

A sunset scene with a large sun partially obscured by a dark horizontal band. The sky is filled with rays of light and a color gradient from blue to orange. Below the band, there is a body of water reflecting the sunset, with silhouettes of trees and hills in the background.

RENEW. REBUILD. REKINDLE.

1 Pet. 1:6-7

“Rekindling a Lively Hope”

1 Pet. 1:6 Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:

7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

Review

Our theme this year is...

RENEW. REBUILD. REKINDLE.

During the last few weeks we have been considering...

“Rekindling a Lively Hope”

We have been observing what the Bible says in *First Peter*. We began with “WE HAVE AN EXPECTANT HOPE” because “WE HAVE AN EXPERIENTIAL FAITH.”

I. WE HAVE AN EXPECTANT HOPE

A. We Have an Expectant Hope of a Triumphant

B. We Have an Expectant Hope of a Triumphant Entrance into Glory, 1:4

II. WE HAVE AN EXPERIENTIAL FAITH, 1:5-7

A. It Sees Beyond the Temporal Side of Life, 1:5

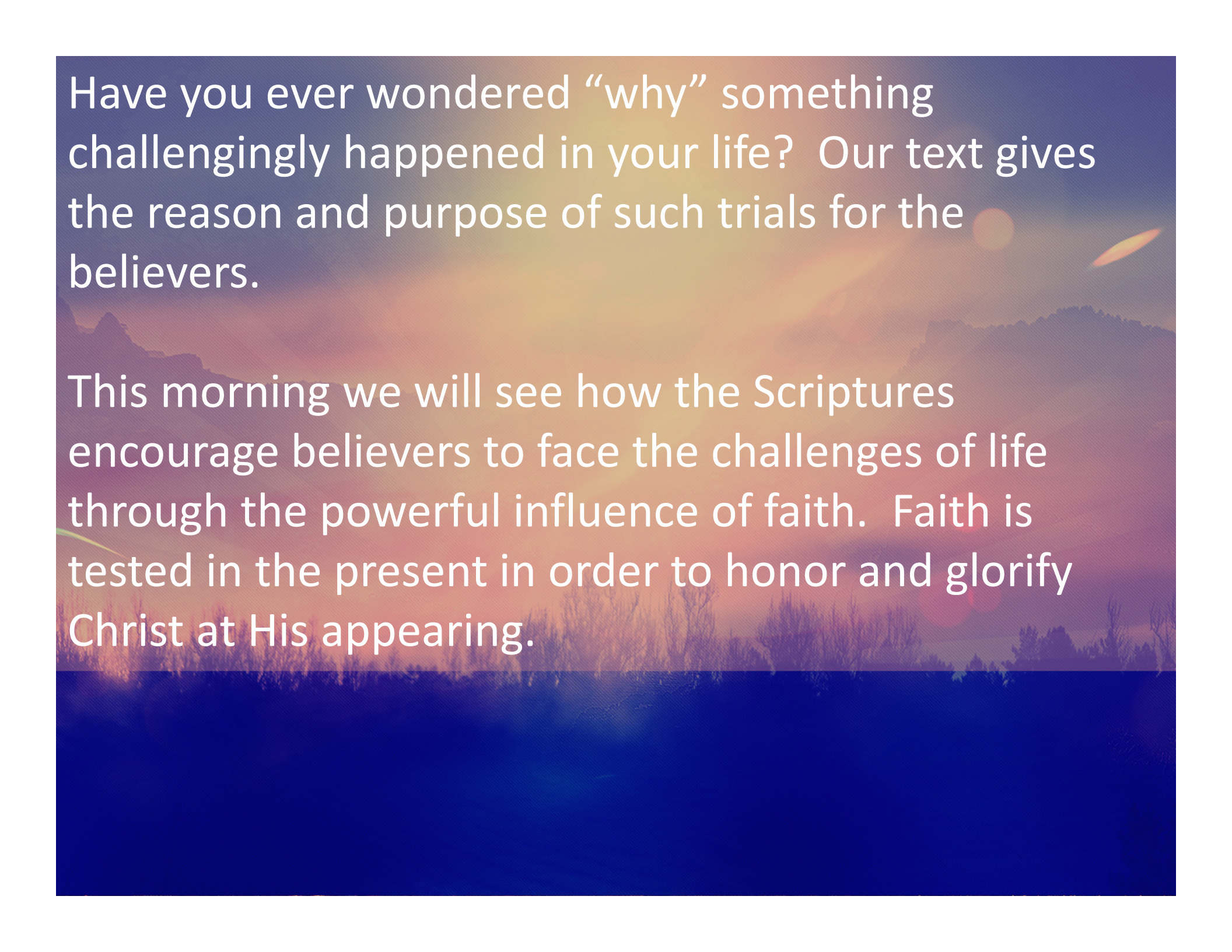
B. It Soars Beyond the Temptation Side fo Life, 1:6

1. Happy Beyond Present Circumstances, 1:6a

“Wherein ye greatly rejoice...”

2. Harassed By Present Circumstances, 1:6b

“...though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:”

A scenic landscape at sunset or sunrise. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue. In the background, there are dark silhouettes of mountains. In the foreground, there are dark silhouettes of trees and a field. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

Have you ever wondered “why” something challengingly happened in your life? Our text gives the reason and purpose of such trials for the believers.

This morning we will see how the Scriptures encourage believers to face the challenges of life through the powerful influence of faith. Faith is tested in the present in order to honor and glorify Christ at His appearing.

C. It Sings Beyond the Testing Side of Life, 1:7

We see:

1. A Precious Faith Developed by the Trial, 1:7a “That the trial of your faith...”

- Faithful believers can “greatly rejoice” during the trials of life as their faith grows to understand the importance of such trials in the development of faith.

Jas. 1:2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;

3 Knowing *this*, that **the trying of your faith worketh patience.**

4 But let patience have *her* perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

- This is a parallel passage to 1 Pet. 1:6-7:
 - Both emphasize encouragement regarding joy – “...count it all joy...” – “Wherein ye greatly rejoice...”
 - Both emphasize facing trials and temptations – “...when ye fall into divers temptations;” – “...if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:”
 - Both emphasize the trials of faith – “Knowing *this*, that the trying of your faith...” – “That the trial of your faith...”

- The “trial” or “trying” – in both 1 Pet. 1:7 and Jas. 1:3, is a test to prove that the faith is genuine:

Original Word: δοκίμιον

Transliteration: dokimion

Definition: a testing

Usage: a test, trial, what is genuine.

dokímion (a neuter noun) **what is found *approved* (genuine) after testing, focusing on the inevitable *results* of this**

<https://biblehub.com/greek/1383.htm>

- The Apostle Paul emphasized his admiration for faith that was NOT phony.

1 Tim. 1:5 Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and *of* a good conscience, and *of* **faith unfeigned**:

2Ti 1:5 When I call to remembrance **the unfeigned faith** that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.

2. A Purging Fire Devouring in the Trial, 1:7b “...though it be tried with fire...”

- The trial “with fire” is indicative of the severity of the purging – all impurities removed.

Prov. 17:3 The **fining pot is for silver, and the furnace for gold: but the LORD trieth the hearts.**

2 Tim. 2:21 If a man therefore **purge himself** from these, **he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.**

22 Flee also youthful lusts: but **follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.**

- When faith is “tried,” the refining process produces a “vessel...meet for the master’s use...” – like Job.

Job 23:10 But he knoweth the way that I take: **when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.**

3. A Priceless Find Discovered by the Trial,
1:7c-d

a. What! – 1:7c “...**being much more precious than of gold** that perisheth...”

- Believers, in the frailty of their humanity, will be tempted to miss the value of trials.
- From God's perspective, "faith-trials" are of great value – "much more precious than of gold..."
- The gold will perish, but faithfulness has eternal ramifications:

1 Cor. 4:2 Moreover **it is required** in stewards, **that a man be found faithful.**

b. When! – 1:7d “...though...might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:”

- The trials of faith have a purpose worth considering – “...though it be tried with fire...” = in contrast to, on top of this...
- The fiery trial cannot compare to the value of the eternal results → “... might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:”
- Believers must consistently focus upon the “big picture” of the consequences of “fiery trials.”

- “Fiery trials” faced properly by faith will produce a “refined” product:

Jas. 1:2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;

3 Knowing *this*, that **the trying of your faith worketh patience.**

4 But let patience have *her* perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

- The ultimate “refining” produces believers “...that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.”

Original Word: τέλειος

Transliteration: teleios

Definition: **having reached its end, complete, perfect**

Usage: **perfect, (a) complete in all its parts, (b) full grown, of full age, (c) specially of the completeness of Christian character.**

téleios (an adjective, derived from *télos*, "consummated goal") – ***mature (consummated) from going through the necessary stages to reach the end-goal, i.e. developed into a consummating completion by fulfilling the necessary process (spiritual journey).***

<https://biblehub.com/greek/5046.htm>

Original Word: λείπω

Transliteration: leipó

Definition: to leave, leave behind

<https://biblehub.com/greek/3007.htm>

Original Word: μηδείς

Transliteration: médeis

Usage: no one, none, nothing.

mēdeís (from *mé*, "not a possibility" and *heís*, "one") – properly, "**no one, nothing**" – literally, "**not even one.**"

<https://biblehub.com/greek/3367.htm>

- Fiery trials refine the believer in order to produce a saintly believer that matures to the place of lacking absolutely nothing, but living to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ, both in the present and at the Judgment Seat of Christ!

He is a refiner's fire, and that makes all the difference. A refiner's fire does not destroy indiscriminately like a forest fire. A refiner's fire does not consume completely like the fire of an incinerator. A refiner's fire refines. It purifies. It melts down the bar of silver or gold, separates out the impurities that ruin its value, burns them up, and leaves the silver and gold intact. He is like a refiner's fire.

Conclusion

1 Pet. 4:12 **Beloved, think it not strange** concerning **the fiery trial** which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

13 **But rejoice**, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, **when his glory shall be revealed**, ye may be glad also with **exceeding joy**.