

# 1 Peter



## **Encouragement Because of Our Living Hope**

**1 Peter 1:3-5**

# Peter

## 1 Peter 1:3-5

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.



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## Introduction

Mere Christianity, C.S. Lewis wrote, “If you read history you will find that the Christians who did most for the present world were just those who thought most of the next. . . . Aim at Heaven and you will get earth ‘thrown in’: aim at earth and you will get neither.”



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## Introduction

- Living hope gives us daily hope
- Focus on being encouraged by our living hope this fall
- Hope and expectation motivate the Christian life
- Because each day brings its own challenges, the living hope is just as resilient and ready!
- Living hope replaces dead despair!



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# Springs from God's great Mercy

- "In his great mercy"
- This is why God is "Blessed" verse 1
- Great=abundant
- 1 Peter 2:10-- Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.



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## Grounded in our spiritual birth

- Having begotten again, regenerated
- Our second birth, God is our Father
- 1:23-- For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.
- God waited patiently for our birth
- He is invested in us



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## Made Possible through Jesus' Resurrection

- “Through”—only because he did!
- “From the dead”—Peter’s emphasis here
- 42 times in NT—Foundational doctrine
- **1 Peter 3:21**— “And this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ...”



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## Reserved in heaven

- Illustration of reserved seats
- Reserved inheritance-- never perish, spoil or fade
- divine watchfulness on our behalf
- Anticipation of coming attractions with reserved inheritance!
- “For you!”—personal and individual with our names on it!



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## Guarded by the power of God

- “Through faith...”
- Guarded, shielded
- Reminds me of David and Goliath story
- For the salvation ready to be revealed
- In the last time (*chairo*s, not *chronos*)
- Not ticking of the clock, rather in God’s timing!



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## Conclusion

**This living hope...**

- Springs from God's great mercy
- Grounded in our spiritual birth
- Made possible through Jesus' resurrection
- Reserved in heaven
- Guarded by the power of God



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