

“In This You Greatly Rejoice”

Intro: We live in a society that seeks _____.

A. Webster defines happiness as: 1 “good _____”.

1. Fortune is defined as: 1 a hypothetical force or personified power that determines events and issues ...”

B. The Christian has something much better than happiness, it is called _____ !

1. A joy that is solid, unwavering, fully obtainable, is not based upon esteeming oneself as better than others, but upon esteeming the _____ of _____, and therefore gains victory over so-called fortune for it does not accept the falsehood of happenstance!

2. As the Bible teaches, the Sovereign _____ is not hypothetical but and His outcome is _____!

3. Where there may be absolutely no cause for human happiness, there is full joy! While the world seeks happiness from good happenstance the _____ finds joy in never changing truth of their Sovereign _____.

1 Peter 1:6-9

I. “In this you greatly rejoice ...” We have a _____ for great joy!

A. The phrase “In this we greatly rejoice” points us back to the _____ of the preceding verses.

1. We greatly rejoice because we are elect unto God, strangers in this world and scattered about only according to the _____ of God by the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit that we might obey Jesus Christ and know the full peace and grace of God.

2. We greatly rejoice because the _____ of our salvation is that we would bless God.

3. We greatly rejoice for the _____ of our salvation is God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

4. We greatly rejoice for the _____ of our salvation is God’s great mercy.

5. We greatly rejoice for the _____ of our salvation is God for He caused us to be born again.

6. We greatly rejoice for the present _____ our salvation is a living hope.

7. We greatly rejoice for the _____ of our hope is the resurrection of Christ Jesus.

8. We greatly rejoice for the _____ of our salvation is our obtaining a heavenly inheritance.

9. We greatly rejoice for the _____ of our inheritance is found in the fact that it is imperishable, undefiled and will not fade away.

10. We greatly rejoice in the _____ we have that we will receive this inheritance for it is reserved for us in heaven as we are protected by the power of God through faith to receive the full glories of the salvation He has prepared for us.

B. In Biblical terms “greatly rejoicing” is a supernatural rejoicing that is _____ this world and defies _____ logic. It refers to a supreme and abundant thrilling _____ and assurance founded upon the _____ of God that wells up inside the Christian as a force that will not be contained!

II. Our great joy _____ the trials of this world!

A. Beloved, rather than being _____ of happenstance we are _____ of God’s good work in all circumstance.

B. The trials of this world are only “for a _____.” Trials are transitory.

C. Transitory trials come “if _____.”

1. Dear church, if we are in the _____ of God, then so too are our _____! And if God is sovereign over all, then He is sovereign _____ and works His good purposes in all! Our trials only come if necessary!

D. Trials come for our good - for “the _____ of our _____.”

1. Trials serve the great _____ of purifying (_____) us in the faith by removing the impurities and leaving behind only that which is genuine. (cf. Ro. 5:3-4 & James 1:2-4)

E. Such a faith is “ _____ than gold which” “even though tested by fire” “is perishable.”

1. Such a faith _____ “in praise and glory and _____ at the revelation of Jesus Christ ...” (Cf. Rom 2:6 -10; Matt. 25:23; 1 Cor. 3:10-15)

2. We will receive the reward of praise, glory and honor “at the _____ of Jesus _____ ...”

a. As He told the disciples in John 14:3, He will _____ and receive us unto Himself that where He is we may be also! This is why the Lord said, Matt 24:42 & 44, “Therefore _____ on the _____, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming. ...” “For this reason you _____ too; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think He will.”

III. Peter commends the reader for their _____ in and _____ for the Christ they had not and did not see. (cf. 1 Peter 2:20)

A. Such a love and belief “ _____ with God” (1 Peter 2:20) and thus, fills us with “ _____ inexpressible and full of _____.”

B. What favor could be the cause of inexpressible _____ and fulness of _____? The “obtaining as the outcome of [our] faith the _____ of [our] souls.”

1. Beloved He who saved us, and will save us, _____ us!

No matter our plight, no matter our trials, no matter the persecution, we have _____ to greatly rejoice with inexpressible _____ that is full of glory for through it all our God is working His good work perfecting us in our faith causing us to obtain the _____ of our souls. In this we greatly rejoice!

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