

Good News of Great Joy

1 Peter 1:3-9

Part 3

Heaven: The Ultimate “Reality” Check

1 Peter 1:4

Introduction:

Heirs of a staggeringly wealthy Father

Peter wants us as God’s Children to grasp:

I. The Stunning Superiority of Our Future Inheritance to our Present Circumstance.

A. Peter implies a dramatic contrast (so similar to the Words of Jesus in **Matthew 6:19-20**):

“incorruptible” -

“undefiled” -

“does not fade away” -

B. Peter points to the Grand New Testament Vision of the Glory that awaits us.

Romans 8:16-23 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

II. The Glorious Reality of what Awaits us in the Life to Come.

A. Real & Glorious **Place**.

B. A Real & Glorious **Body**.

Conclusion:

Brief Glimpses through a Dark Glass *with Weak Eyes & Bashful Imaginations*

1 Peter 1:3-9

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, 7 that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, 8 whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, 9 receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of your souls.

Matthew 6:19-20

19 “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.

Romans 8:16-23 (NIV)

16The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. 17Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. 19The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. 20For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.

22We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. 23Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18

16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. 17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, 18 while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

1 Corinthians 13:12

12For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.