

## ENCOURAGEMENT FOR DISCOURAGING TIMES

1 Pet. 1:13-21

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**I. REMEMBER TO LIVE WITH HOPE – We are elect exiles with a living hope! 1 Peter 1:1-12**

- ✓ **Salvation** – God has elected and chosen me.
- ✓ **Sanctification** – God is working in my life.
- ✓ **Glorification** – God has secured my future.

**II. REMEMBER TO LIVE OUT YOUR CALLING – We are chosen to be different! 1 Peter 1:13-21**

*<sup>13</sup> Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. <sup>14</sup> As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, <sup>15</sup> but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, <sup>16</sup> since it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.” <sup>17</sup> And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one’s deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, <sup>18</sup> knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. <sup>20</sup> He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you <sup>21</sup> who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.*

1 Pet. 1:13–21 (ESV)

The Bible refers to two different worlds...

*<sup>13</sup> He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, Col 1:13 (ESV)*

**Thesis:** 1 Peter 1:13-21 is telling us **TO RUN** from this world toward a “HOLY” (ἅγιος – set apart, dedicated) life of LOVE that expresses itself in the perfect balance of GRACE and TRUTH.

Why does Jesus leave us in a world filled with trials, tribulation, pain, and persecution?

*<sup>15</sup> that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,<sup>16</sup> holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.*      **Philippians 2:15–16 (ESV)**

*Go out into the world uncorrupted, a breath of fresh air in this squalid and polluted society. Provide people with a glimpse of good living and of the living God. Carry the light-giving Message into the night so I'll have good cause to be proud of you on the day that Christ returns.*      **Philippians 2:15-16 (The Message)**

## **A. The Challenge to Be Different**

*So roll up your sleeves, put your mind in gear, be totally ready to receive the gift that's coming when Jesus arrives. Don't lazily slip back into those old grooves of evil, doing just what you feel like doing. You didn't know any better then; you do now. As obedient children, let yourselves be pulled into a way of life shaped by God's life, a life energetic and blazing with holiness.*

**1 Pet. 1:13-14 (The Message)**

### **1. You Have Been Made New.**

Peter takes “*becoming a new creation*” a step further by using the word “*holy*” -- “*shaped by God's life – energetic and blazing with holiness.*” Holiness is to “*be set apart*” from the ways of the world, from the ways of the flesh, from the ways of darkness, and dedicated and determined to be like Jesus to the people around you.

## 2. Prepare Yourself For A Different Life.

In the face of various kinds of trials and tribulations, Peter is pleading that we become ‘disciplined Christians.’ Discipline demands obedience! Therefore, in the words of The Message...

*So roll up your sleeves, put your mind in gear, be totally ready to receive the gift that’s coming when Jesus arrives. Don’t lazily slip back into those old grooves of evil, doing just what you feel like doing. You didn’t know any better then; you do now. As obedient children, let yourselves be pulled into a way of life shaped by God’s life, a life energetic and blazing with holiness.*

**1 Pet. 1:13-14 (The Message)**

You are a new creation and as a new creation **PREPARE FOR BATTLE.**

John, in the opening chapter of his gospel, tells us that when Jesus came into the world as LIGHT, the world did not know him or receive Him. John describes the armor of Jesus incarnation as:

*<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.... <sup>16</sup> For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup> For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.*

**John 1:14, 16-18 (ESV)**

God “so loved” the *cosmos* that he sent the *logos* to be the ultimate expression of His love expressed as grace and truth to a world that desperately needs hope.

WHY live in such a way in a world that is falling apart?

Because...

### 3. God Paid The Price. 1 Peter 1:18-21

*<sup>18</sup> knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. <sup>20</sup> He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you <sup>21</sup> who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.*

1 Peter 1:18–21 (ESV)

**Communion:**