

Tested by Fire

1 Peter 1:6-9

1. _____ of the New Birth
 - a. Their _____ (v. 6)
 - i. _____
 - ii. _____
 - iii. Sometimes _____
 - b. Their _____ (v. 7)
 - i. To _____ our faith
 - ii. To _____ our faith
 - iii. To _____ faith's reward
2. _____ of the New Birth
 - a. Understood to _____ trials(v. 6)
 - b. Found to be _____ by nature (v. 7)
 - c. Rooted in the _____ of Jesus (v. 8)
 - d. Described by joy _____
 - e. Grounded in the ultimate _____ (v. 9)

"The crucible is for silver, and the furnace is for gold, and the LORD tests hearts." (Proverbs 17:3)

"Behold, I have refined you, but not as silver; I have tried in the furnace of affliction." (Isaiah 48:10)

"... for we walk by faith, not by sight." (2 Corinthians 5:7)

For Further Study

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In the background of 1 Peter is always the reality that the recipients are either presently or soon to be undergoing persecution and thus suffering. List the possible sources of such suffering (which are "of many colors") ...

Read Psalm 55:1-8 and/or 1 Kings 19:1-4. Can believers be overwhelmed by their circumstances and trials?

Does it help to know why we must endure such trials?
Do we know *specifically* why we do?

Read Proverbs 17:3 and Malachi 3:1-4. In coordination with verse seven of our text, what is the purpose of some of our trials?

Is it really possible to be joyful in the midst of affliction?

1. Peter says "in this" you rejoice. What is "this and how is it a reason for joy?"
2. Define joy as described in this passage.
3. With Matthew 5:10-12, how does this joy reside in the believer even through the sorrow of suffering?
4. This joy is in part due to the picture of the return of Jesus. How does God see tested and tried faith (v. 7)?
5. How do Jesus' words in John 20:29 comfort us now?
6. What in the world is joy *unspeakable*?
7. What is the outcome of a tested and genuine faith?

One reason 1 Peter is such a vital letter to the church today is that there are many false teachers proclaiming that believers will live an easy life after professing faith. How have these first 9 verses countered that teaching?