
JOYFUL CONFIDENCE THROUGH CHRIST'S RESURRECTION

(1 Peter 1:6-9)

Peter wrote early on the subject of joy and the believer because his readers needed the reminder and the encouragement as they faced severe persecution. Later, in 1 Peter 2:12, he exhorted them, "Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God." The clear implication is that though the recipients of this letter were suffering unjustly, they should expect such mistreatment and endure it with joy and patience (cf. 1 Peter 2:18-21; 3:9, 14-15, 17; 4:1, 12, 14, 16, 19; 5:10).

In light of the blessedness of salvation, no earthly difficulties should have diminished their joy (cf. Hab. 3:17-18; Matt. 5:11-12; James 1:2). Salvation joy is not some brief, shallow, circumstantial emotion, but rather something permanent and profound (Rom. 5:11; 14:17; Gal. 5:22; Phil. 1:25; 4:4; cf. 1 Chron. 16:27; 29:17; Ezra 3:12; Neh. 8:10; Job 8:19; Ps. 5:11), tied closely to the spiritual Blessings of faith, hope, and love (cf. Rom. 5:2; 12:12; 15:13; Heb. 12:2) and given by God through His Son and the Holy Spirit (Luke 2:10-11, 29-32, 38; 24:52; John 15:11; 16:22; 17:13; 1 Thess. 1:6; cf. John 10:10; 14:26-27; 16:33). Mere happiness comes from positive external events, but salvation joy results from the deep-rooted confidence that one possesses eternal life from the living God through the death and resurrection of Christ (cf. Phil. 3:7-11; Heb. 6:19-20; 10:19-22; 1 John 5:13-14), which joy will be fully realized in the glory of heaven. Peter highlights the reality that joyful confidence through Christ's Resurrection derived from the following truths:

- 1. A Protected _____**
In this you greatly rejoice," (1:6a) "Enjoy it while i_____ last," or "Enjoy it while y_____ last."
- 2. A Proven _____ - (vv. 6b-7a)** *"even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire," (1 Pet. 1:6b-7a)*
Trials are:
 - T _____
 - N _____
 - P _____
 - V _____
- 3. A Promised _____ - (v. 7b)** *"may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;"*
 - Praise
 - Honor
 - Glory
- 4. A Personal _____ with Christ- (v. 8)** *"and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory..."*
- 5. A Preserving _____ - (v. 9)** *"obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls."*

Conclusion & Challenge:

To the Elect of God in Christ, confident joy is not some brief, shallow, circumstantial emotion, but rather something permanent and profound, tied closely to the spiritual blessings of faith, hope, and love and given by God through His Son and the Holy Spirit. **"You should be able to figure it out."**