

THE LIVING HOPE
1 PETER 1:3-5

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Introduction:

1. I don't know what life would be like without hope.
2. All over the world people need hope.
3. Hope that is based on chance is no hope at all.
4. Jesus offers the only hope that is of any value. It is not a limited, dead hope, but a real living hope. **Romans 15:13** *Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

I. THIS LIVING HOPE IS BASED UPON THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS. **v. 3** *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead..*

- A. In his letter to the Corinthian church, the Apostle Paul addressed one of their misunderstandings concerning the resurrection of the dead and the resurrection of Jesus. **1 Corinthians 15:12-19*****
- B. The resurrection of Jesus is based on historical facts, not on human reason or imagination. **1 Corinthians 1:1-8*****
- C. To the Christian the future life is not merely a subject of anticipation, but of confident and well-grounded assurance.
- D. The most significant fact about the crucifixion was that it culminated in the resurrection and assured the resurrection of those who belong to Jesus. **John 11:25-26** *Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"*

II. THIS LIVING HOPE OFFERS AN INHERITANCE. **v. 4** *... to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you ...*

- A. This inheritance is incorruptible. **1 Corinthians 15:50-54*****
 1. This word "incorruptible" means, "undecaying, immortal."
 2. Bodies that are placed in the ground decay but the new body given to the saved will never decay. **Job 19:26** *And after my skin is destroyed, this I know, That in my flesh I shall see God..*
- B. This inheritance is undefiled.
 1. This word "undefiled" means "unsoiled, pure."
 2. In the new city Jerusalem we read in **Revelation 21:27** *But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.*
- C. This inheritance will never fade away.
 1. This phrase "that does not fade away," means "perpetual."

2. This inheritance will never be taken away from the saved. It is eternal.

John 10:28 *And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.*

D. This inheritance is reserved in heaven for those who are saved.

1. This word “reserved” means “guarded, keeping an eye upon.” **2 Timothy 4:8** *Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.*

2. It is Jesus who keeps his eye on the saved and keeps guard over.

III. THIS LIVING HOPE KEEPS THOSE WHO ARE SAVED. **v.5** *... who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*

A. We are kept by the power of God.

B. We are kept through faith.

C. This living hope will be revealed in the days. **Titus 2:13** *... looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ ...*

Conclusion:

1. What a living hope is promised to all who will come to Jesus and be saved.

2. This promise from the Savior is available to you today if you will only believe.

3. Peace will come to your heart and soul, assurance will be given to you, and a joyous future will be yours.