



SERMON TAKE HOME- 1 Peter 1:3-5 Praise God

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, ⁴ to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*

³ ***Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!***

- This is a call to worship-Bless God, Praise Him
- We will see in the coming weeks that the readers of Peter's letter were under great persecution and tribulation and his beginning remedy is to set their gaze upon God & their eternal inheritance
- In the OT it was common to hear people call for the people to "Praise God or Bless God", but as Jesus was revealed as the Christ, the NT letters say "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ". This ties God the Father to biblical Christianity alone. (1 John 2:23, John 14:7)

The rest of v3 through v5 is Peter's reasoning behind "Why we should bless/praise God". Often doctrine and truth are avoided or downplayed. The Bible and Peter believe that doctrine proclaimed to the regenerate believer will produce worship. The true believer's heart has been changed so that they rejoice in their God being exalted.

Why should we worship and praise God? Peter explores our salvation and particularly our "inheritance", and shows us that God is worthy of praise in every aspect of our salvation and inheritance (not us!)

According to His great mercy, He has caused us to be born again

- The basis of our new birth (regeneration) is God's great mercy. He had compassion on us in our depraved state. He did not look down a corridor of time and see some redeeming quality in us or some act of future faith, but rather it is His great mercy and love which is the basis of our new (and necessary) birth from above.
 - Note Titus 3:4-7 and Ephesians 2:1-5
- *He has caused us to be born again*-We must be born again to enter or see the kingdom of heaven (John 3:1-15), and we cannot make ourselves born again. (Jeremiah 13:23) It is God that "*causes us to be born again*"
- His great mercy is the basis of our new birth and He caused us to be born again. PRAISE GOD

to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

- Our hope (in Jesus) is not a dead hope but a living hope. If Jesus be not raised from the dead, we are still in our sins (1 Corinthians 15:12-20) 'v17*And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. ¹⁸Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. ¹⁹If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men.*
- PRAISE GOD, that our hope is a living hope and God demonstrated His power in raising Jesus from the dead and now He sits at the right hand of the Father. (1 Peter 1:21, Ephesians 1:20)

⁴ ***to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you,***

- What an inheritance God is keeping in heaven for us. What else but praise could come from us, knowing we deserve the wrath of God?
- Our inheritance is **imperishable** (Uncorrupted Matt 6:19-20), **undefiled** (unsoiled & pure), **unfading** (perpetual/eternal), and **kept in heaven for you** (God is guarding your inheritance-And not the personal aspect here "For you"). This salvation/inheritance is very personal (Rev 13:8)
- Praise God for our inheritance

who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

- The bible is clear that we must endure to end if we are to receive our inheritance. This may cause some to struggle in fear that they will not make it to the end. We have a responsibility to endure (2 Tim 2:12, 2 Tim 4:7). Our call to endure is a call to “keep the faith”.
- Living in a fallen world, with fallen flesh is hard. It is a constant battle, but we are called to endure.
- V5 brings great hope to us as we battle in the fight of faith. It says we are “*kept by God's power*” it is God's power which is guarding us. If God is for us, who can be against us?
- Now how does God's power guard us? *Through faith*-Meaning that God supplies moment by moment faith to us to keep us from ultimately denying Him. This does not remove our responsibility but rather gives us hope in our fight! Praise God for His grace to supply the faith needed in the moment we need it!
 - You can see this gracious work displayed in Luke 22:31-34

In every aspect of our salvation from eternity past to eternity future God deserves all the glory! **WORSHIP HIM**