

# A Living Hope

1 Peter 1:1-12

Key Verse: 1:3

**“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead....”**

1. Read verse 1. How does Peter identify himself? What does this mean? To whom is this letter addressed? Why are God's elect also strangers in the world? (Jn 15:18-20) Why were they "scattered?"

2. Read verse 2. How does God the Father, God the Holy Spirit, and God the Son work to make believers his own people? Why does he talk about abundant grace and peace?

3. Read verse 3. Why do we praise God? How has God revealed his great mercy? What is "a new birth"? (2 Co5:17; Eph 2:4) Why do we need a new birth? How does God bring it about? (3,23; Jn 3:3; Jn1:12-13) What does the term "birth" suggest? (1 Pe 2:1-2)

4. What is "a living hope?" (What are dead hopes?) Read verse 4. What is the nature of our inheritance? How is it different from a material inheritance? What does this mean to us? Read verse 5. How are God's people kept and protected? Until when?

5. Read verses 6-7. Why do God's people greatly rejoice? Why is faith of greater worth than gold? How is faith refined? With what result? (Ro 5:3-5)

6. Read verses 8-9. How can we love Jesus whom we have not seen? (Jn 20:29) What is the result of loving Jesus and holding on to our faith and love in the worst of times? Why is salvation described as ongoing process? ("are receiving")

7. Read verses 10-12. For what were the prophets of old searching and waiting? Why are we more privileged than they? Why are we even more privileged than angels?