

"This Salvation" 1 Peter 1:1-12

The Road Map of Verses 1-12

- The Greeting: Who are you? (vv. 1-2)
- The Introduction: Who is God? (vv. 3-5)
- The Main Body: What is the Christian life supposed to look like? (vv. 6-9)
- Conclusion: The Salvation that answers all these questions (vv. 10-12)

1. Who are you in Christ?

- Elect exiles = chosen and set apart for God (1)
- Foreknown by God = Chosen because of God's love (2)
- Sanctification of the Spirit = Chosen for holiness and obedience (2)
- Sprinkled with Christ's blood = Your sin is atoned for (2)
- Peace and grace = You have God and his undeserved, Fatherly love and provision

2. Who is God?

- Blessed = praise worthy for his mercy (3)
- Causes "new birth" = HE changes us (3)
- Provides a "living hope" and "inheritance" = he provides a hope that can't die (3, 4)
- Guards us until the last day = He does the saving and the keeping (5)

3. What is the Christian life supposed to look like?

- "Sorrowful, yet always rejoicing" (6)
- Faith that's always tested (7)
- Expecting glory (7, 1 Peter 5:1)
- Tasting now, in part, what we will have on the last day (8-9)

Applications:

1. Point each other to greater joys in God

Charles Spurgeon: *"I am occupied in my small way, as Mr. Great-heart was employed in Bunyan's day. I do not compare myself with that champion, but I am in the same line of business. I am engaged in personally-conducted tours to Heaven; and I have with me, at the present time, dear Old Father Honest: I am glad he is still alive and active. And there is Christiana, and there are her children. It is my business, as best I can, to kill dragons, and cut off giants' heads, and lead on the timid and trembling. I am often afraid of losing some of the weaklings. I have the heart-ache for them; but, by God's grace, and your kind and generous help in looking after one another, I hope we shall all travel safely to the river's edge. Oh, how many have I had to part with there! I have stood on the brink, and I have heard them singing in the midst of the stream, and I have almost seen the shining ones lead them up the hill, and through the gates, into the Celestial City."*

2. Repent of Cool Spirituality

1 Peter 1:10-12

Jonathan Edwards: "Our external delights, our earthly pleasures, our ambition and our reputation, our human relationships, for all of these things, our desires are eager, our appetites strong, our love warm and affectionate. When it comes to these things our hearts are tender and sensitive, deeply impressed, easily moved, much concerned and greatly engaged. We are depressed at our losses and we are excited and joyful about any worldly success or prosperity. But when it comes to spiritual matters, how dull we feel. How heavy and hard our hearts. We can sit and hear of the infinite length

and height and breadth and love of God in Christ Jesus, of His giving of His infinitely dear Son, and yet sit there cold and unmoved. If we are going to be excited about anything, shouldn't it be our spiritual lives? Is there anything more inspiring, more exciting, more lovable and desirable in heaven or on earth than the Gospel of Jesus Christ? We should be utterly humbled that we are not more emotionally affected than we are in the church."

3. Tell Yourself What You Already Know

1 Peter 1:6-9

Martyn Lloyd Jones: "Have you realized that most of your unhappiness in life is due to the fact that you are listening to yourself instead of talking to yourself? Take those thoughts that come to you the moment you wake up in the morning. You have not originated them but they are talking to you, they bring back the problems of yesterday, etc. Somebody is talking. Who is talking to you? Your self is talking to you. Now this man's treatment [in Psalm 42] was this: instead of allowing this self to talk to him, he starts talking to himself. "Why art thou cast down, O my soul?" he asks. His soul had been depressing him, crushing him. So he stands up and says, "Self, listen for moment, I will speak to you."