

Peter and his Epistles

Lesson 7: Our Salvation (1:3-9)

I. Introduction: The salvation (deliverance, preservation) of our souls (1:5, 9-10, 2:2)

- A. "Blessed" or "Praise be to": "eulogy"-In the NT only used towards God. Men are not praised in this way.
- B. The Nature of this salvation: A New Birth
Look at John 3:3-8

II. The new birth

- A. Living Hope (now!)

This is not wishful thinking, but a confident optimism that is based on the promise and person of God Himself

 - 1. It assures our immortality (Acts 24:15)
 - 2. It provides an anchor for living (Heb. 6:18)
 - 3. It is secured by the resurrection of Christ (I Pet. 1:3)
- B. Our Inheritance (then!)
 - 1. Its description:
 - a. Incorruptible: Cannot be destroyed
 - b. undefiled: Cannot be stained
 - c. Won't Fade:
 - 2. Its preservation: KEPT

It is reserved or guarded. A term in the perfect tense: It is an action that was completed at a specific time in the past, with results continuing into the present. These results are permanent.

It is shielded. A term in the present passive tense: It is continuous action being done on our behalf. It is the continuous action of God that ensures our inheritance.
 - 3. Its "location": Heaven

Heaven is our permanent residence-John 14:2

Heaven is a source of real joy-Luke 10:20

III. In spite of the new birth (our salvation), there are real trials in this life

A. The nature of these trials

“To grieve”: The language emphasizes that the suffering is brief

“Trials”: Peter did not use the word for persecutions or tribulations. This term is speaking of the pagan’s attitude toward believers in Christ. It is not suggesting actual actions against them.

B. The purpose of these trials

When the “testing” is finished, the gold is refined.

It results in our being able to:

Praise Honor Glory

C. The reaction to these trials

1. See them as “precious” (Peter uses this term seven times in his epistles.

2. We trust him “whom we have not seen.” We “believe Him.” (vs. 8)

3. Rejoice: Consider the actions of Paul and Silas in jail in Acts 16.

I Peter 4:12-13

D. The result of these trials: the salvation of our souls (vs. 10)

Discussion Question:

Why don’t we normally “link” our trials with our salvation? What is their relationship?