

Peter would be martyred but this letter does not reflect that fatal persecution had begun, but rather that it was in an atmosphere of severe repression. He expects the sufferings in Rome to spread. In 1<sup>st</sup> Peter we see 2 distinct corresponding themes: Suffering and Glory.

1:6 What is this? V. 3 the living hope from being born again. Rejoice while in heaviness. Reasons for rejoicing: 1. They are elect according to the foreknowledge of God – God set his love upon him before he made the heavens and the earth and put my name in the book of life. Ill, depressed, cast down...remember this. 2. Elect through "sanctification of the Spirit" to obey for an incorruptible inheritance. 3. Reserved (v. 5) in heaven for you who are kept.

"If need be" **No gratuitous suffering.** It all has meaning and value. **2 Cor. 4:17** "For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all."

Afflictions are needful and work for good. Trials are not by chance but part of the providence of God. For our good to share His holiness – Heb. 12:10-11. These trials are inevitable. Erwin Lutzer "God often puts us in situations that are too much for us so that we will learn that no situation is too much for Him." **Distressed- "lupeo"** used 26 times in NT, grieved, sorrowful at the Last Supper, grieve the Holy Spirit, distressed.

"**En poikilois**" (various kinds or modes, diverse, manifold - brought to him those with various diseases) "**peirasmois**" – translated as temptation, trial, trouble, to make trial of try, tempt, prove in either a good or bad sense, put to the test and the pressures that come to discover the quality of the thing. It includes all and any trial. 1 Pet. 4:12 - To drive us to our knees.

Trials: 1. To test the strength of our faith. 2 to humble us. 3. To wean us from our dependence on worldly things. 4. To Call us to a heavenly hope. 5. To reveal what we really love – Abraham. 6. To teach us to value God's blessings Ps. 63:3-7. 7. To develop strength for greater usefulness 2 Cor. 12:10. 8. To enable us to better help others in their trials.

1:7 – "**Dokimos or dokimazo**" – proved, proof, genuineness of faith, approved, used for Only also used in James 1:2-3 "consider it all joy when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. They prove faith as genuine, are temporary, are necessary for growth, will cause grief and sorrow, are quite various, ultimately will bring praise and honor to God, and will not be fully understood until the revelation of J. C.

Precious – "**polytimos**" from "**polus**" – much, great and timos or time which equals value, price, honor. So it is very precious. Used in the Pearl of Great Price parable. How valuable is genuine faith. **Polytimos** is the very costly perfume poured on the feet of Jesus and wiped by Mary.

Again it is tested – "**dokimazo**". Not only testing but determining its value – assessing, examining, analyzing. Used in 1 Cor 11:28 in taking communion. Examine yourselves. Test the spirits. David's cry to God. **Dokimazo** used in assaying precious metals or coins: the guy at the bank. Fire is the symbol of testing. God is not an arsonist but a refiner.

It is to reveal His Glory. **Doxa** – glory. Awaiting the **APOKALUPSIS** – revealing or unveiling. Taking the lid off. This is the unveiling of Glorified saints, the sons of God. Waiting in expectation for this glorious day.

1. 8 "**on ouk idontes**" Unseeable, "Of whom not having had a glimpse. Whom is the person of Christ, toward whom places emphasis on the direction of faith. Unlike Peter these readers had not seen Jesus, but this was not a disadvantage. In Jn. 20:29 Jesus said "Blessed are they who did not see and yet believed."

"**Agapate**" means to love unreservedly and sacrificially. It is a verb that calls for action, not an emotion. It is volitionally driven. Not sentimental. It is awakened by the value of the object, its preciousness. Love is only known by the actions it prompts. Remember that His love has been lavished out on us to the point of overflowing – **Romans 5:5**

**This presence produces love unspeakable even in the midst of afflictions.**

Now at this present moment. Yet one day soon you will see the Lord face to face. It is a great hope. To shout **GLORY**.

Believe is "*PISTEUO*" from *pistos* faith. Not just an intellectual agreement but ongoing trust. As true and worthy of trust. Entrusting to someone, surrendering. It is dependent on HOPE. Note the interconnection of the 3, love, faith and hope. Faith produces hope.

"*Agallao*" greatly rejoice, jumping and shouting for joy which cannot be contained. This is a present experience. Not rejoice over the circumstances but in the midst of them.

Joy, "*Chara*" inner gladness, delight of rejoicing. Distinguished from happiness and pleasure says Lewis. "Your sorrow will be turned to Joy". A blessed state. The Christian life is one of Joy. Used 59 times in NT and 74 uses of rejoice. It is more than a mood. It is a fruit of the Spirit, a gift of great confidence based on divine promises and God's character. It is complete and not affected by outward experience, based on holy optimism. Triumphant Gladness given only by looking heavenly.

Here the joy is qualified. It is "inexpressible" and "full of Glory". Inexpressible is *aneklaetos* without speak out. Unable to be told. Beyond human explanation. Thousands of cases of this. It is God's own joy.

*Doxazo, doxa, doxology*—full of glory. To magnify. Ongoing. Like the glorified face of Moses. OUR joy is that heaven has come down to us now. It is a current joy on account of God. Many reasons to rejoice, Jesus "Because your names are written in the heaven" Lk. 10:20.

#### v. 1:9

*Komizo* to take care of or bring or carry, to receive back the outcome of your faith. Why this joy? Because you are already attaining the goal of your faith, salvation. We have already received the deliverance from the penalty of sin, our justification. Already receiving the promise.

Outcome is "telos" means the end or final goal, this is future. 1John 3:2 "beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we shall be. We know that, when He appears, we shall be like Him, because we shall see him just as he is."

Faith – *pistis*, trust. Relying on God.

*Soterian psuchon*—Final salvation. Deliverance, so great a salvation. Safety, "there is salvation in no one else" At the end of the age. *Psuche or psyche*, in the original meaning your life, the part that thinks, wills, personality, his entire being. Center of self. Body is still future and not excluded. Soul as self.

He who believes has eternal life. It is already possessed. Certainty of Hope brings joy in tribulation and testing.