



Sermon Notes, 17 January 2021

Term Spring 2021

Series 1 Peter (Trust, Surrender, Confidence)

Gatherings: the 11, the 6

Title 1 Peter 1:1-12 – A Living Hope

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Reading – 1 Peter 1:1-12

There is much to encourage us in this passage, not least in the nature of the salvation we have received:

- Salvation exists in four tenses
 1. the far past (10 - 12): God planned our salvation before the world began (Ephesians 1:4)
 2. our own past (3) - 'God ... has given us ...'
 3. the present (9) - 'you are receiving ... the salvation of your souls'
 4. the future (5) - 'until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time'
- Salvation should bring forth our praise (3)
- Salvation is a gift of God's mercy (3) – we deserve death (Romans 6:23)
- Salvation means being born again (3) (cf John 3:3)
- Salvation gives us 'a living hope', 'through the resurrection of Jesus ...' (3)
 1. the resurrection of Jesus was physical and bodily, 'from the dead'
 2. it gave proof of Jesus's identity and mission (Acts 17:31)
 3. it guarantees our own resurrection: *we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you to himself* (2 Corinthians 4:14)
- Salvation bestows 'an inheritance which can never perish, spoil or fade - kept in heaven for you' (4) (cf Matthew 6:19-21)

In vv 1 & 2, as well as mentioning each member of the Trinity, Peter outlines 3 key themes in his writing:

- **ELECTION** – God has chosen us (the word implies deeply personal selection). Because of the saving 'blood of Jesus', Christians have a living hope 'kept in heaven for us' – the new life of Jesus gives us strength now, and his second coming gives us hope for the future
- **OBEDIENCE** – Christians are called to live differently from the way others live. The word here literally means *submission to what is heard*.
- **SANCTIFICATION** – the Holy Spirit transforms us so that we are enabled to live differently and in submission to the Word of God

Each of these themes invites a response

Trust – Lord Jesus, help me to put my trust in you and your Word. Help me believe that you can be taken at your Word; help me to trust that you mean what you say

Surrender – Lord Jesus, when I'm tempted to doubt the truth of your Word, when life's circumstances seem to suggest otherwise, help me surrender not to those circumstances but to your Word

Confidence – Lord Jesus, increase my confidence in you, that you become ever more my foundation for life