

## Understanding Your Place in This World

*"Future Hope in Present Suffering from the Prophetic Past"*

1 Peter 1:6-12

Sunday, June 7, 2020

*In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials.*

1 Peter 1:6 (NIV)

### Sermon Proposition

A follower of Jesus can rejoice in present suffering because of the future hope of salvation

#### 0) Intro: The Mystery of the Messiah

*Now to him who is able to establish you in accordance with my gospel, the message I proclaim about **Jesus Christ**, in keeping with the revelation of the **mystery hidden** for long ages past, but now revealed and **made known** through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all the Gentiles might come to the obedience that comes from faith—to the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ!*  
*Amen.*

Romans 16:25-27 (NIV)

#### 1) Present Suffering

*In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.*

2 Timothy 3:12-13 (NIV)

#### 2) Future Hope

*"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."*

John 16:33 (NIV)

#### 3) Prophetic Past

*When he sees all that is accomplished by his anguish, he will be satisfied. And because of his experience, my righteous servant will make it possible for many to be counted righteous, for he will bear all their sins.*

Isaiah 53:11 (NIV)

## Understanding Your Place in This World

Discussion Guide

*"Future Hope in Present Suffering from the Prophetic Past"*

1 Peter 1:6-12

### Read It

Read 1 Peter 1:6-12 together aloud.

*<sup>6</sup> "In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. <sup>7</sup> These have come so that your faith-- of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire--, may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. <sup>8</sup> Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, <sup>9</sup> for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls. <sup>10</sup> Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, <sup>11</sup> trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. <sup>12</sup> It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things.*

### Open It

Think about a time that you had to endure difficulty to receive a promised reward or benefit. How did the hope awaiting you affect your ability to endure?

How can you know if something in the future will be worth the trouble in the present?

### Consider It

What is the "in this" that Peter refers back to in verse 6? In what are we called to rejoice?

Have you faced difficulty or suffering specifically for following and being obedient to Christ? How did you respond to it?

What does Peter say happens when we face suffering for living out our Christian faith?

In what ways is faith refined in trials in the following verses:

- Hebrews 11:24-26
- Psalm 116:10-15
- Job 1:20-22
- 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

How does Peter describe the relationship that these believers have with Jesus in verse 8?

In verse 9 we see the word "goal," sometimes translated "end" or "outcome," and it is the word Greek *τελος* (*telos*). Describe the importance of the hope that Christians have in the return of Christ, and look forward to 1 Peter 4:7 and 4:17 to see how else this word is used. How does Peter use the "end" or "outcome" to encourage, exhort, and warn?

What did the prophets know about the coming of the Messiah?

What did the angels and the prophets have in common with each other that is different from us?

### Live It

How can you grow in your love for Jesus this week?

What is an action step of faith that you need to take, even though it might cost you something?

How do you need to look forward to the return of Christ?