

LIVING IN EXILE

1 Peter 1:3-5— Eternally Secure

January 17, 2016

...kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith... - **1 Peter 1:4**

I. DOXOLOGY IN THEOLOGY

- The saints were keen to break into doxology when they expounded on prophecy and theology, and for good reason: God is incomparable! (Gen. 49:18; Rom. 11:33-36; Eph. 1:3; Jude 24-25).
- Vs. 3 - God is the Father of Jesus, and Jesus is Lord. He is the Father's only Son, and the name the Father has given him is above all names (John 1:14; 3:16, 18; 1 John 4:9; Phil. 2:9-11).
- By God's great mercy we are born again (John 3:5-8; Eph. 2:8-9).

II. THE MEANS AND ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

- We are saved by God, through Jesus' resurrection from the dead to:
 1. A living hope
 2. An inheritance that is...
 - A) Imperishable
 - B) undefiled
 - C) Unfading
 - D) Kept in heaven
- We, and our salvation, are guarded by the power of God through the means of faith (Rom. 8:18; Eph. 1:19-20).
- Salvation is complete, but not fully revealed; it soon will be (vs. 5; John 19:30; 1 Peter 5:1; 1 John 3:2).
- Our salvation is not precarious, it is assured. Those who are called are called to persevere (Phil. 1:6; Col. 1:21-23).

KNOW: Your salvation is not teetering precariously on some slippery edge; it is held firm and secure in heaven. You are guarded by God's mighty power, and he will reveal the full glory of your salvation in due time.

DO: Be confident and rejoice in your salvation.

Suggested Reading:

Gospel Assurance and Warnings, by Paul Washer

Four Views on Eternal Security (Counterpoints Series), by Zondervan

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please read **1 Peter 1:3-5**

1. Does good theology cause you to give thanks to God, or is it tedious and high brow to you? Why?
2. Peter calls Jesus Lord, as does Paul, the gospel writers, etc. Why is the Lordship of Jesus Christ so important? Is it a big deal if Jesus isn't divine?
3. Peter tells us that God has caused us to be born again in his great mercy? If a salvation from God is so good and if his mercy is so great, why do you think so many argue so much about it?
4. Why is the word "living" so important in the phrase "living hope"? What would be the opposite?
5. When you consider the terms that Peter uses to describe our inheritance, are you left wondering if your salvation is something you can count on? Why or why not?
6. If God's power guards us in our faith, what could overcome it? (see Romans 8:31-39 for a parallel)