

### The Ultimate Experience Of Joy

- Last week we talked about being born again to a living HOPE
- Its about 3 things God has done
- 1. He has caused us to be BORN AGAIN. He has given us a NEW BIRTH. Hope wasn't there before the New Birth
- 2. It was because of God's Great MERCY that we were born again to a Living HOPE
- 3. Through the Resurrection of Jesus we are Born Again
- No Resurrection, No New Birth, No Hope

### An Inheritance From God!

- Because are born again into the Family of God we have the Hope of receiving an inheritance from God!!!
- What will our future experience be?
- 4 words to describe this experience
- 1. Inheritance – Speaks of future event. Its coming.
  - Generally, an inheritance is not earned, but is given because you are a part of the family
  - The descriptive words that follow that describe the inheritance show that it is durable. It will be there forever

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- 2. It is IMPERISHABLE – It will never disappear. Its out there, it will not fail
- 3. It is UNFADING – it will not become less glorious
- 4. It is UNDEFILED – There will be no sinfulness in it. It will undefiled. There will be nothing to jeopardize its greatness and YOUR inheritance.
- 5. It will never end, nothing defective, and never fade

### Care Of The Inheritance

- Who and How is this inheritance being looked after?
  - Kept in heaven
  - With your name on it
- What about you?
  - vs.5 – ... YOU, who by God's power are being guarded through faith – by believing (through faith) that God is still God in tough times, and He will save my soul.
  - V.6 - Focusing on our HOPE we endure various trials and rejoice in the promise of our inheritance to give us strength through the trials.

### Tested By Fire!

Vs.7 "So that the tested genuineness of your faith, more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ."

- God allows our faith to be tested by fire. Figuratively, Literally
- Who receives the "praise and glory and honour"?
- The comparison is between the genuineness of your faith and gold. Fire purifies gold and fire of persecution purifies our faith. What comes out the other side is pure
- Matt.25:20-21; 1Cor.4:5 -

### Living Our Hope

1. Live by Faith – vs.5b, 8b
2. Love Your God – 8
3. Live in Joy inexpressible, even in trials – 6a
4. Walk through sorrow rejoicing – 6b - 2Cor.6:10 – "sorrowful, yet always rejoicing."
5. Know we are being kept – 4, 5a

As we get older our memory is not what it used to be. God knows our heart. Keep Loving God and loving people, no matter what happens, Reflect Jesus!