

“Present Joy in a Future Hope”

Pastor Jon Hori

1 Peter 1:3-8

November 23, 2008

Main Idea: We can take joy in our present trials because of the assurance of a glorious future with God

I. The Future Hope for Believers (v. 3-5)

A. Believers are _____ (v. 3)

B. Believers have a _____ (v. 4-5)

- Imperishable
- undefiled
- Unfading
- Kept and guarded by God’s power

II. The Present Joy for Believers (v. 6-8)

A. Suffering is _____ in light of eternity (v. 6)

B. Suffering produces a clearer _____ of God (v. 6-7)

C. The Fruits of Suffering (v. 7-8)

- Worship
- Love
- Faith
- Joy

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Digging Deeper

1. Read John 3:1-8. What does Jesus' conversation with Nicodemus teach us about being born again? How does this affect our understanding of 1 Peter 1:3?
2. How does Romans 8:35 enhance our understanding of 1 Peter 1:4-5?
3. What makes our hope "living"? Do you really live as if you really believe?
4. How does the reality of a guaranteed, eternal home with God change our perspective of our current suffering? See 2 Cor. 4:16-18 also.
5. What are the four fruits of suffering (1:7-8)? How do you see those personally manifested in your own suffering?

Living it Out

1. As you face various trials this week, read and re-read the promises of 1 Peter 1:3-5 and Romans 8:35. Allow God's Word to transform the perspective of your current circumstances that you might rejoice.
2. Pray for those who are currently suffering for their faith around the world. Check out www.gfa.org or www.persecution.org.
3. Write an encouraging email to someone you know who is currently enduring various trials. Consider serving them in a practical way to express God's love during this difficult season.

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