

Good News of Great Joy

1 Peter 1:3-9

Part 5

Heaven: The Already & the Not Yet

1 Peter 1:3-9

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, 5who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. 6In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, 7so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. 8 Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, 9obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

I. Living In The Already But Not Yet.

1 Pe 1:3-5

We have and we don't.

We are and we are not.

What will be already is but presently is not.

“What we will be has not yet been revealed”. 1John 3:2

II. Rejoicing While Suffering.

The Paradox Of Dissatisfied Contentment.

A. The Example of Christ.

“Looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.”

Hebrews 12:2

B. The Example of the saints.

1. The Early church

Heb 10:34 - For you had compassion on those in prison, and you joyfully accepted the plundering of your property, since you knew that you yourselves had a better possession and an abiding one.

2. Moses

Heb 11:24-26 - 24By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, 25 choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. 26 He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than all the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward.

3. Paul

Philip 3: 7-8, 10

7But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. 8Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ 9and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— 10 that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,

2 Cor 4:17

17For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison.

Rom 8:18

18For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

4. David Livingstone

5. Samuel Zwemer - *"The sheer joy of it all comes back, gladly would I do it all over again."*

6. Jim Elliott - *"He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose."*

The Comparisons That Are Not Worth Making.

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. **Rom 8:18**

Suffering cannot follow, gain never recedes.

Unimaginable treasures secured in sacrifice.

III. The Endless Glory of Eternal Tomorrows.