

1 Peter 1:3-4

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵ who through faith are shielded by God's power for the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

Berean Study Bible

1:3 The blessed God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
by His abundant compassion,
has given us new birth
into a living anticipation;
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, out from the dead;
1:4 into an inheritance that is imperishable, and undefiled, and unfading,
reserved in Heaven for you,
1:5 who, by God's power are being guarded, through faith,
has salvation, ready to be revealed in the last time.

My own translation

1

My life's beginning, middle, and end. 1 Peter 1:3-5

My life's pre-beginning. 1:3a

Everything begins with God. 3a "The blessed God..."

Everything depends on God. 3a "His abundant compassion"

My life's new beginning. 1:3b

My new life has a clear beginning. 3b "new birth"

My new life has no ending. 3b "living anticipation"

My life's middle. 1:3c-4

I depend on Jesus on earth. 3c "resurrection of Jesus"

I depend on Jesus in Heaven. 4 "in Heaven for you"

My life's ending. 1:5

I am living for the end. 5a "through faith"

I am ready for the end. 5b "ready to be revealed"

2

Back to basics. 1 Peter 1:3-5

Basics of who God is. 1:3

The fact of God the Father. 3a "blessed God and Father"

Character of God the Father. 3b "abundant compassion"

Basics of what God did. 1:3-4

Past action of God the Son. 3c "resurrection... from the dead"

Present action of God the Son. 4 "inheritance... in Heaven"

Basics of what God wants. 1:5

My present. 5a "guarded, through faith"

My future. 5b "salvation, ready to be revealed"

3

Special delivery. 1 Peter 1:3-5

Look who it's from. 1:3

What God has not given. 3a "by His abundant compassion"

What God has given. 3b "given us new birth"

Look why it's come. 1:3-4

What Jesus has done for me. 3c "resurrection... from the dead"

What Jesus has won for me. 4 "inheritance... in Heaven"

Look how it works. 1:5

God's power is protecting me. 5a "by God's power are being guarded"

God's plan is preparing for me. 5b "salvation, ready to be revealed"

4

Everything I need. 1 Peter 1:3-5

The God I need. 1:3

I need a God who is merciful. 3a "abundant compassion"

I need a God who is generous. 3b "given us new birth..."

The Saviour I need. 1:3-4

Jesus frees me from my past. 3b "resurrection... from the dead"

Jesus frees me for my future. 4 "into an inheritance... reserved"

The attitude I need. 1:5

I need peace. 5a "guarded"

I need hope. 5b "ready to be revealed"

5

Have an intelligent faith. 1 Peter 1:3-4

I am to worship God intelligently. 1:3a

I treat God with majesty. 3 “blessed”

He treats me with mercy. 3 “compassion”

I am to receive God intelligently. 1:3b

I need to accept new birth. 3 “new birth”

I need to accept new life. 3 “living anticipation”

I am to understand God intelligently. 1:3b-4

I have been saved from my past. 3b “through the resurrection...”

I have been saved for my future. 4 “reserved in Heaven”

6

Live in celebration! 1 Peter 1:3-4

Celebrate who God is. 1:3a

God is the source of all that is good. 3 “blessed”

God is the Saviour from all that is bad. 3 “compassion”

Celebrate what God does. 1:3b

God gives me a new start. 3 “new birth”

God gives me a new life. 3 “living anticipation”

Celebrate how God functions. 1:3b-4

God saves me from my past. 3b “through the resurrection...”

God saves me for my future. 4 “reserved in Heaven”

7

Up close and personal. 1 Peter 1:3-4

How to live closer to God the Father. 1:3a

Live in thanksgiving. 3 “blessed”

Live in gratitude. 3 “compassion”

How to live closer to myself. 1:3b

Live, aware of my decision. 3 “new birth”

Live, aware of my direction. 3 “living anticipation”

I am to understand God intelligently. 1:3b-4

Live, aware of the awfulness of sin. 3b “through the resurrection...”

Live, aware of the wonder of salvation. 4 “reserved in Heaven”

8

The most exciting life! 1 Peter 1:3-4

Turn your attitude upward. 1:3a

Be thankful for who God is. 3 “blessed”

Be grateful for what God does. 3 “compassion”

Turn your attitude inward. 1:3b

Be decisive about your salvation. 3 “new birth”

Be devoted to your direction. 3 “living anticipation”

Turn your attitude forward. 1:3b-4

Leave behind the attitudes of Hell. 3b “through the resurrection...”

Live towards the attitudes of Heaven. 4 “imperishable, undefiled, unfading”

9

Heaven, here I come! 1 Peter 1:3-4

Why Heaven exists. 1:3a

Heaven exists to be God’s home. 3a “God... Father... Lord...”

Heaven exists to show God’s nature. 3a “abundant compassion”

How I actually get to Heaven. 1:3b

There is something I alone must do. 3b “new birth”

There is something Jesus alone must do. 3b “resurrection”

What Heaven is like. 1:4

Heaven is perfect. 4a “imperishable, undefiled, unfading”

Heaven is ready. 4b “reserved”

10

Heaven: reserved seating only. 1 Peter 1:3-4

Idea: maître d' greeters at front door, “Welcome, we have reserved seating for you.”

Only one person can take your booking. 1:3a

The one who allows you in. 3a “The blessed God and Father”

His desire to allow you in. 3a “His abundant compassion”

Only one person can make your booking. 1:3b

I need to make my own booking. 3b “new birth”

I need Jesus to confirm my booking. 3b “resurrection”

Only one thing is on the menu. 1:4

Everything is 'just right'. 4a "imperishable, undefiled, unfading"

Everything is just for you. 4b "reserved for you"

11

Is there intelligent life on earth? 1 Peter 1:3-4

Intelligent life on earth began in Heaven's throne room. 1:3a

3a "blessed God and Father"

3a "our Lord Jesus Christ"

3a "His abundant compassion"

Intelligent life on earth begins in Heaven's delivery room. 1:3b

3b "has given us new birth"

3b "into a living anticipation"

3b "through the resurrection"

Intelligent life on earth anticipates life in Heaven's vastness. 1:4

4a "into an inheritance"

4a "imperishable, undefiled, unfading"

4b "reserved in Heaven for you"

12 – [This outline was used for the screencast](#)

How to lift life to the next level. 1 Peter 1:3-4

I live a life of purity when I turn my attitude upward. 1:3a

I need to be thankful for who God is. 3 "blessed"

I need to be humble for what God does. 3 "compassion"

I live a life of integrity when I turn my attitude inward. 1:3b

I need to be decisive about my salvation. 3 "new birth"

I need to be devoted to my direction. 3 "living anticipation"

I live a life of buoyancy when I turn my attitude forward. 1:3b-4

Live, aware of the awfulness of sin. 3b "dead"

Live, aware of the wonder of salvation. 4 "imperishable..."

Other possible titles

The nuts and bolts of salvation.

How salvation happens.

Use all of your salvation.

Fresh input; refreshed output.

The resurrection of Jesus changes everything.
Yes, you can be sure of your salvation.

Ready for heaven, means ready for earth.

Ready for life on earth. 1:3

Ready for life in Heaven. 1:4

Music and songs

Songs about the Father's compassion / mercy, 3a

Abba Father. (Michael Card)

Abba Father. SiS 305

Blessed be the Lord God Almighty. 407

Every praise is to our God

Father, Father of all things. SiS 275

How deep the Father's love for us. TS 185

I can only imagine.

O the mercy of God

You rescued me. Ot 45

Songs about the new birth, 3b

Born again.

Songs about Jesus' resurrection, 3c

Because He lives. MP 52

God's not dead.

In Christ alone. Ot 4

Low in the grave He lay

My Redeemer lives. MiS 13

See what a morning (Getty)

Songs about Heaven anticipated, 4

Heaven is a wonderful place

Heaven is in my heart. 623

I'm satisfied with... Mansion over the hilltop. CWH 107

Songs about power / faith, 5a

By faith (Getty). Ot 87

Have faith in God. Ot 80

Power of Your love. 621

Songs about the last time, 5b

Coming again

The King is coming. Ot 40

Lo, He comes with clouds, descending

Quotes and illustrations

Quotes about being born again

Many Christians have the mistaken notion that eternal life begins when they die. But that is not biblically accurate. Eternal life begins when we are born again into the Kingdom of God. David Jeremiah

There are two kinds of beauty; there is a beauty which God gives at birth, and which withers as a flower. And there is a beauty which God grants when by His grace men are born again. That kind of beauty never vanishes but blooms eternally. Abraham Kuyper

The born-again Christian sees life not as a blurred, confused, meaningless mass, but as something planned and purposeful. Billy Graham

When I was born again, I received the very life of the risen Lord from Jesus Himself. Oswald Chambers

Now the Bible tells us that we are all by nature, sinners, that we are slaves to sin and Satan, and that unless we are converted, or born again, we must be miserable forever. Jupiter Hammon

What good does it do me if Christ was born in Bethlehem once if he is not born again in my heart through faith? Origen

Worship is why we are born and why we are born again. Aiden Wilson Tozer

I declare I know no state of soul more dangerous than to imagine we are born again and sanctified by the Holy Ghost, because we have picked up a few religious feelings. J. C. Ryle

Quotes about sanctification

If you call out for insight, and cry aloud for understanding, and if you look for it as for silver, and search for it as hidden treasure, then you will understand the fear of the Lord, and find the knowledge of God. Proverbs 2:3-5

When a man or woman is born again by the Spirit of God they will give evidence of it in part by striving to live a holy life. Alistair Begg

If Jesus is a teacher only, then all He can do is to tantalize us by erecting a standard we cannot come anywhere near. But if by being born again from above we know Him first as Savior, we know that He did not come to teach us only. He came to make us what He teaches we should be. Oswald Chambers

Why do born-again people so often make you wish they'd never been born the first time? Katharine Whitehorn

Sanctification is the outcome and inseparable consequence of regeneration. He who is born again and made a new creature receives a new nature and a new principle and always lives a new life. J. C. Ryle

Commentary

Most translations begin verse 3 with “Blessed be the God...” with some translations beginning with “Praise the God...” using “Blessed be” or “Praise” as a verb. However, Εὐλογητός is an adjective, agreeing with its noun, ὁ Θεός, in case, gender, and number (Nominative, Masculine, Singular). The verb in this sentence is ἀναγεννήσας “having given us new birth” (an Aorist Active Participle, also Nominative, Masculine, Singular). Therefore, the most accurate (most literal) translation is, “The blessed God...”

Children’s talk

Preparing to go on a vacation. Need to make a booking, and reserve your place. Heaven is the biggest and best vacation ever! But we have to book our place, and the sooner we do that the better it will be for us.

Thought starters for personal reflection, and group discussion.

1. What is the difference between “Standard of Living” and “Quality of Life”, and how do you measure both of them?
 2. Compassion is one of the Father’s attributes (1 Peter 1:3) and is frequently expressed by Jesus. What is one of your earthly father’s characteristics that you sometimes express? What is one of your Heavenly Father’s characteristic you would like to develop?
 3. Read Deuteronomy 28:1-9. In what areas did God promise blessings? But He didn’t say what those blessings would be. How can we know if we have been blessed? What is the human contribution to the process of being blessed?
 4. We have been born again, says 1 Peter 1:3. What have we been born into; and how is the resurrection of Jesus involved?
 5. Our inheritance is described in 3 (or more) words, in 1 Peter 1:4. What do those words suggest we can expect in Heaven?
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