

---

**1 PETER 1:18-21**

If Jesus had only died for us, Christianity would be no better than any other religion. But God "Raised Him up from the dead!" (verse 21). Jesus didn't stay dead! He LIVES! It's not religion; it's LIFE! Now it is possible for you to be adopted by God—if you're willing.

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**ROMANS 3:20-24**

The Law reveals to you that you can't do right. It gives "the knowledge of sin." The righteousness of God "without the law" is given to man "by faith of Jesus Christ" unto "all who believe." God—gives—to man. Religion is man—giving—to God for temporary blessings on earth. Redemption through Christ is God—giving—to man—His righteousness and eternal life.

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**EPHESIANS 1:7-8**

God is so wise and prudent that nobody is excluded from the offer of salvation. (Rich, poor, strong, weak, young, old, literate, illiterate, of any tongue in the world, etc.)

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**2 CORINTHIANS 3**

There is a certain glory to be found in the Law. It can clean you up on the outside so people can see a difference. But this is called "**the ministration of death.**" You need something that can clean you up on the INSIDE; the "**ministration of the Spirit,**" which is the "**glory that excelleth.**"

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**HEBREWS 9**

Religion can only clean you up on the outside, purifying the flesh. Redemption, paid for by the blood of Christ is ETERNAL, purifying the CONSCIENCE (that's inside).

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**REVELATION 5:1-10**

A future view of the Lamb slain... to redeem us to God...by His blood.

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*...Unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently.*

Verses 20-22

## 1 PETER CHAPTER 1

### Lesson 23

#### Love the Brethren

28 September, 2012

<p><b>THE TRINITY WAS ACTIVE IN THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST.</b></p>	<p>THE SON: John 10:17-18, John 2:19-21          THE HOLY SPIRIT: Romans 8:10-11          THE FATHER: 1 Peter 1:21</p> <p>Jesus Christ set the example for us. He didn't go directly to Heaven after His resurrection from the dead. He first ministered to others before ascending.</p> <p>Jesus Christ died to pay for your sins and to give you salvation. He was resurrected to give you His life. You can live for Him on earth today. You can do that by loving the brethren.</p>
<p><b>MATTHEW 11:27</b></p>	<p>We've never seen God, but He is made known to us through Jesus Christ.</p> <p>Jesus Christ is not on this earth, but He is IN YOU. The only way anybody has the Father revealed to them today is through those in whom Jesus Christ resides.</p> <p>Phillip revealed the Lord to the Ethiopian Eunuch. (Acts 8)          Peter revealed the Lord to Cornelius. (Acts 10)          We are to go to all the world (Mark 16:15)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That's why we remain here after salvation.</li> <li>• If Jesus Christ had saved us for Heaven, we'd be there right now.</li> <li>• No, He saved us to reveal the Father to a lost world.</li> </ul>
<p><b>WHAT ARE WE SAVED "UNTO?"</b></p>	<p>1 Peter 1:22 <b>"Unto unfeigned (sincere; real) love of the brethren."</b></p> <p>This is a proof text for the necessity of fellowship. How can you love the brethren if you never see any? God didn't make provision for isolationist Christians. He expects Christians to fellowship together and love one another.</p> <p>Some Christians leave church because one of the brethren crossed them. They have disobeyed God and have missed an important lesson in humility and loving the unlovely.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God didn't quit on us whenever we disappointed Him.</li> </ul>
<p><b>THE PRIESTHOOD OF BELIEVERS</b></p>	<p>1 Peter 1:22 <b>"Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth."</b></p> <p>Exodus 29:4. Aaron and his sons were washed with water just one time to induct them into the priesthood.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They washed every day with the laver in the Tabernacle to clean off the filth that came upon them from ministering in the priest's office.</li> </ul>

	<p>John 13:4-11 <b>“He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet.”</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When you trust Christ as your Savior, the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin. This is a onetime transaction never to be repeated.</li> <li>• But you will have to continually wash your hands and your feet because of your contact with the brethren. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ John 15:3 Ye are clean through the Word.</li> <li>○ Ephesians 5:26. You must wash with the water of the Word.</li> <li>○ John 17:17 Sanctified through thy truth. Thy WORD is truth.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• You have got to keep your mind filled with Scripture; not with the deeds and sins of the brethren.</li> </ul>
<b>SEE THAT YE LOVE! (Vs. 22)</b>	<p>God said “See to it!” That is, make sure that you love!</p> <p>There are certain things in this life that we must “see to.” They must not be neglected.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If your car needs repair, you see to it.</li> <li>• If your body is ailing, you see to it.</li> <li>• If there is a problem between you and the brethren, you must see to it.</li> </ul> <p>How do we do it? Remember Jesus Christ’s love for us (sinners).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Romans 5:8 Christ died for us while we were yet sinners.</li> <li>• 1 John 3:16 God loved us and laid down His life for us. We ought to do the same for the brethren.</li> <li>• John 3:16 God so loved the world...</li> </ul>
<b>...ONE ANOTHER</b>	<p>Notice, this is personal. God didn’t say “Love the church;” “Love the body of Christ.” He said “Love one another.”</p>
<b>...WITH A PURE HEART</b>	<p>Keeping MY heart pure will prevent me from magnifying the faults of the brethren and will preserve a good relationship.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When I focus on me instead of Christ, I lose my love for the brethren. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ My self-centeredness causes me to resent the brethren for their mistreatment and lack of appreciation for me.</li> <li>○ I need to look at the brethren through the eyes of Christ.</li> <li>○ We can overlook someone’s faults when we love them. Charity <b>“Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.”</b> (1 Corinthians 13:7)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>...FERVENTLY</b>	<p>How enthusiastic are you about loving the brethren? Don’t be neutral about it. Put your full effort into loving the brethren. It should be important to you.</p>
<b>TITUS 2:11-14</b>	<p>Jesus Christ redeemed us so that we could live pure, clean lives and be “zealous of good works.”</p>

*...The word of God,  
which liveth and abideth  
for ever.* Verse 23

**1 PETER CHAPTER 1**  
**Lesson 24**  
**Our Final Authority**

5 October, 2012

*We believe in the absolute authority of the Holy Scriptures. We believe the God who GAVE His word to man has taken upon Himself the responsibility for its preservation. We believe the incorruptible word of God, which cannot pass away, is available to the English speaking world in the authorized King James Version. This Bible is our final authority in all matters.*

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**GOD'S WORD IS  
INCORRUPTIBLE  
1 Peter 1:23-25**

**Definitions**

**CORRUPT:** To change from a sound to a putrid or putrescent state. To separate component parts of by natural process, accompanied by a fetid smell.

**PUTRID:** Tending to decay. Rotten.

**PUTRESCENT:** Becoming putrid. Rotting.

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**THINGS THAT CAN  
BE CORRUPTED**

**THE EARTH:** Genesis 1:1, 31; 6:9-11. **"The earth also was corrupt before God."**

**NATIONS:** Exodus 8:24 **"The land was corrupted."**

**GOOD MANNERS:** 1 Cor. 15:33 **"Evil communications corrupt good manners."**

**MONEY:** Matthew 6:19-21 **Moth and rust will corrupt your treasures on earth.**  
James 5:1 **"Your riches are corrupted"**

**ALL FLESH:** Isaiah 40:6-7, 1 Peter 1:24

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**CORRUPTION IN MAN IS  
EVIDENCED IN THREE  
WAYS**

1. In the perversion of the sexual appetite (Romans 1:22-25)
2. When his crown becomes his ruin (1 Corinthians 9:25) (Success and power spoils men).
3. When the body falls apart (1 Corinthians 15:53, 42)

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**CORRUPTIBLE THINGS  
START OUT OK,  
THEN THEY CORRUPT**

Romans 1:18-21

1. Man starts with a proper revelation of God.
    - a. They hold the truth (vs 18).
    - b. They have knowledge of God. God showed it to them (vs. 19).
    - c. They clearly see and understand there is a God (vs. 20).
  2. But when man doesn't surrender himself to God:
    - a. He doesn't glorify God (vs. 21)
    - b. His imagination takes over (vs. 21)
    - c. The lights go out (vs. 21)
    - d. They imagine a God that suits them (vs. 23)
      - i. A God who approves of their sinful behavior.
      - ii. They imagine that they've changed God.
      - iii. They just have the wrong God.
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**GOD'S WORD IS  
INCORRUPTIBLE, BUT  
MAN IMAGINES THAT IT'S  
NOT**

2 Corinthians 2:17 **"For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God."**

God's Word is not really corrupt. Man just changed the revelation to make it line up with his own corruptible practices.

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**IF GOD'S WORD CAN BE  
CORRUPTED, HOW DO  
YOU KNOW YOU HAVE  
ETERNAL LIFE?**

1 Peter 1:5, We are kept by the power of God.

1 Peter 1:23, We are born again by the word of God.

You believe God is going to keep you. That belief is based upon what the Bible says.

The Bible says God is the one keeping His Word (Psalm 12:6-7).

Why would you believe one and not the other?

If I'm going to trust the Bible for my soul's SALVATION, I'm going to trust the Bible for what it says about ITSELF!

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**ALL FLESH IS GRASS, BUT...  
(1 Peter 1:24, 25)**

God contrasts man's wisdom ("flesh") with His Holy Words. Which one will you trust?

Most people who use a corrupt Bible version trusted a man's recommendation.

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**MAN HAS TWO NATURES:  
ONE CORRUPTIBLE,  
ONE INCORRUPTIBLE**

1 John 3:9, the incorruptible nature (the new man) cannot sin.

The corruptible nature does sin (Romans 7:14-23).

That's why "this corruptible must put on incorruption" (1 Corinthians 15:51-54).

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