

Easter 2020
1 Peter 1:3-5
David Taylor

Millions are celebrating Easter differently this year, they are either alone or with immediate family. It is a gracious gift to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ here together or on FB livestream. One thing is certain for all of us, life is radically different than Easter last year. Many are looking for some good news and for answers to deal with loneliness, isolation, anxiety, and life post Covid-19. The consequences of Covid-19 will follow us for some years. Experts are projecting social and economic fallout that will last for years. How are you coping, finding strength to thrive rather than just survive in life right now? What advice are you giving to those who are struggling with fear and anxiety or concerns over the way our government is addressing it? 1 Peter 1:3-5 tells us where to find strength in times of great distress like we have. 1 Peter 1:3-5 like gel pack that can replenish our faith, give us strength to deal with the struggles we face right now.

Peter says, in this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials (1 Peter 1:6). They were rejoicing though they were experiencing great distress. How can you have unshakable joy when running the race called life and it seeks to suck the joy from you? Rejoice in this! This that he refers to is verses three through five. These verses are like a gel pack when you are running a marathon that strengthens you to keep going when you are running out of energy. These verses are like a gel pack that you can come back to, to reflect on, memorize and pull out of your memory when life is hard and you have no spiritual strength. 1 Peter 1:3-5 gives us four truths that have the ability to strengthen us in difficult times. These verses tell us that the resurrection secures for us a new life, living hope, a secure future, and present power. First, we are given new life.

New Life

According to God's great mercy, he has caused us to be born again. God's mercy motivated him to give you new life. This is not about becoming religious but becoming spiritually alive. Jesus told a religious leader, Nicodemus, that he must be born again but Nicodemus thought he was talking about natural childbirth. Rather Jesus was referring to a supernatural work of the Spirit (Jn 3:3-7) in which God makes spiritually dead people spiritually alive. The evidences of being made alive is a new desire for God and the desire to obey Him. So, the first source of strength in difficult times is that because of God's great mercy toward you, he made us spiritually alive. The result of being made alive is that we have a living hope.

Living Hope

This hope leads to hope filled living. This hope is not like hoping you will get a date or a job or that it will be sunny today with no assurance of it coming to pass. Rather, this living hope is a bedrock assurance that because Jesus rose from the grave, he can and will keep his promises. This hope thrives on the foundation of faith (Heb 11:1). A solid foundation for hope is a growing faith, following Jesus, listening to his voice through his word, and responding to him in prayer, and obeying him. So, the resurrection secures for us a new life, a living hope and third, a secure future.

A Secure Future

The object of this living hope is a secure future, an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading. Everything in this life perishes so must be replaced, everything gets stained or dirty so must be cleaned, and everything fades so must be refurbished. But our inheritance is imperishable so it never wears out. It is undefiled so it never needs to be cleaned or purified. And it is unfading, so it never loses its luster. Our inheritance is secure, kept in heaven for you¹ by your merciful Father. He wants us to assure us that you that your inheritance is secure. This inheritance is the promise of an eternity with God and ever increasing joy and happiness. All that will have our attention in eternity will always have the ever increasing capacity to amaze us, ever increasing joy

¹ He uses the personal pronoun you for the first time here rather than us to make it more personal and meaningful.

and satisfaction. So the resurrection secures for us new life, a living hope, a secure future, and finally, a present power.

Present Power

To assure them that they will remain faithful to Christ in the midst of severe distress, he promises that they are being guarded through faith by God's power for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. We are guarded by God through faith. We need God's power because the fight of faith is a spiritual battle against spiritual forces that we are not equipped to handle on our own. God keeps us secure by faith for a salvation ready to be revealed as the last time.² The reason we remain faithful is because God keeps us. The power to remain faithful comes from hoping in the grace received in eternity (1 Pet 1:13). All throughout the bible it is the hope of eternity by which God sustained his people. It was their hope in a heavenly country (Heb 11:16) and a city whose builder and designer is God (Heb 11:10). Strength today comes from thinking about our future satisfaction!

² We see in these verses that salvation as work of God is past, God has caused up to be born again; present, we are guarded by God through faith; and future, ready to be revealed in the last time.

Foreigners in a Foreign Land
God's Great Mercy and Our Great Salvation, part 2
1 Peter 1:3-5
David Taylor

Great Mercy Leads to Great Exaltation

Great Mercy Leads to Our Salvation

Take aways . . .

- ⤴ Our New Birth is God's work, not my work
- ⤴ Our future hope gives us power in the present
- ⤴ God is the one that secures my destiny

1 Peter 1:3-5

Millns r celeb Easter diff year ~either alone or w/immed family.

a grac gift celeb res of JC here 2geth or livestream on FB.

1 thing is certain all, life rad diff Easter last

Many look 4 some GN, answ deal w/lone, isol, anxiety, fw life > Covid-19. **mike becker**

Conseq Covid-19 will follow us 4 sum years.

Expts proj social & econ fallout last 4 years.

How r u coping, find str 2 thrive > just surv in life right now?

What advice giv those who r strugg withw/fear & anxiety over way govt address

1 P 1:3-5 ~where find stren times of gr8 distress like hav now

IE life; Xn life ~marath; need fuel reg,

20-30 min gel pack w/simpl sugars & electrolyt replen glycogen levels fuel long runs

1 Peter 1:3-5 like gel pack replen r faith, give stren deal w/strugg face now.

READ 3-9

Peter ~ in this u rejoice, tho now 4 little while, if nec, u hav ben griev by var trials (6).

were rejo tho were exp gr8 distress.

How can hav unshak joy when run race life & seeks suck joy fr u? Rejoice in this!

This ~ refers 2 v3-5

These vs like gel pack when run mara stren u 2 keep going when u r run out energy.

can come back 2, reflect, memorz & pull out memory when no Sp stren **le tread water**

1:3-5 gives 4 T to streng us diff times: new life, liv hop, secur futur, & pres power.

First, source of str new life.

Accord 2 G gr8 mercy, has caused us 2b BA ~ G mercy motiv 2 give you new life.

not bc relig but bc Sp alive **le Chadwell;**

J told rel lead, Nic, must b BA but Nic thot talking about nat childbirth.

But J refer 2 a SN work of S in which G makes Sp dead people Sp alive. **le morgue**

Evid b Sp aliv ~ new desire 4 G & 2 new desire & stren obey

So, 1st sorc stren **gel pack** is bc of G gr8 mercy mad us Sp alive.

The result of b made alive ~ **have living hope, 2nd sourc of streng**

This hope leads 2 hope filled liv. **le hopeful ~ Aaron Clark**

This hope not like hop will get date or job or b sunny today w/no assur com pass.

Rath, L hop bedrock assur bc J rose fr grav, can & will keep prom **le certified check.**

L hope thrives on found faith (Heb 11:1, **Now faith is assur of things hoped 4**).

solid found 4 hop ~grow faith, FJ, list 2 voic thru word, & resp prayer & obey him **toy stor**

so far 1st sorc stren/**gel pack** bc G gr8 merc mad Sp aliv 2nd sourc L hop;

3rd Secur futur

object of L hope ~ secur future, inherit is imperishable, undefiled, & unfading.

Ev life perish so must b replac; ev dirty so must b cleand & ev fades so must b refurb

But inherit imperish never wear; undefil never needs b clean; unfad, never loses luster.

R inherit is secure, kept in heaven for you by merc F

wants 2 assur u that r inherit secure.

This inherit is prom of an Et w/G & ever increas joy & happiness. **le JEQ**

All that will hav r atten in Et will always hav ev increas capac amaze us,

ev increas joy & sat **le old & boredom**

so far 1st sorc stren/**gel pack** bc G gr8 merc mad Sp aliv 2nd sourc L hop; 3rd secur futur

and finally, a present power.

2 assure that will remain FF 2 JC Christ in midst of sev distress,

~ prom they r b guarded thru faith by G power 4a salv ready 2b revealed in last time.

le scr- assures strugglers; warns reckless

We r guarded by G thru faith.

We need G power bc fight faith is Sp battle ag Sp forces not equip handl own **le Gandolf**

G keeps us secur by faith 4 a salv ready 2b revealed at last time. **-past prese; futr**

reason remain FF bc G keeps us.

power G provided comes fr hop in grace rec in Et (**1 Pet 1:13**).

All thru out bible ~ hope of Et which G sustained his people.

was hope in heav country (Heb 11:16) & city whose builder & design is G (11:10).

These 4 T: N life; L hope; sec future; present power ~ like gel pack when run mara

le salvation;

The relationship between faith and hope can be illustrated in the joy a child feels when a parent tells him they are to the toy store this weekend. The child believes that he will go to the toy store based on his parents word—that is **faith**. At the same time, that belief within the child kindles an irrepressible joy—that is **hope**. The child's natural trust in his parents promise is the faith; the child's delight and jumping in place are the expressions of the hope.

“The enjoyment of God is the only happiness with which our souls can be satisfied. To go to heaven, fully to enjoy God, is infinitely better than the most pleasant accommodations here. Fathers and mothers, husbands, wives, or children, or the company of earthly friends, are but shadows; but God is the substance. These are but scattered beams, but God is the sun. These are but streams, but God is the ocean.”

