

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **1Peter 1:3-9**.
- B. The Hebrew writer says that our hope is to be an anchor for the soul. Our hope is to be sure and steadfast.
- C. In the storms and uncertainties of life, our hope as Christians is to be that which stabilizes us.
- D. Because we have been born again we have a living hope that is strong and sure. Peter discusses our living hope in detail.

I. A LIVING HOPE.

- A. The resurrection of X has given us a living hope, in which we are saved (Rom. 8:24).
- B. If we hope to get to heaven, then we will:
 - 1. Desire it (have deeds worthy).
 - 2. Expect it (confidence according to 1Jn. 5:13).
- C. Our living hope brings an inheritance that is nothing less than indescribable (1:4):
 - 1. **Incorruptible (never perish; NIV, imperishable; NAS).**
Nothing unclean will ever enter the true church (Rev. 21:27).
 - 2. **Undefiled (never spoil; NIV).**
No idol worship, polluted sacrifices, unclean temple. No sin in the city (Rev. 21:8).
 - 3. **Fades not away (never fade; NIV).**
The old Law faded away due to being fulfilled. But Heaven never fades in glory.
See 2Cor. 3:7, 13; Heb. 8:13.
 - 4. **Reserved in heaven for you (kept; NIV).**
The true promised land for believers today. See Phil. 3:20.
- D. Our desire and expectation is not in vain! We have a living hope!

II. SECURED BY GOD HIMSELF.

- A. **Protected by God (1:5).**
This means to be guarded or shielded. It is a military term that emphasizes a soldier looking out for us continually.
- B. **Prepared by God (1:6-7).**
Trials and suffering are preparing us for a greater faith. God is able to use our sufferings and problems to our benefit!
- C. **Purchased by God in Christ (1:8-9).**
We are to:
 - 1. Love Christ.
 - 2. Trust Christ.
 - 3. Rejoice in Christ.
 - 4. Be saved in Christ.
- D. **Prophesied by God (1:10-12).**
 - 1. They worked in our behalf.
 - 2. They wanted to know who and when.
 - 3. They wanted to know of glory that would follow (resurrection and/or church).
 - 4. Serving us, and not themselves.
 - 5. Things which the angels desire to know.
- E. Our desire and expectation is not in vain! We have a living hope!

III. "...WHAT SORT OF PEOPLE OUGHT YOU TO BE..."

- A. Peter says to show fear or great reverence for God (1:17).
Let us be fearful of disappointing God by not living faithful! Reverence is a healthy fear.

- B. Therefore:
1. **Gird your minds for action** (1:13).
Get busy in the church. Find things to do that bring honor and glory to God.
Start dreaming and praying (Eph. 3:20-21).
 2. **Be sober** (1:13).
Be calm, steady, and controlled. Weigh matters before you act.
God is sitting on His throne in complete control--let's start acting like it!
 3. **Fix your hope on God's grace** (1:13).
God's grace is always sufficient--so trust in it (2Cor. 12:9).
God's grace can enable (empower) you, to do what is necessary.
 4. **As (be) obedient children** (1:14).
To be obedient is--to listen, to submit, and to trust.
Before we became Christians, we were children of disobedience (Eph. 2:1-3).
 5. **Not conformed to former lusts** (1:14).
Ignorance leads to indulgence.
When you do not know what is right, you will begin doing what is wrong.
 6. **Be holy in your behavior** (1:15).
Holiness is part of God's nature, or character.
Holiness, therefore, should be part of our new character, since we are chosen of Him.
- C. Our desire and expectation is not in vain! We are to be living our hope!

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. Again look at the key words and phrases of this passage. Our redemption and inheritance is:
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| 1. Incorruptible. | 3. Never fades away. |
| 2. Undeified. | 4. Reserved in heaven. |
- B. Secured by God because He has:
- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Protected it. | 3. Purchased it. |
| 2. Prepared it. | 4. Prophesied it. |
- C. Therefore we are to live like it, by:
- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Girding our minds for action. | 4. Being obedient children. |
| 2. Being sober. | 5. Not conformed to former lusts. |
| 3. Fixing our hope on God's grace. | 6. Being holy in character. |
- D. Plan of salvation for non-Xians, erring Xians.