

1 Peter 1:5-7

⁵ who through faith are shielded by God's power for the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in various trials ⁷ so that the authenticity of your faith— more precious than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire— may result in praise, glory, and honour at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Berean Study Bible

⁵ You, by God's power, are being guarded, through faith,
into salvation: prepared; [and] to be revealed in the final season.

⁶ In this you greatly rejoice,
though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in various trials
⁷ so that the authenticity of your faith
(more precious than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire)
may result in praise, glory, and honour
at the revealing of Jesus Christ.

My own translation

1

Taking the long-term view. 1 Peter 1:5-7

What I see when I look back. (Repentance, and authentic faith, 7a)

What I see when I look up. 5a "by God's power, are being guarded"

What I see when I look around. 6b "suffer grief in various trials"

What I see when I look within. 7a "faith, more precious than gold"

What I see when I look ahead. 7b "result in praise, glory, and honour"

2

Look what I've got. 1 Peter 1:5-7

Look what I've already got from God. 1:5

I am being guarded by God. 5a "by God's power, are being guarded"

I am being saved by God. 5b "into salvation: prepared; to be revealed"

Look what I've already got in the world. 1:6, 7a

I have the opportunity to test my faith. 6b "suffer grief in various trials"

I have the opportunity to prove my faith. 7a "authenticity of your faith"

Look what I've yet to receive in eternity. 1:7b

My faith will be honoured. 7b “your faith... may result in praise, glory, and honour”
My Saviour will be honoured. 7b “the revelation of Jesus Christ”

3

Unusual gifts. 1 Peter 1:5-7

Unusual gifts from God, that are useful. 1:5-6a

Around me, I have God’s power. 5a “God’s power”

Within me, I have God’s salvation. 5b “salvation”

Through me, I have God’s character. 6a “greatly rejoice”

Unusual gifts from the world, that are unpleasant. 1:6

The world’s unpleasant gifts are grievous. 6b “suffer grief”

The world’s unpleasant gifts are diverse. 6b “various trials”

Unusual gifts from God, that are essential. 1:7

Opportunities to test my faith. 7a “the authenticity of your faith”

Expectation of a mature faith. 7b “may result in praise...”

Result of a tested faith. 7b “honour at the revelation of Jesus Christ”

4

What matters most. 1 Peter 1:5-7

Key words in this text: “You... into salvation”, v5. Everything else is a descriptor.

I am being protected into salvation. 1:5

I am guarded with God’s power. 5a “by God’s power, are being guarded”

I am guarded for God’s plan. 5b “into salvation: prepared; to be revealed”

I am being processed into salvation. 1:6

Internally, I can be ‘up’. 6a “In this you greatly rejoice”

Externally, I can be ‘down’. 6b “suffer grief in various trials”

I am being promoted into salvation. 1:7

There is a purpose for what I do. 7 “your faith... may result in...”

There is a program for this world. 7b “the revelation of Jesus Christ”

5

Why should I bother holding on to faith? 1 Peter 1:5-7

Key words “faith” 5a, and “faith” 7a. This is the only repeated key word.

My faith protects me. 1:5

My faith is how I hold on to God’s power. 5a “by God’s power”

My faith is how I hold on to God's salvation. 5b " , through faith, into salvation"

My faith corrects me. 1:6

My faith is how I hold on to God's character. 6a "greatly rejoice"

My faith is how I hold on to God's plan. 6b, 7a "suffer grief... authenticity"

My faith perfects me. 1:7

My faith is how I hold on to God's promise. 7b "result in praise..."

My faith is how I hold on to God's purpose. 7b "revelation of Jesus Christ"

6

Live the good life. 1 Peter 1:5-7

Life is always good. 1:5

It is good to be protected by God's power. 5a "by God's power, are being guarded"

It is good to be partnered with my faith. 5 " , through faith, into salvation"

Life is sometimes bad. 1:6

It is always helpful to be above the circumstances. 6a "you greatly rejoice"

It is sometimes helpful to be under the circumstances. 6b "...various trials"

Life will be eternally good. 1:7

The time is coming when I will be rewarded. 7b "may result in..."

The time is coming when Jesus will be revealed. 7c "revelation of Jesus"

7

Life has so much more in store for you. 1 Peter 1:5-7

I have so much to enjoy. 1:5-6a

I do enjoy protection by God. 5a "by God's power, are guarded"

I can enjoy partnership with God. 5 "guarded, through faith"

I can enjoy participation in God. 6a "In this you greatly rejoice"

I have so much to endure. 1:6-7a

Suffering is time-limited. 6b "for a little while"

Suffering comes as trials in many forms. 6b "in various trials"

Suffering is a test of my faith. 7a "so that the authenticity of your faith"

I have so much to expect. 1:7

I expect to be proved right. 7a "authenticity of your faith"

I expect to receive praise. 7b "result in praise..."

I expect to be amazed. 7c "the revealing of Jesus Christ"

8 – Men's devotion

An investment as good as gold. 1 Peter 1:5-7

Preparation: check the current price of gold, and its rate of growth. In the year 1717, Sir Isaac Newton, in his role as Master of the U.K. Mint, set the gold price at £3. 17s. 10d. per troy ounce, and it remained almost unchanged for two hundred years until the First World War. For the 1869 Gold Rush, gold paid \$18.93 per ounce. Just before the 1929 Stock Market Crash, gold was \$20.63 per ounce. Then it started to rise. In 1974 gold passed \$100 per ounce. It took until 2006 for it to pass \$500 per ounce. But only 4 years later, 2010, it passed \$1,000 per ounce. Note: Ensure you do not even look like giving investment advice. Stick to "more precious than gold" v7.

A highly-secure investment. 1:5

My faith investment is totally protected. 5a "by God's power, guarded"

My faith return is totally prepared. 5b "prepared; to be revealed"

A high-risk investment. 1:6-7a

My faith will be tested. 6b "had to suffer grief in various trials"

My faith will be vindicated. 7a "authenticity of your faith"

A high-return investment. 1:7b

My faith has very high personal rewards. 7b "result in praise..."

My faith has very high cosmic rewards. 7b "revealing of Jesus Christ"

9

When your life goes down the toilet. 1 Peter 1:5-7

Note: Do not preach this until after your life has gone down the toilet – big time. Then, do not make it about yourself, and the success story of your triumph over adversity. This is where failure is your friend.

I need to know what God is protecting while I am in the toilet. 1:5

He is not guarding my health, wealth, or happiness.

He is guarding my salvation and my eternity. 5 "guarded... into salvation"

I need to know how I should respond while I am in the toilet. 1:6

I need to maintain a God-aware viewpoint. 6a "you greatly rejoice"

I need to maintain a time-aware viewpoint. 6b "for a little while"

I need to know there is more to living than life in the toilet. 1:7

Keep a wholistic view. It is primarily your faith being tested. 7a "authenticity of..."

Keep an eternal view. It will be all worthwhile in the long run. 7b "result in... at..."

10 – military devotion, ANZAC Day, Veterans Day

Faith under fire. 1 Peter 1:5-7

Warning: Telling stories of settlers in wagon trains fighting off indians was acceptable in your grandparent's day, but will only make you look disrespectful of First Nations people if you tell those same stories today. Likewise, unless you have served in the military, under enemy fire, be careful of how you tell military stories. A safer path, is to use stories of historic military heroism; Gallipoli, Battle of the Bulge, for example.

We are travelling through enemy-occupied territory. 1:5

We are under attack, but protected. 5a "by God's power, are being guarded"

We will win the battle and the war. 5b "to be revealed in the final season"

We are under constant enemy-directed attack. 1:6

We know we will complete our mission. 6a "you greatly rejoice"

We will be hit, and hurt, but not harmed. 6b "had to suffer grief"

We are coming home to a victory parade. 1:7

We will receive a hero's welcome. 7 "authentic faith... results in..."

Our Commander's strategy will win. 7b "revealing of Jesus Christ"

11

What is the answer to a hard life? 1 Peter 1:5-7

Life is hard because we are in a sin-stained world. 1:5

We have all the help we need. 5a "being guarded"

We have all the healing we need. 5b "into salvation"

We have all the hope we need. 5b "the final season"

Life is hard but we are in a sin-diminishing world. 1:6

We all have God's presence. 6a "greatly rejoice"

We all have God's discipline. 6b "had to suffer"

We all have unique tests. 6b "various trials"

Life is hard but we are in a soon-to-be-replaced world. 1:7

All believers have entry into Heaven. 7a "authenticity of your faith"

All believers have rewards in Heaven. 7b "result in praise"

All believers have a home in Heaven. 7b "revealing of Jesus Christ"

Other possible titles

Titles related to both verses

We've got a lot to celebrate.

Small pain, big gain.

Attention! Stand guard.

How can you be so happy?

Ready. Set...

Authenticating your spiritual standing.

Taking the long way home.
Safely through enemy territory.
If you've got, flaunt it.
I'm God's child. Why doesn't He take better care of me?

Titles related to part of this text

I don't realise what I'm protected from. 5a
Grand finale. 5b
The climax in the final season. 5b
Rejoicing, in spite of grieving. 6
Passing the test. 6b
Is your faith, a saving faith? 7
You have faith, but is it saving faith? 7

Music and songs

Songs about faith

By faith (Getty). Ot 87
Find us faithful.
Have faith in God. Ot 80
I walk by faith. Ot 32
Passin' the faith along. (Gaither)
Therefore being justified by faith. SiS 29

Songs about joy or rejoicing

Happiness is the Lord. CWH 9
In my life Lord, be glorified
Rejoice in the Lord, oh let His mercy cheer. H
Rejoice, Rejoice Christ is in you. SiS 614
Salvation belongs to our God
The power and the glory of Your name.
Jesus, God's righteousness revealed... This Kingdom
We rejoice in the grace of God.

Songs about suffering or grief

God on the mountain.
No tears in Heaven. CWH 38
Over the sunset mountains. CWH 89
Thank You for the trials

Songs about refining, or precious

Lord, You are more precious than silver. 430
Purify my heart... Refiners fire. 657

Songs about rewards in Glory

At the corner of Glory Avenue
For God so loved the world. CWH 57
How beautiful Heaven must be. CWH 99

Quotes and illustrations

In 1 Peter 1:5-7, several key, and often repeated words, are introduced for the first time. These words are 'faith', 'salvation', 'rejoice', and 'glory'.

For further details, see these two of the accompanying documents:

1 & 2 Peter, Introduction

1 & 2 Peter, New translation, with annotations

Scriptures relating to v6b, "you may have had to suffer grief in various trials"

Whoever heeds discipline shows the way to life, but whoever ignores correction leads others astray. Proverbs 10:17 NIV-UK

Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but whoever hates correction is stupid. Proverbs 12:1 NIV-UK

¹ I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ² He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. John 15:1-2 NIV-UK

² Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, ³ because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. ⁴ Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. ⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. James 1:2-5, NIV-UK

Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent. Revelation 3:19 NIV

Quotes about God's discipline

⁴ In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. ⁵ And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says,

"My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline,
and do not lose heart when he rebukes you,

⁶ because the Lord disciplines the one he loves,
and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son." [Proverbs 3:11-12]

⁷ Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? ⁸ If you are not disciplined—and everyone undergoes discipline—then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all. ⁹ Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live! ¹⁰ They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. ¹¹ No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it. Hebrews 12:4-11, NIV-UK

I was ignorant. Stupid. Unlearned. I usually get taught lessons the hard way, because God wants me to remember. Duane Chapman

Love precedes discipline. John Owen

Whirled from off our feet by a revival, carried aloft by popularity, exalted by success in soul-winning, we should be as the chaff which the wind driveth away, were it not that the gracious discipline of mercy breaks the ships of our vainglory with a strong east wind, and casts us shipwrecked, naked and forlorn, upon the Rock of Ages. Charles Spurgeon

God is interested in developing your character. At times He lets you proceed, but He will never let you go too far without discipline to bring you back. In your relationship with God, He may let you make a wrong decision. Then the Spirit of God causes you to recognize that it is not God's will. He guides you back to the right path. Henry Blackaby

We often learn more of God under the rod that strikes us than under the staff that comforts us. Stephen Charnock

If I am walking along the street with a very disfiguring hole in the back of my dress, of which I am in ignorance, it is certainly a very great comfort to me to have a kind friend who will tell me of it. And similarly it is indeed a comfort to know that there is always abiding with me a divine, all-seeing Comforter, who will reprove me for all my faults, and will not let me go on in a fatal unconsciousness of them. Hannah Whitall Smith

Thou art beaten that thou mayest be better. John Bunyan

We may feel God's hand as a Father upon us when He strikes us as well as when He strokes us. Abraham Wright

It hurts when God has to PRY things out of our hand! Corrie Ten Boom

The goal of God's discipline is restoration - never condemnation. Anonymous

Spiritual surgery is more painful than physical surgery. God doesn't use an anaesthetic; He doesn't do His work while we are asleep. God can take any broken-hearted believer and make him or her a radiant, loving person. But when He performs such "heart operations," His children are wide awake. Erwin W. Lutzer, Running to Win

If your life consistently bears no fruit, God will intervene to discipline you. If your life bears some fruit, God will intervene to prune you. If your life bears a lot of fruit, God will invite you to abide more deeply with Him. Bruce Wilkinson

God's wounds cure, sin's kisses kill. William Gurnall

God trains His soldiers, not in tents of ease and luxury, but by turning them out and using them to forced marches and hard service. He makes them ford through streams, and swim through rivers and climb mountains, and walk many a weary mile with heavy knapsacks on their backs. Well, Christian, may not this account for the troubles through which you are passing? Is not this the reason why He is contending with you? Charles Haddon Spurgeon

God strikes not as an enemy, to destroy; but as a father, to correct. John H Aughey

Correction is seen as judgement, to those who still love their sin. Anonymous

God's loving discipline brings us face-to-face with our pride. Max Anders

God's discipline is an act of love. Love is never a punishment. Jesus paid it all.

Anonymous

All God's plans have the mark of the cross on them, and all His plans have death to self in them.... But men's plans ignore the offence of the cross or despise it. Men's plans have no profound, stern or self-immolating denial in them. Their gain is of the world. How much of these destructive elements, esteemed by men, does the devil bring into the church, until all the high, unworldly and holy aims, and heavenly objects of the church are retired and forgotten? Edward McKendree (E. M.) Bounds

Thought starters for personal reflection and/or group discussion

1. What are some of the indicators that you are having either 'a good day' or 'a bad day'?
2. Read 1 Peter 1:6. What is the contrast between the beginning and the end of this verse?
3. Why does Scripture say our suffering, grief, and trials are necessary?
4. How is it possible to "greatly rejoice" in the midst of difficulties?
5. Read 1 Peter 1:7. How is faith described, and why is that an appropriate description?
6. What is the significance of the word, "authenticity"?
1. Why do we have to wait until "the final season" (v5), "the revealing of Jesus Christ" (v7) for our faith to "result in praise...." (v7)?