

“A Faithful Father!”
1 Peter 1:3-5

Introduction:

1. God Is Going To Fortify Our Faith, As We Work Our Way Through 1 Peter!
 - And God, Through Peter, Is Reminding Us That We Will Face Storms In Our Lives!
 - Storms Of Suffering / Struggling / Strife!
 - But Because Of God’s Grace:
 - We Can Make It Through!
2. And To Further Encourage Us, In 1:3-5, Peter Further Describes Not Only What It Means To Be A Christian:
 - But Also One Of The Greatest Benefits Of Being A Christian!
 - And That Is: A Christian Is A Child Of God!
 - A Christian Has God As Their Father!
3. God Has Many Titles & Descriptions In The Bible!
 - To Explain His Relationship To His People!
 - He Is Our Shepherd!
 - He Is Our King! He Is Our Shield! He Is Our Rock!
 - But One Of The Most Encouraging & Comforting Descriptions:
 - Especially When We Are Going Through Life’s Storms:
 - Is That God Is Our Father!
4. We All Have Fathers!
 - Some Of Our Fathers Have Failed Us!
 - But God Is The Ideal Father!
 - He Is The Heavenly Father! He Is A Faithful Father!
 - So, This Message Is Meant To Encourage & Comfort:
 - Those Who Know That God Is Their Father!
 - And If He Isn’t:
 - He Also Tells You How He Can Become Your Father!
 - So, Even “When my father and my mother forsake me, then the LORD will take me up!” (Psalm 27:10)
5. What Makes God Such A Faithful Father?

1. He Gives His Children An Eternal Promise!

- 1:3a - “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!”
 - God Knows What It Is Like To Be A Father, Because He Is A Father!
 - And Fathers Make Promises To Their Children!
 - **IE:** Jerry Sivnksty At Harvest Teen Rally Was Explaining Trust - Telling His Child To Run & Jump Into His Arms - Promise: I Will Catch You!
- God Promised A Solution!
 - Don’t Fathers – Good Fathers – Always Have A Solution!
 - Adam & Eve Were God’s Children By Creation - But They Changed Forever Mankind’s Spiritual Heritage Through Sin!
 - God, As A Faithful Father, Promised A Solution!
 - Genesis 3:15 - “And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel!”
 - The Rest Of Scripture Slowly Reveals Who This Solution Will Be!
- God Promised A Son!
 - He Is The “Father Of Our Lord Jesus Christ!”
 - Isaiah 9:6 - “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given!”
 - There Is A Unique / Eternal Relationship Between God The Father & God The Son – Jesus Christ!
 - And It Shows Us The Kind Of Love & Care That Is Available To Us!
- God Promised A Savior!
 - The “Lord Jesus Christ!”
 - “Jesus” Means Savior!

- He Was Willing To Send His Son Into This World, So: “That ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name!” (John 20:31)
- These Promises Belong To You:
 - If You Have Jesus Christ As Your “Lord”!
 - Like Peter Did! “Our Lord Jesus Christ!”
 - When Jesus Is Your Lord – He Is Your Connection To God!
 - And To His Promises & To His Mercy!
 - Do You Have God As Your Father?
 - This Is Where It Begins! It Comes Through Having Jesus Christ – God’s Son – As Your Own Lord & Savior!
 - Then, God Becomes Your Father!
 - And His Eternal Promises Belong To You!

2. ***He Gives His Children An Eternal Promotion!***

- 1:3b - “Which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again!”
 - **IE:** Two Of My Cousins Were Adopted! They Became My Cousins When A Legal Transaction Took Place! Before This Adoption, They Were The Children Of Someone Else – They Had No Rights / Privileges In My Family! But After Their Adoption, They Became My True Cousins! Took The Family Name!
 - In Order For You To Have God As Your Father:
 - Something Had To Take Place!
 - A New Birth! John 3 - Jesus To Nicodemus - “Ye Must Be Born Again!”
 - This Is What God Does – So He Can Be Your Father!
- We Are All God’s Creation!
 - Like Adam & Eve! “Children” In A Sense! Everyone & Everything Belongs To Him!
 - But Sin Messed Up Our Relationship With God!
 - Even As Our Creator! Must Not Look Past This!
- We Are All God’s Challengers!
 - Children Of A Different Father!
 - John 8:44 - “Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do!”
 - 1 John 3:10 - “In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother!”
 - There Needs To Be A Change! A Transaction!
- We Can Become God’s Children!
 - “Begotten Us Again!” - To “Regenerate” Us!
 - To Give Us A New Life Through A New Birth!
 - Andy - “Born Once / Die Twice – Born Twice / Die Once!”
 - Romans 8:14-16 - “For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. / For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. / The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God!”
- If Jesus Christ Is Your Lord & Savior:
 - You Are No Longer A Child Of The Devil!
 - You Are A Child Of God! An Eternal Promotion! An Eternal Adoption!
- Why Would He Do This?
 - “According To His Abundant Mercy!”
 - Psalm 103:13-17 - “Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him. / For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust. / As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth. / For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more. / But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him!”
- God Is A Faithful & Merciful Father!

3. ***He Gives His Children An Eternal Provision!***

- 1:3c-4a - “Unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, / To an inheritance

- incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away!”
 - A Faithful Father Will Take Care Of His Children!
 - Matthew 7:9-11 - “What man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? / Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? (Luke 11:12 Adds: “Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?”) / If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?”
 - God Will Take Care Of / Provide For His Children!
- God Provides Hope!
 - This Is What We Need In The Present! Through Storms!
 - **IE:** We Live In A “Hopeless” Generation!
 - Seen In Suicide Rates - “In 2006 (the latest year for which we have national statistics), there were 33,300 uicides in the U.S. (91.2 suicides per day; 1 suicide every 15.8 minutes). Suicide is the eleventh leading cause of death!”
 - God Gives His Children Hope! Real Hope!
 - “Lively” – Living Hope!
 - Not Empty / Frustrating / Deceptive / False! (Hiebert)
 - If You Are Without Hope, Look To God As Your Father!
- God Provides Healing!
 - This Is What We Need From The Past! Of Sin!
 - “By (Through) The Resurrection Of Jesus Christ From The Dead!”
 - 1 Corinthians 15:17 - “If Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins!”
 - John 14:19 - “Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also!”
- God Provides Heirs!
 - This Is What We Need In The Future! Final Salvation!
 - “To An Inheritance!” – If God Is Your Father!
 - What An Inheritance It Is!
 - It Will Not Decay! “Incorruptible!”
 - It Is Not Deformed! “Undefiled!”
 - It Will Never Diminish! “Fadeth Not Away!”
 - Unlike Any Inheritance We May Receive Now!
 - “Death / Sin / Time - Proof!” (MacDonald)
- “Be not dismayed whate’er betide, God will take care of you; Beneath His wings of love abide, God will take care of you! / God will take care of you, Through every day, over all the way; He will take care of you, God will take care of you!”
 - Because God Is A Faithful Father!

4. ***He Gives His Children An Eternal Protection!***

- 1:4b-5 - This Inheritance Is - “Reserved in heaven for you, / Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time!”
 - Whenever I Was With My Dad, I Was Rarely Afraid!
 - With God As Your Father, You Never Need To Be Afraid!
- God Will Protect Your Inheritance!
 - “Reserved In Heaven For You!”
 - Never Lost! Never Looted!
 - “Reserved” & Preserved!
 - Guarded Under His Watchful Eye!
- God Will Protect Your Identity!
 - “You – Who Are Kept!”
 - **IE:** No “Life-Lock” Needed To Preserve Your Identity!
 - 2 Timothy 2:19 - “The Lord knoweth them that are his!”
 - And He Will “Keep” You Also! (As Well As Inheritance)
 - Like A Military Guard!
 - How Does God Protect You?

- "By His Power!"
 - Which Is Omnipotent! You Can Trust!
- "Through Your Faith!"
- Why Does God Protect You?
 - Unto Your Salvation!"
 - That Is "Ready To Be Revealed!"
- Your "Final Salvation" Is Coming!
 - When Your Faith Will Be Made Sight! When You See Your Savior "Face To Face!"
- God Will Protect You:
 - Because He Is A Faithful Father!

Conclusion:

1. And There Is No Greater Comfort & No Greater Joy!
 - Than Having & Knowing God As Your Father!
 - Why Peter Starts Out 1:3 - "Blessed!"
2. "Blessed!"
 - God Deserves Your Praise / Thanks / Worship!
3. This Is What Made Sarepta M. I. Henry Write:
 - I know my heav'nly Father knows
The storms that would my way oppose;
But He can drive the clouds away,
And turn the darkness into day.
 - I know my heav'nly Father knows
The balm I need to soothe my woes;
And with His touch of love divine
He heals this wounded heart of mine.
 - I know my heav'nly Father knows
How frail I am to meet my foes;
But He my cause will e'er defend,
Uphold and keep me to the end.
 - I know my heav'nly Father knows
The hour my journey here will close;
And may that hour, O faithful Guide,
Find me safe sheltered by Thy side.
4. God Is A Faithful Father!

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