

The 3rd Sunday of Easter ~ Sunday, April 14, 2024

“The Resurrected Life: Resurrection Blessings”

1 Peter 1:1-9 & Luke 24:36-49

“If the world hates you, remember that it hated me first. The world would love you as one of its own if you belonged to it, but you are no longer part of the world. I chose you to come out of the world, so it hates you. Do you remember what I told you? ‘A slave is not greater than the master.’ Since they persecuted me, naturally they will persecute you...” (John 15:18-20)

Peter’s purpose in writing this letter was to _____ his readers to stand firm in the face of escalating persecution and suffering. To that end, he reminded them of the sure and certain _____ they had in Christ; calling them to live triumphantly in the midst of hostility without abandoning hope, becoming _____, losing faith in God, or forgetting Jesus’ promise to return.

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead...” (1 Peter 1:3)

Despite the context of persecution and extreme suffering, Peter begins this letter by _____.

_____, Peter wants us to see, ought to be the heart of our response not just to the glorious fact that Jesus is _____, but when we find ourselves in the midst of any kind of _____, large or small.

Peter doesn’t just call us to worship, he also seeks to _____ the fires of worship in our hearts by showing us four _____ that flow out of the empty tomb into every believing heart.

Resurrection Blessing #1. _____.

Jesus is the King who did in fact _____ again. And because He did, we too can have new life, not just at the end of the age, but actually breaking into our experience _____.

In using “born again,” Peter isn’t talking about a revivalistic tent crusade moment of personal _____ for Christ—like an altar call. Nor is being born again about simply turning over a new _____ or taking one’s _____ more seriously.

“You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient.” (Ephesians 2:1-2)

The cause of new life when it erupts into a dead sinner’s heart is not our _____, our calculation, or even our _____. If we’re to have new life, it will only be caused by the _____ of God the Father who _____ us to be born again.

Easter happened in order to give new life to _____ sinners.

“But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved.” (Ephesians 2:4-5)

Resurrection Blessing #2. _____.

It’s a _____ hope, Peter says, because we have a living _____. Death could not defeat Him, and because He now lives, as we believe in Him, death has no _____ on us either.

“an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you.” (1Peter 1:4)

In the OT, the inheritance of God’s chosen people was the _____—the physical, _____ land along the Mediterranean Sea that we know call Israel.

The _____ of all three words that Peter uses to describe our inheritance can be used to describe what happened to Israel’s inheritance. It was _____—they lost it many times, and still fight for possession of it today. It was _____ by their sin and rebellion. And it _____ in all its glories.

When we _____ in Jesus, who triumphed over death, ours will be an inheritance that can’t perish, can’t be defiled, and will never fade away. Of course, Peter’s talking about _____ and the new _____.

Our hope in that inheritance, that future destiny is not an _____. It’s not a wish or a vague _____ for something that is at best an outside possibility.

Often, when we talk about hope, it’s generally laced with _____.

When the Bible talks about the living hope given to us because Jesus rose from the dead, it’s not talking about a _____ of hopefulness, but rather the _____ of the thing hoped for. And Jesus’ resurrection is th _____ of that certainty.

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Christian hope isn’t just _____ optimism or wishful thinking—it’s unshakable _____ and _____ in the promises of God that doesn’t end with this

life but continues throughout _____.

So much of what the world offers us is _____ or dead hope. However, in the resurrection of Jesus, we have a _____ hope—a _____ and certain hope.

“Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But with God everything is possible.” (Matthew 19:26)

Resurrection Blessing #3. _____.

Our hope is sure, certain, and _____—not because we secured it by our own best _____ or good works, but because Jesus _____ it by His rising from the dead.

“an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you...” (1 Peter 1:4)

The inheritance that Jesus has secured for us is kept in _____, it’s imperishable, undefiled and unfading. Nothing can _____ the glory that awaits because Jesus lives.

Because Jesus lives, the same _____ that raised Him from the dead is at work to keep us, to _____ us, to secure us, and to _____ us forever—until God’s promise is fully and finally _____, and we receive this eternal inheritance.

“There is hope for your future, says the Lord.” (Jeremiah 31:17)

We are being kept by God for _____ and heaven is being kept for _____.

Resurrection Blessing #4. _____.

“In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials...” (1 Peter 1:6)

Christian joy isn’t merely a _____ to circumstantial pleasures. Christian joy is a _____ gladness of heart deriving deep satisfaction from the lavish _____ of God in Jesus Christ that comes to us because He rose again.

This joy is incredibly _____. It’s not glib, superficial, fake, _____, worked up, or pretended.

The rejoicing that Peter speaks of is in the _____ tense, and at the same time as _____ and grief, and amidst the _____ of everyday living. In other words, Christian joy is a _____ world joy that isn’t touched by trials; it can _____ in the same heart at the same time, _____ real grief.

Peter spells out the _____ for the grievous trials that come our way in verse 7.

“so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed.” (1 Peter 1:7)

We know that none of our sorrows or sufferings are _____, pointless, or useless things. God is at work in us, we know, to _____, even through our trials, for life with the risen Christ, so that when He returns we’ll be ready to live with Him _____.

“Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.” (1 Peter 1:8-9)



Christians are _____ to the world. We have new life amidst the _____ of the old. We have new hope when all around is _____ and decay. We have new security when there seems to be every reason to be _____. And we have new joy even when _____ comes and _____ strikes.

The _____ to unlocking the mystery of how this is possible is the _____ of Jesus from the dead.

This is the only _____ for the blessings of the Christian life in a difficult world like this one. It has nothing to do with _____ and everything to do with _____ in whom we trust.

The resurrection of Jesus really does _____ everything.

Will it bring that kind of change into your heart and into your life anew this Easter season?

The risen Jesus invites you to come to Him that you might know the blessings of the resurrection and live the resurrected life.

How will you respond?