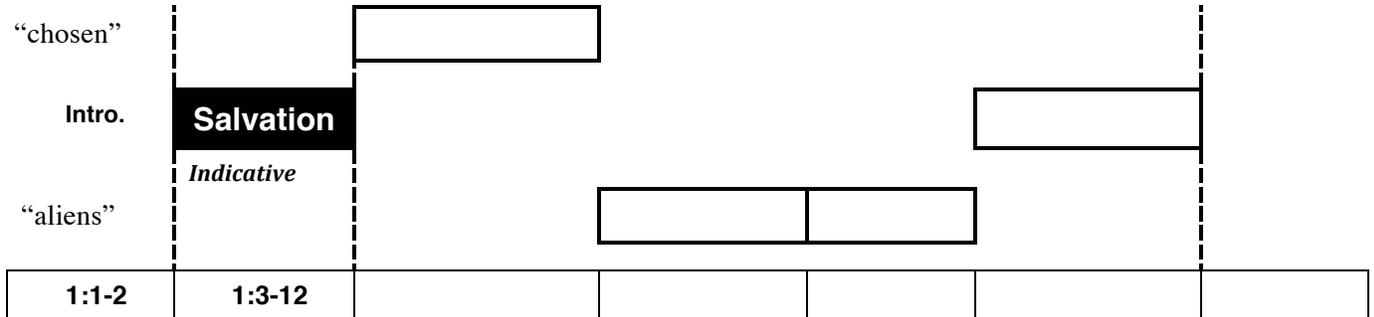


I Peter

The challenge of dual citizenship

I Peter 1:3-12



Principles for living as Faithful Members of God’s Kingdom and Fruitful Witnesses in a Fallen World

Salvation (hopeful expectation)

Principle #1 We are called to receive a blessing.

This blessing is reserved for us in the future ...

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 {which is} **imperishable** and **undefiled** and **will not fade away**, **reserved** in heaven for you, ⁵ who are **protected** by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Will my inheritance be there when I get there?

- *God the Father is the one who gives it.*
- *Christ’s resurrection secured it.*
- *It is not like space / time / material gifts.*
- *It is not dependant upon our performance.*

... while in the present we prove our faith through trials ...

⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, even though now **for a little while**, if **necessary**, you have been **distressed** by **various** trials, ⁷ 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: ⁸ 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, ⁹ obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.

Two types of Joy

Worldly Joy	Christian Joy
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<i>Dependant upon “good times.” Dependant upon what we see and feel with our natural senses.</i>	<i>Exists even in “hard times” Dependant upon what we see and feel through faith.</i>
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Hard times are:

- **necessary** (they can't be avoided)
- **varied** (they do not all look alike)
- **stressful** (they are not easy)
- **temporary** (they come and go)
- **useful** (they test and prove true faith)

“various trials”

Living in a fallen world	Being faithful	Not being faithful	Self-sacrifice for others	Self inflicted pain
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... following the example of Jesus who suffered before he was blessed.

10 As to this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that {would come} to you made careful search and inquiry, 11 seeking to know what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating as He predicted **the sufferings of Christ and the glories to follow.** 12 It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves, but you, in these things which now have been announced to you through those who preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things into which angels long to look.”

Sharing Jesus' Story

“the sufferings of Christ and the glories to follow”
<i>In his life as Jesus he obeyed, suffered, and waited.</i>	<i>At his resurrection he received the promise.</i>
<i>In this life we must obey, suffer, and wait.</i>	<i>At our resurrection we will be blessed.</i>

Salvation's blessing

<i>Past Longing</i>	<i>Present Testing</i>	<i>Future</i>
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The promise

First fruits

Blessing
Fullness