



1 & 2 PETER

PARKSIDE CHURCH COMMUNITY GROUPS

Review

The greeting of the letter introduces Peter, as God's agent with a message for God's people. To understand this message correctly we have to understand that we have been chosen by God in love and adopted into his forever family, but for now, we are exiles in this world. But our election and our exile are both by God's design accomplished by his Spirit that sets us apart for him, so that we will become more obedient to Jesus and become more like him who saved us with his cleansing blood. But trials and persecution can naturally make us feel defeated, so in the first part of his introduction Peter wants us to know that our trials are part of God's glorious plan that even angels long to look into. Our hope or ultimate salvation is alive, it's dynamic and eternal. Kept in heaven for us by God, it can't be destroyed by others, it can't be defiled by us, and it can never wither or fade. And not only does God keep our inheritance for us, he keeps us for our inheritance through faith. Therefore, we can rejoice in the midst of trials because 1) we know our salvation will come, 2) trials refine our faith, 3) we will be rewarded, and 4) we will see Jesus.

1 Peter 1:13-25

1. Christian Mindfulness (1:13)

- ready-minded

What "action" are we to be preparing our minds for?

- sober-minded

What do the verb phrases be ready and sober-minded protect us against as we set our hope...?

2. Christian Conduct (1:14-21)

- obedient children

What were we ignorant of before being believers?

What kinds of passions related to this ignorance are most common in the church?

- fearful exiles

Why does Peter exhort his readers to live with fear?

- ransomed believers



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3. Christian Love (1:22-25)

- purified souls for a pure love
How is the indicative part of v22 a restatement of the previous paragraph?

- born again through the living and abiding word of God

Conclusion

In what ways can you practice the discipline of 'Christian mindfulness'?

What ignorant passions and futile ways are you conformed to?

How can you do this week to put these to death?

What can you do this week to love others earnestly and with a sincere heart?