

# LIVING AS EXILES

WORDS OF GRACE FOR TROUBLED TIMES



SETTING OUR HOPE  
ON FUTURE GRACE

1 PETER 1:10-13

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## Introduction

- We live in an unprecedented age
  - Alleviation does not equal elimination
- Life consists largely of suffering
 

“The best thing I can do for my church is to prepare them to suffer”
- We need a robust biblical understanding of suffering
  - This is one of the most important gifts of 1Peter

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## The Prophets' Search <sup>(10-11)</sup>

Concerning this *salvation*, (5, 9)  
 the *prophets* who prophesied  
 about the *grace* that was to be yours  
 searched and inquired carefully,  
 inquiring what person or time  
 the *Spirit of Christ* in them  
 was indicating when he predicted  
 the *sufferings* of Christ  
 and the subsequent *glories*.

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The Prophets' Conclusion <sup>(12a)</sup>

It was *revealed* to them  
that they were *serv*ing not themselves  
but you

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Our Blessing <sup>(12b)</sup>

...in the things that have now been announced  
to you through those who  
preached the good news to you  
by the *Holy Spirit* sent from heaven,  
things into which *angels* long to look.

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Our Calling <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.

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Application

- Jesus Christ as the archetype of our experience of salvation
- Jewish expectation: Messiah's arrival would bring about His and their glory
- False Christian model: Jesus' sufferings and glory → our glory
- True Christian model: Jesus' sufferings and glory → our sufferings...then glory
- This is "built in" to the experience of salvation
- Including physical, relational, expectations/disappointments, family, vocational, church, friendships, etc.

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Application

- Caveat: sufferings in Christ don't mean misery
  - Living as disciples means learning to live lives of faith, hope, and love in this world as we look forward to the revelation of Jesus Christ on that Day
  - We shouldn't anticipate equivalent returns on our "investments" in this life
  - Doing all the good as we are able - anticipating more than a full return at the return of Jesus
- Love God - Build the Church - Reach the World*

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