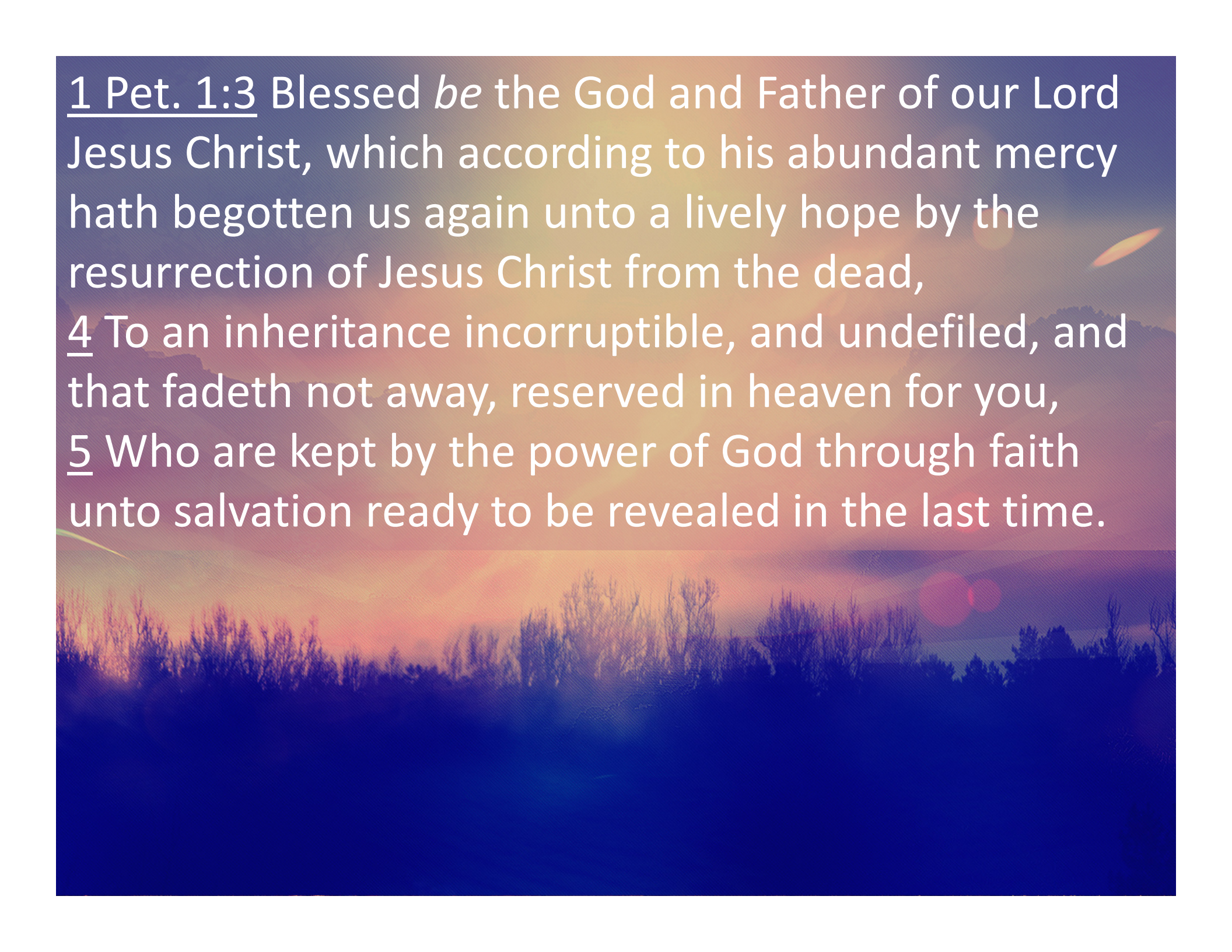


A sunset scene with a large sun partially obscured by a dark horizontal band. The sky is filled with rays of light and a color gradient from blue to orange. Below the band, there is a silhouette of a landscape with trees and hills.

RENEW. REBUILD. REKINDLE.

1 Pet. 1:3-5

“Rekindling a Lively Hope”



1 Pet. 1:3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,
5 Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Review

Our theme this year is...

RENEW. REBUILD. REKINDLE.

The last year has been a confusing and controversial year. Each of us needs to take a step back and, by God's grace, **renew our strength, rebuild our steadfastness, and rekindle our spirit.**

"Rekindling a Lively Hope"

Two weeks ago, we began looking at this passage by considering that...

I. WE HAVE AN EXPECTANT HOPE

A. We Have an Expectant Hope of a Triumphant Exit from the Grave, 1:3

1. The Source of our Expectation, 1:3a

“Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ...”

- The source of our expectant hope, Who is worthy of all our praise...is God.

2. The Security of our Expectation, 1:3b-c

a. Guaranteed by a Superlative Mercy, 1:3b
“...which according to his abundant mercy...”

- Salvation cloaks us in the righteousness of Christ, by faith, NOT according to our works, “...but according to his mercy he saved us...”

b. Guaranteed by a Spiritual Miracle, 1:3c
“...hath begotten us again unto a lively hope...”

- One of the attributes of a changed life is evidence of a “lively hope:”
- “begotten us again unto a lively hope” = the ultimate “renewal” for mankind!
- A “lively” hope implies an active principle in a believer that is an energizing and motivating factor for faithful, and fruitful fellowship for God’s glory.
- Biblical hope is an assurance of a promise that will come to pass → a happening yet unhappened that will happen in the future!

3. The Substance of our Expectation, 1:3d “...by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,”

- The Resurrection is verification of the power of God and His involvement in everything pertaining to mankind's reconciliation to the Creator.

This morning, we will continue to consider how those ingredients should renew, rebuild, and rekindle our hope.

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

1 Cor. 15:19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.

1. Revelations Have Been Made to Us, 1:4a-c

a. Our Inheritance is Incapable of Decay,
1:4a “To an inheritance incorruptible...”

- The believers' hope for the future is the assured promise of an eternal inheritance.
- The inheritance is connected to the relationship with Christ.

Rom. 8:16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that **we are the children of God:**

17 And if children, then heirs; **heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ;** if so be that we suffer with *him*, that we may be also glorified together.

- The inheritance is also a reward for faithful service.

Col. 3:24 Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive **the reward of the inheritance**: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

- A believer cannot lose salvation, but, may lose the reward of the inheritance.

2 Jn. 1:8 Look to yourselves, that we **lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward.**

- The conduct that produces lost rewards are as follows:

1 Cor. 6:9 Know ye not that **the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God?** Be not deceived: neither **fornicators**, nor **idolaters**, nor **adulterers**, nor **effeminate**, nor **abusers of themselves with mankind**,

10 Nor **thieves**, nor **covetous**, nor **drunkards**, nor **revilers**, nor **extortioners**, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

Gal 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are *these*; **Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,**
20 **Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,**
21 **Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like:** of the which I tell you before, as I have also told *you* in time past, that **they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.**

Eph. 5:5 **For this ye know, that no** whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, **hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.**

- We started 1 Pet. 1:3 praising God for the “lively hope” which includes the inheritance!

Eph. 1:14 Which is **the earnest of our inheritance** until the redemption of the purchased possession, **unto the praise of his glory.**

18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is **the hope** of his calling, and what **the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,**

- The “lively hope” that is a “a Triumphant Entrance into Glory,” includes a wonderful description of how wonderful the inheritance is:
- “Our Inheritance is Incapable of Decay” because it is “incorruptible:”

Original Word: ἀφθαρτος

Transliteration: aphthartos

Definition: undecaying, imperishable

Usage: indestructible, imperishable, incorruptible;
hence: immortal.

<https://biblehub.com/greek/862.htm>

1 Cor. 9:25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they *do it* to obtain a corruptible crown; but **we an incorruptible**.

1 Cor. 15:52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised **incorruptible**, and we shall be changed.

1 Pet. 1:23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of **incorruptible**, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

- Believers earn an incorruptible crown, resurrected with an incorruptible body, due to salvation connected with the incorruptible seed – the Word of God.

b. Our Inheritance is Incapable of Defilement,
1:4b “...and undefiled...”

Original Word: ἀμίαντος

Transliteration: amiantos

Definition: undefiled

Usage: undefiled, untainted, free from contamination.

amíantos (an adjective, derived from A "not" and *miaínō*, "to stain, defile") – properly, untinted (unstained); (figuratively) undefiled because unstained.

Heb. 7:26 For such an high priest became us, *who is* holy, harmless, **undefiled**, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;

- Our inheritance resembles our Savior!

c. Our Inheritance is Incapable of Default,
1:4c "...and that fadeth not away..."

Original Word: ἀμάραντος (used only in 1 Pet. 1:4)

Transliteration: amarantos

Definition: unfading

Usage: unfading, enduring.

amárantos (an adjective, derived from A "without" and *maráinō*, "to fade") – **properly, what will *not* fade (*imperishable*).**

<https://biblehub.com/greek/263.htm>

- The inheritance, like the “crown of glory,” will be forever a shining testimony of God’s grace.

1 Pet. 5:4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a **crown of glory that fadeth not away.**

2. Reservations Have Been Made for Us, 1:4d
“...reserved in heaven for you,”

Original Word: τηρέω

Transliteration: téreó

Definition: to watch over, to guard

Usage: I keep, guard, observe, watch over. (reserve)

tēréō (from *tēros*, "a guard") – **properly, maintain (preserve); (figuratively) spiritually guard (watch), keep intact.**

- The inheritance of the believers is not dependent upon self-sufficiency, but upon God's power to preserve and keep His promises of His provisions.

Jer. 29:11 For **I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace,** and not of evil, **to give you an expected end.**

- The inheritance represents an environment that is habitable for God, which He has "made us" acceptable for His glory.

Eph. 1:6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein **he hath made us accepted in the beloved.**

Summary

- Believers have a “lively hope” that begins at salvation and culminates in eternity.
- Peter describes an inheritance promised by Jesus in Jn. 14:1-3:

Jn. 14:1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there* ye may be also.

- The “lively hope” is “...an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,”

Conclusion

2 Cor. 4:16 For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet **the inward man is renewed day by day.**

17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory;

18 While **we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen *are* temporal; but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.**