

1 Peter 1:1-7

¹Peter, an apostle of Jesus the King,

To those who are elect exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, ²according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus the King and for sprinkling with his blood:

May grace and peace be multiplied to you.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus the King! **According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus the King from the dead,** ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

⁶In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷so 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 the King.

The resurrection stands along with the cross at the center of world history, giving history its meaning and direction. In Jesus's return from the grave, something new has begun that will one day fill the earth... The resurrection creates a community that shares in the resurrection of Christ and participates in the powers of the age to come. Individuals within this eschatological community participate by faith and repentance.

-Michael Goheen, *A Light to the Nations*, 113-114

It is not an overstatement to say...that at the core of their being, in the deepest recesses of who they are—in other words, in “the inner self”—believers will never be more resurrected than they already are. God has done a work in each believer, a work of nothing less than resurrection proportions, that will not be undone. Such language, it needs to be stressed, is not just a metaphor...the past resurrection of the inner man is to be understood as realistically and literally as future, bodily resurrection.

-Richard Gaffin, *By Faith, Not By Sight*, 76-77.

A Living Hope

April 17, 2022 | 1 Peter 1:1-7 | Pastor Roger Williams

We have been born again into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

Why through the resurrection of Jesus from the dead?

Jesus the King | elect exiles | into

What is this living hope?

inheritance | kept in heaven | to be revealed

How do we access this living hope?

born again | faith | various trials

1 Peter 3

¹³Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? ¹⁴But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.

There are the good things of this world, the hard things of this world, and the best things of this world—God's love, glory, holiness, beauty. The Bible's teaching is that the road to the best things is not through the good things but usually through the hard things, as Jesus himself shows us...There is no message more contrary to the way the world understands life or more subversive to its values.

-Timothy Keller, *Hope in Times of Fear*, 62.