

1 Peter 1:8-12 Joy Inexpressible and Full of Glory

Why am I wearing a letterman jacket that obviously doesn't fit any more?

A) Lettered in Baseball and Basketball – High School

B) Senior year I was Co-captain of our Baseball team 1) I was a pitcher and outfielder – batted 3rd – We won league championship

C) Our School was a closed campus – meant we were not allowed to leave campus -during school hours unsupervised

D) During the MLB playoffs – Myself and my friend Ricky Simpson –

1) Ricky was the catcher – decided to sneak off campus
Head to my house for lunch to watch part of the game.

E) The Dodgers were playing the Astros for the Divisional series

1) The Dodgers would go on to win the WW series that year

Well it was a good game – and my dad was home that day too watching the game with us –

A) My dad – told us to blow off our class after lunch – to watch the end of the game.

B) Awesome - My dad is giving me permission to ditch school and watch baseball

C) After the game – Ricky and I are heading back to campus/ we need to sneak on campus for our 5th period class

D) Security guard spotted us – BUSTED
Takes us to the principal

I will never forget that conversation: With Principal McKinley

A) You guys being top athletes represent this school –
Your Jackets mean?

B) You are to be role models – ACT LIKE IT

C) This Jacket represented something more than the fact on was on the team –

1) It meant I was representing my School - To be honest -I had never really thought of it that way.

D) Nice story PR – what does that have to do with our time in the word today?

Paul encourages believers in several places to Put on Christ

A) In Romans 14 Clothe yourself with Christ

B) You are also wearing a Letterman Jacket so to speak – letters JC on it

1) You belong to him – you are a part of him

C) You represent him – ACT LIKE IT

Who you ARE is supposed to affect how you live, how you respond and react to things in Culture.

A) As well as How you respond to each other as fellow Christ followers as well.

B) Now Peter is going to have much to say about how we are to live in this day and age in this epistle

1) Next week We are actually going to get into his call for us to walk in Holiness.

C) But Peter spends the first 12 verses of chapter one – reminding his readers and us –

1) of who we are in Christ.

Who we are in Christ is the catalyst for how we are to live in all seasons and situations in life

A) Noted that Peter has given his readers SEVEN reasons why they can rejoice in suffering

B) Those seven reasons are all connected to their relationship to Jesus

1) We broke those down in our first two studies

C) Today we are looking at v.8-12 where Peter expounds on the blessings of our salvation

D) V.3 gives us the basis of this great Salvation - We have been born again to a living thru the Resurrection....

1) Our Salvation and hope a built upon an empty tomb and a risen and alive SAVIOR

Peter is going to share several things about our salvation as he concludes his opening address

A) Start in V. 6 for Context:

⁶In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷that the genuineness of your faith, *being* much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, ⁸whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see *Him*, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, ⁹receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of *your* souls.

¹⁰Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace *that would come* to you, ¹¹searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. ¹²To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things which angels desire to look into.

Focus in on V.8 -9

A) Peter says that our relationship to Jesus and the Hope of what is coming creates in us a Joy that is inexpressible and full of glory

**B) Inexpressible – carries the idea that it leaves you speechless – NO WORDS –
1) OVERCOME BY JOY!**

C) When you finally are able to speak – what comes out is the highest form of praise

1) Because you are Overcome and overwhelmed by the goodness and greatness of God

Now V.8-9 are very interesting verses

A) I believe that Peter is drawing upon something here that he heard Jesus say after the Resurrection.

B) Recall – after the Resurrection Jesus appeared to his disciples in an upper room/ Minus Thomas

C) Remember Thomas shows up later and the other disciples share with him what happened –

1) he doesn't believe it - Thomas is given the nickname by commentators – doubting Thomas

D) However Thomas reaction was actually much stronger than doubt –

“So he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.” John 20:25

E) Thomas is not Doubting he is refusing to believe – He is completely convinced this is not true

Well eight days later the disciples are all together again and this time Thomas is there. - V26

Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, “Peace to you!” **27 Then He said to Thomas, (Right at him – his doubt)**

“Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be **unbelieving, but believing.**”

28 And Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!” Thomas is undone in this moment

What Jesus says next is epic and this is what I believe Peter is drawing upon here 29 Jesus said to him, “Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

Did You catch that – that is us/ We are blessed bc we have believed even though we have not seen.

A) The word here – Blessed is makarios in the Greek – it speaks of the highest level of blessing possible.

B) Note this: It is reserved for those who have never seen – never touched – yet believed!

1) THAT IS US – FRIENDS

C) Think of this: Which do you think most people would consider the highest blessing –

1) to see and touch Jesus ?

2) Or simply to hear about him and believe?

D) Most would say – obviously to see and touch him – but that is not what Jesus says

1) HE says the highest level of blessing is reserved for those who simply believe even though they haven't seen him

And that is exactly what Peter is saying here in V.8 Though now you do not see *Him*, yet believing, **you rejoice** with joy inexpressible and full of glory,
A) Now Understand our faith is not an empty blind faith – leap off a bridge

B) Based on truth and fact – **Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God.**

1) There is the evidence of the empty tomb -evidence of fulfilled prophecy

C) But we are believing in someone that we have not seen – someone that we have not touched.

Have you ever wondered why God doesn't just peel back the clouds and say What's up world – check me out

A) Then there would be a bunch of people who are believing because they have seen – **that is not faith**

B) During Jesus earthly ministry there were a lot of people who followed him/ believed in him

1) Because of the miracles and healings he did

C) But the minute he started teaching things that they didn't like – they bailed on him –

1) We say - seeing is believing – and God says – that is not faith

D) God calls us to walk by faith and not by sight!

Now one day Jesus is going to come back and reveal himself to the world –

A) But at that time if you don't already believe in him it is going to be too late

B) Paul described that day in **Philippians 2 – speaking of Jesus**

⁹ Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, ¹¹ and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father. – Philippians 2:9-11 too late

C) Faith is - God said it and you believe it – take it to the bank!

1) I believe in the truth of who Jesus is and what He did

Faith is the key that moves the heart of God.

A) Matthew 8:5 The centurion - You don't need to come to my house – man of authority/ you have...

¹⁰ When Jesus heard *it*, He marveled, and said to those who followed, “Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!
Matthew 8:10

B) Jesus marveled – English isn't strong enough – the idea is his jaw dropped

C) He was moved by this man's faith! – Healed his servant

Faith is not you demanding of God you will

A) Yrs back – Visualizing it – picture of Mercedes and Cadillacs

B) God is not a Genie in a bottle

C) Faith that moves the heart of God – God says it and we believe it

Abraham is another great example of this

A) Abraham Genesis 15 – Make your descendants like the stars

⁶ And he believed in the LORD, and He accounted it to him for righteousness. Genesis 15:6

B) Listen to Paul's commentary on that moment as he writes in Romans 4

For Abraham is the father of all who believe. ¹⁷ That is what the Scriptures mean when God told him, “I have made you the father of many nations.” This happened because Abraham believed in the God who brings the dead back to life and who creates new things out of nothing.

¹⁸ Even when there was no reason for hope, Abraham kept hoping—believing that he would become the father of many nations. For God had said to him, “That's how many descendants you will have!” ¹⁹ And Abraham's faith did not weaken, even though, at about 100 years of age, he figured his body was as good as dead—and so was Sarah's womb.

C) I Love this- Abraham looks at his own body – being as good as dead –

1) He looks at himself and says I am busted –

D) Then he Looked at Sarah his wife – didn't say it but he thought and she is busted too

E) We are too old to have a kid – but he believed

²⁰ Abraham never wavered in believing God's promise. In fact, his faith grew stronger, and in this he brought glory to God. ²¹ He was fully convinced that God is able to do whatever he promises. ²² And because of Abraham's faith, God counted him as righteous.

Abe said I believe God can do this – God accounted it to him as righteousness

²³ And when God counted him as righteous, it wasn't just for Abraham's benefit. It was recorded ²⁴ for our benefit, too, assuring us that God will also count us as righteous if we believe in him, the one who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. ^{NLT}

Can I encourage you in this today? Do You have faith? You believe even though you haven't seen

A) Know this God is blessed by that – you are saved by that – God says – You are righteous

B) Your faith might be weak at times and far from perfect – God is moved by your faith

C) Here is what is interesting about the story of Abraham – His faith faltered –

D) Yrs go by no offspring – no son – Sarah – God needs our help

1) Go sleep with my hand maiden – Hagar

E) You want me to go have sex with that young pretty girl – in hopes she gets pregnant Ok

Hebrews 6:15 says: Abraham patiently endured to obtain the promise

A) No he didn't – Listen church that is the way that God sees things on the other side of Calvary

B) You have faith in Jesus – He is risen from the dead – Saved

C) You have faith that God keeps his promises

1) Wednesday – **All the promises of God are yes and amen in Christ**

D) You believe that today – YOU ARE BLESSED – highest form of blessing

Now Satan loves to attack with doubt – He is such a liar

A) Are you sure you can trust God – He hasn't come through yet – I don't think he will – better help him

B) Are you sure he is for you – he seems absence – I don't think he heard your prayer

C) And as soon as we give into that doubt – he goes from liar to accuser

D) Look at you – such a weakling – God is done with you

1) You have blown it for the last time – He over it

Nothing could be further from the truth! –

A) Remember the guy Matthew 17 brings his demon possessed son to Jesus –

B) Jesus says if you have faith – he will be made well

1) Lord I believe help my unbelief –

C) Jesus didn't say sorry bro – your faith is not ranking high enough on the faith meter

D) NO he healed that boy.

You believe? Haven't seen? You are just holding on to the promise of God

A) Reason to rejoice today -with Joy inexpressible and full of Glory –

B) Your faith – Declared you righteous – His child – Sins forgiven and forgotten –

1) A Child of Grace – You are his – he loves you

What Peter says next only adds to the blessing

¹⁰ Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the **grace that would come to you**, (they wrote of this salvation that was coming) ¹¹ searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. (Isaiah wrote of the Messiah's suffering) quote Isaiah 53:3-6

He is despised and rejected by men,
A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.
And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him;

He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.
 4 Surely He has borne our griefs
 And carried our sorrows;
 Yet we esteemed Him stricken,
 Smitten by God, and afflicted.
 5 But He *was* wounded for our transgressions,
He was bruised for our iniquities;
 The chastisement for our peace *was* upon Him,
 And by His stripes we are healed.
 6 All we like sheep have gone astray;
 We have turned, every one, to his own way;
 And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us
 all

¹² To them it was revealed that, not to themselves
but to us they were ministering the things which now
 have been **reported to you through those who have**
preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent
 from heaven (we have experienced what they could
only imagine)

(they wrote about something they never saw the
 fulfillment of / **but we have**)

**OT view of Atonement = covering – need for
 continual sacrifices**

A)NT view Atonement = At/One/ment – Jesus the
 final sacrifice

B)We are blessed because we are living in the
 reality of what the OT believers could only dream
 of

1)Complete forgiveness and cleansing/**vs covering**

C)What Peter says at the end of verse 12 is
 fascinating these are —**things which angels desire to**
look into. –

D)Look = search study – dive deep into –

1)Peter looked – went into the tomb – and examined
 that it was empty

The Angels are mesmerized by our Salvation

A)What is the one attribute of the character of
 God the Angels never get to experience
 personally?

B)They know firsthand – His Holiness – His
 majesty – Isaiah – His train filled the temple –
 holy, holy , holy

C)Not a robotic response – the natural response
 of being in God’s presence

**D)Like when we are stopped in our tracks by a
 beautiful Sunset**

1)Take picks, calling friends, did you see that?
Mesmerized

**The Angels are mesmerized by God’s Holiness His
 majesty and glory**

A)They are constantly experiencing that

B)But the one thing they haven’t personally
 experienced is His Grace and Mercy

C)Satan led an Angelic rebellion – Satan cast out –
 1/3 of the Angels with them

D)No grace – no mercy for them

1)No grace – getting what you don’t deserve –
 2)No mercy – not getting what you do deserve

E)Those Angels were cast out – not let back –
 ultimately doomed lake of fire

**But the Angels look at us and see something
 different**

A)So when Man sinned and rebelled – and God
 didn’t destroy us

B)But instead sent his Son to save us - They are
 blown away by that

C)Every time we rebel and sin and turn our backs
 on him and he doesn’t destroy us

1)But offers forgiveness through the blood of
 Jesus

**D)The Angels look on a marvel – because it just
 magnifies His grace – wow Not again –**

1)God is so gracious

**The Angels are captivated by our stories as they
 see over and over again the grace and mercy of
 God**

A)Being displayed in living color in our lives

B)We are told in the book of Revelation the lyrics
 of one of the songs sung in heaven

1)True and righteous are your ways oh Lord!

C)Guys if you believe in Jesus today – even though you haven't seen him – YOU ARE BLESSED

D)You can rejoice with Joy that is inexpressible and full of glory.

Your God loves you – sent his son to save – he is committed to you.

A)You have a glorious destiny

B)Which means you can live with confidence in your present reality – no matter the situation

C)True and righteous are his ways and that will prove to be played out in your life.