

# **A Life-Sustaining Hope**

1 Peter 1:3-5

## **1. When is hope most needed?**

- a.
- b.

## **2. Where does our hope come from?**

- a.
- b.

## **3. What constitutes our hope?**

- a.
- b.

## **4. Why is our hope “living”?**

- a.
- b.



*The Letter to  
God's Elect*



# I Peter

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# **A Life-Sustaining Hope**

**1 Peter 1:3-5**

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<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

# **What is hope?**

**Hope, as an objective reality,  
is the guarantee of our inheritance  
in Christ.**



## **Ephesians 1:18**

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you may know what is **the hope** of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints.

## **Colossians 1:5**

We give thanks...because of **the hope** laid up for you in heaven, of which you previously heard in the word of truth, the gospel.

# What is hope?

Hope, as something we experience, is the confident assurance that results when we believe that God will keep His promises.

**Romans 8:25**

But **if we hope** for what we do not see,  
with perseverance we wait eagerly for it.

**Romans 15:13**

Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy  
and peace in believing, **that you may abound in hope**  
by the power of the Holy Spirit.





**Why is hope needed?**

**Why is hope needed?**

*Because persecution is possible.*





**1 Peter 1:1**

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,  
to those who reside as aliens,  
scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia,  
Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia...



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**1 Peter 3:14-15**

But even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, you are blessed.

“And do not fear their intimidation, and do not be troubled,”

but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence.



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## **1 Peter 4:12-14**

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you,  
which comes upon you for your testing,  
as though some strange thing were happening to you;  
but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ,  
keep on rejoicing...

# Why is hope needed?

*Because persecution is possible.*

*Because grief is real.*



## 1 Peter 1:6

In this you greatly rejoice,  
even though now for a little while, if necessary,  
you have been distressed [***grieved***] by various trials...

*There is legitimate grief that results  
from the experience of trials.*

***But grief will not overwhelm  
and control us if we have hope!***

## **1 Thessalonians 4:13**

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren,  
about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve,  
as do the rest who have no hope.



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as do the rest **who have no hope.**

Hope reshapes grief in ways that demand an explanation from a world controlled by its passions.



**1 Peter 3:15**

...always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence.



**Where does our hope  
come from?**

**Where does hope come from?**

*Hope results from the new birth.*



### **1 Peter 1:3**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who according to His great mercy has caused us  
to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection  
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of Jesus Christ from the dead.

*The new birth changes the condition of your heart so that hope not only becomes possible but increasingly natural.*



**Romans 15:13**

Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

# Where does hope come from?

*Hope results from the new birth.*

*Hope is formed by faith.*

*Our present practice of faith is  
what forms our confident  
assurance in the future.*



**Romans 4:18**

In hope against hope [Abraham] believed,  
so that he might become a father of many nations,  
according to that which had been spoken,  
*"So shall your descendants be."*

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**Romans 15:4**

For whatever was written in earlier times  
was written for our instruction,  
that through perseverance and the encouragement  
of the Scriptures we might have hope.



**Romans 15:13**

Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy  
and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope  
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**What constitutes our hope?**



**What constitutes our hope?**

*That we belong to God and are kept by Him as His possession.*

## **1 Peter 1:1-5**

...to those who...are chosen  
according to the foreknowledge of God the Father  
...who are protected by the power of God  
through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed  
in the last time.

**1 Peter 1:1-5**

# **...to those who are chosen**

according to the foreknowledge of God the Father  
...who are protected by the power of God  
through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed  
in the last time.





**1 Peter 2:9**

But you are a chosen race,  
a royal priesthood, a holy nation,  
a people for God's own possession...

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## **1 Peter 1:1-5**

...to those who...are chosen  
according to the foreknowledge of God the Father  
...who are *kept* by the power of God  
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...to **those who...are chosen**

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....who **are *kept* by the power of God**

through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed  
in the last time.

*Our hope is grounded in God's  
power to protect and keep us.*



# What constitutes our hope?

*That we belong to God and are kept by Him as His possession.*

*That God is faithful and will keep  
His promises to us.*

# **Our former condition?**

## **Ephesians 2:12**

...remember that you were at that time separate from Christ,  
excluded from the commonwealth of Israel,  
and strangers to the covenants of promise,  
having no hope and without God in the world.

# Our former condition?

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excluded from the commonwealth of Israel,

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## **Ephesians 2:13**

**But now** in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

## **1 Peter 1:3-5**

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.



## 1 Peter 1:3-5

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who according to His great mercy has caused us

to be **born again** to a living hope through the resurrection

of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 **to obtain an inheritance**

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the power of God through faith for a salvation  
ready to be revealed in the last time.

## **Hebrews 10:23**

Let us hold fast the confession  
of our hope without wavering,  
for He who promised is faithful.



## Hebrews 10:23

Let us hold fast the confession  
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**for He who promised is faithful.**



**Why is our hope “living”?**

## 1 Peter 1:3

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
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**Our hope is living...**

*Because Christ is alive!*

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**Our hope is living...**

*Because Christ is alive.*

***Because we are alive in Christ!***

**Romans 8:10**

**If Christ is in you**, though the body is dead because of sin,  
yet **the spirit is alive** because of righteousness.

**Colossians 1:27**

...to whom God willed to make known what is the riches  
of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles,  
which is **Christ in you, the hope of glory**.

# Implications

Perseverance is only possible with hope.



# Implications

Perseverance is only possible with hope.

Hope will only come by faith.

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Perseverance is only possible with hope.

Hope will only come by faith.

**Faith will only come through the Word.**



*The Letter to  
God's Elect*



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# **Learning to Rejoice with Joy Inexpressible**

(Part Two)

**1 Peter 1:6-9**

## **1 Peter 1:6-7**

In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;



## **1 Peter 1:8-9**

and though you have not seen Him, you love Him,  
and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him,  
you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,  
obtaining as the outcome of your faith  
the salvation of your souls.



# How do you exercise faith?

Learn the truth.

Accept the truth.

Embrace the truth.

# What is joy?

*Joy is the inner delight that results, regardless of circumstances, when we exercise faith in the gospel of Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

# What is rejoicing?

*It is choosing to reorient the attitude of your heart toward delight in Christ and then outwardly expressing that delight to and with others.*



# **Learning to Rejoice**

**Learn to rejoice in the  
benefits of your suffering.**

# **The benefits of suffering?**

*Suffering proves the  
**authenticity** of your faith.*

## **1 Peter 1:6-7**

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*Believers believe.*

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the salvation of your souls.

*Rejoicing when suffering  
proves that you believe.*

# The benefits of suffering?

*Suffering proves the authenticity of your faith.*

*Suffering improves the  
**quality** of your faith.*



## **1 Peter 1:6-7**

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which is perishable, even though **tested by fire,**

may be found to result in praise and glory and honor  
at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Suffering surfaces the impurities  
of your life and loosens your grip  
on the pleasures of this world.



### **Psalm 63:1-5**

O God, You are my God; I shall seek You earnestly;  
My soul thirsts for You, my flesh yearns for You,  
In a dry and weary land where there is no water.

Thus I have seen You in the sanctuary,  
To see Your power and Your glory.

Because Your lovingkindness is better than life,  
My lips will praise You.

So I will bless You as long as I live;  
I will lift up my hands in Your name.

My soul is satisfied as with marrow and fatness,  
And my mouth offers praises with joyful lips.

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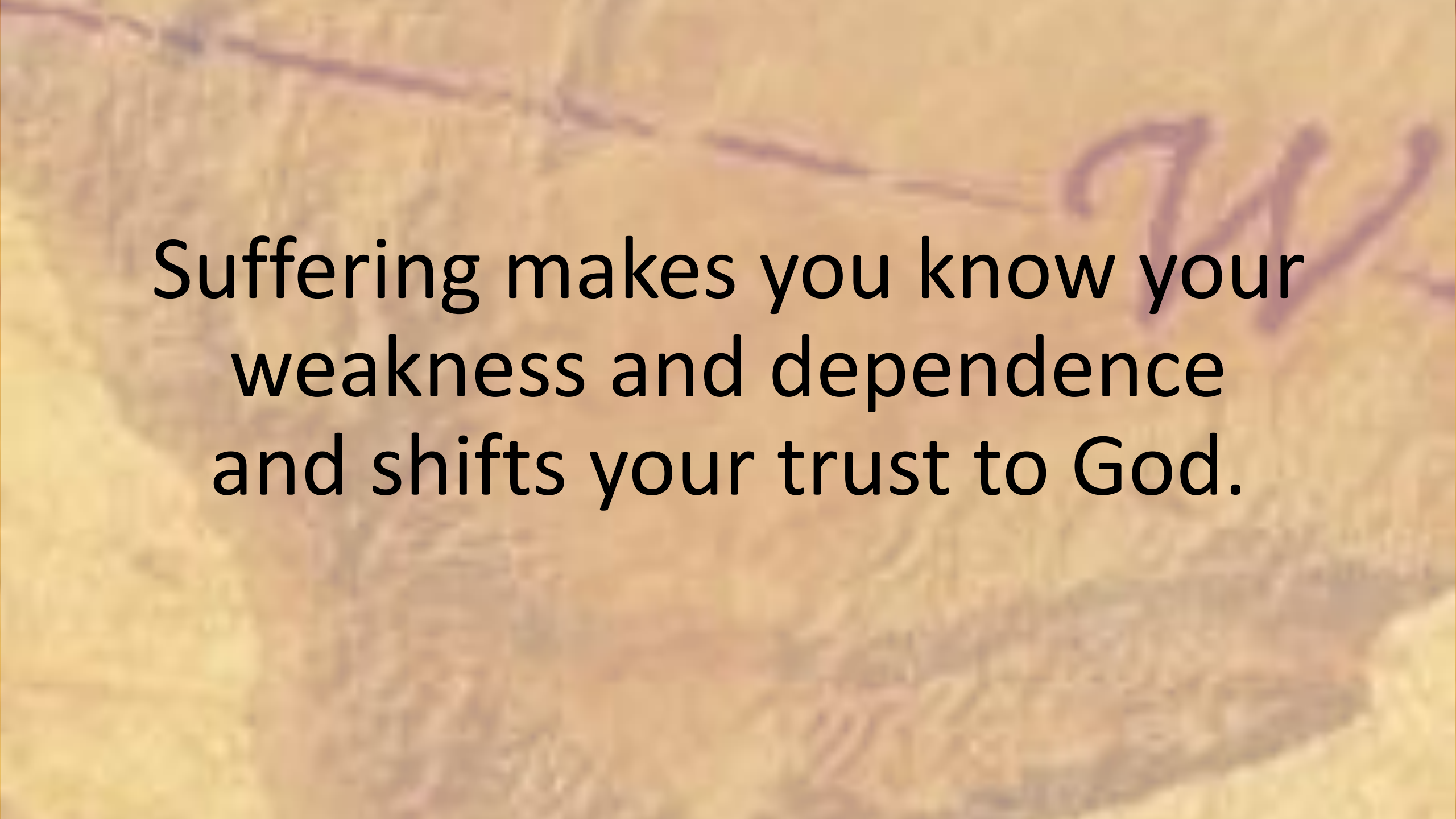
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**My soul is satisfied as with marrow and fatness,  
And my mouth offers praises with joyful lips.**



Suffering makes you know your  
weakness and dependence  
and shifts your trust to God.

## **2 Corinthians 1:8-9**

For we do not want you to be unaware, brethren,  
of our affliction which came to us in Asia,  
that we were burdened excessively, beyond our strength,  
so that we despaired even of life; indeed,  
we had the sentence of death within ourselves  
in order that we should not trust in ourselves,  
but in God who raises the dead.



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**but in God who raises the dead.**



Suffering makes exercising  
your faith necessary,  
and that produces endurance.

**James 1:2-3**

Consider it all joy, my brethren,  
when you encounter various trials,  
knowing that the testing of your faith  
produces endurance.

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# The benefits of suffering?

*Suffering proves the authenticity of your faith.*

*Suffering improves the quality of your faith.*

*Suffering connects you to Christ.*

### **1 Peter 4:12-13**

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you,  
which comes upon you for your testing,  
as though some strange thing were happening to you;  
but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ,  
keep on rejoicing; so that also at the revelation of His glory,  
you may rejoice with exultation.

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you may rejoice with exultation.

*Suffering gives you opportunity  
to more fully contemplate Christ's  
suffering on your behalf which will  
lead you to love Him more fully.*

## **Important Note:**

**We do not rejoice because  
suffering is good;**

**We rejoice because  
suffering does us good.**



# Learning to Rejoice

Learn to rejoice in the benefits of your sufferings.

Learn to rejoice in your  
connection to Christ.

**Your connection to Christ**

*You are connected by birth.*

### 1 Peter 1:3

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who according to His great mercy has caused us  
to be **born again** to a living hope through the resurrection  
of Jesus Christ from the dead...



## **Romans 8:16-17**

The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him in order that we may also be glorified with Him.

## Romans 8:16-17

The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit

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## Romans 8:16-17

The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit  
that we are children of God, and if children, heirs also,

heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, **if indeed we suffer**  
**with Him** in order that we may also be glorified with Him.

*Christian suffering proves  
that you are born of God.*

# **Your connection to Christ**

*You are connected by birth.*

*You are connected by love.*



## **1 Peter 1:8-9**

and though you have not seen Him, you love Him,  
and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him,  
you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,  
obtaining as the outcome of your faith  
the salvation of your souls.

1 Peter 1:8-9

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**John 14:23**

Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him, and make Our abode with him."

# Your connection to Christ

*You are connected by birth.*

*You are connected by love.*

*You are connected by faith.*

**1 Peter 1:8-9**

and though you have not seen Him, you love Him,  
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**1 Peter 1:8-9**

and though you have not seen Him, you love Him,

and though you do not see Him now, **but believe in Him...**

*It is your faith that  
connects you to Christ.*



**Ephesians 3:16-17**

...that He would grant you,  
according to the riches of His glory,  
to be strengthened with power  
through His Spirit in the inner man;  
so that Christ may dwell in your hearts  
through faith...

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# Learning to Rejoice

Learn to rejoice in the benefits of your sufferings.

Learn to rejoice in your connection to Christ.

Learn to rejoice in your  
certain salvation.



**Your certain salvation.**

*Your salvation is certain because  
it is secured by God.*

**1 Peter 1:8-9**

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**1:9 (KJV)**

**Receiving** the end of your faith,  
even the salvation of your souls.

**Your certain salvation.**

*Your salvation is secured by God.*

*This salvation includes an  
incomparable inheritance.*



## 1 Peter 1:6-7

In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than **gold** which **is perishable**, even though tested by fire...

### **1 Peter 1:3-5**

God...has caused us to be born again...  
to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable  
and undefiled and will not fade away,  
reserved in heaven for you,  
who are protected by the power of God  
through faith for a salvation  
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*Do you believe that God is good  
and is doing you good?*

***Then rejoice no matter what!***