

BLESSED HOPE

BHBC



BIBLE CHURCH

**Learning of Christ, Loving in Christ, Leaning on Christ, Living for Christ, Leading to Christ
Based on the Word of God**

1 PETER

LIVING FOR THE
LORD IN BAD TIMES



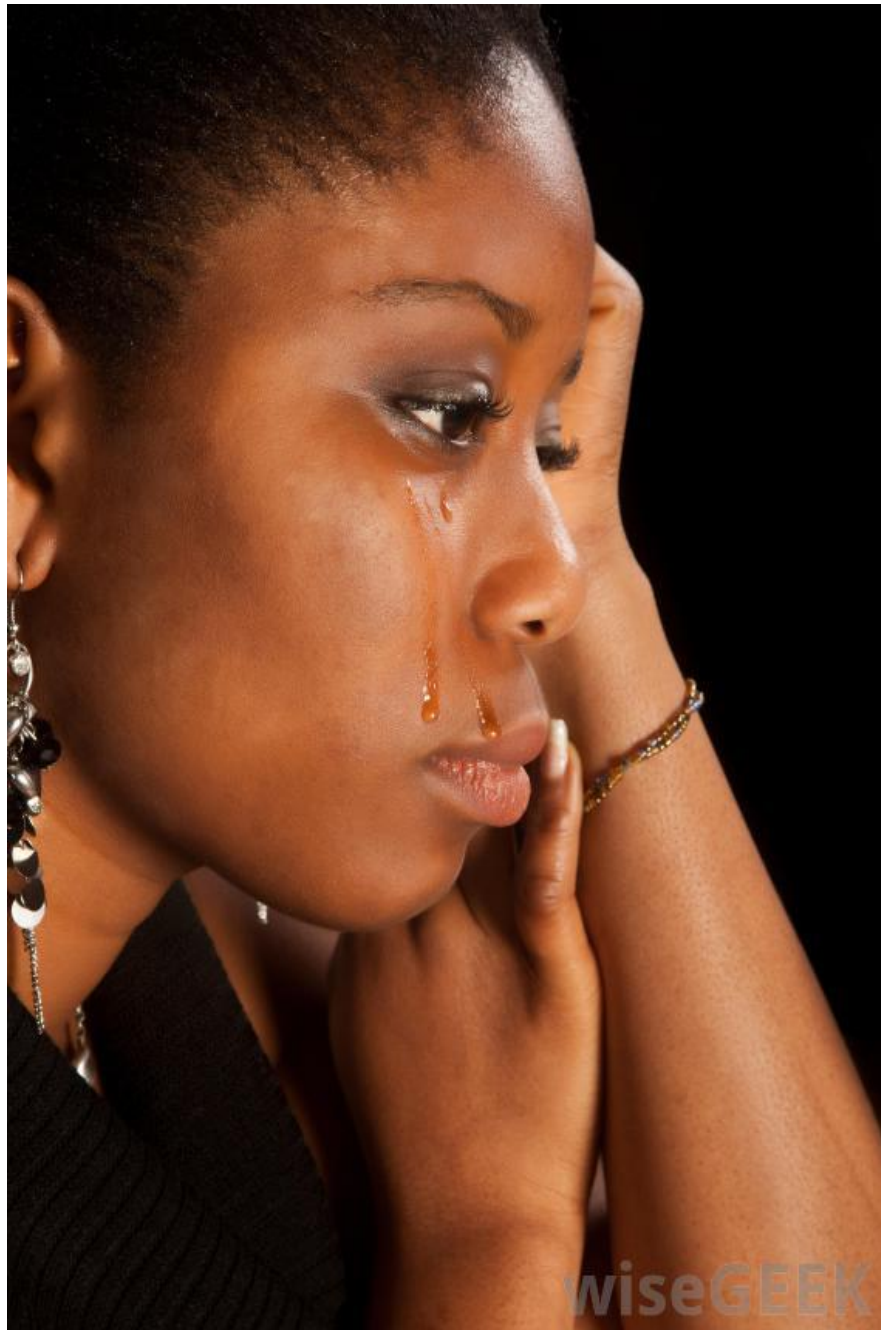
JOYFUL ANTICIPATION

1 PETER 1:6-12

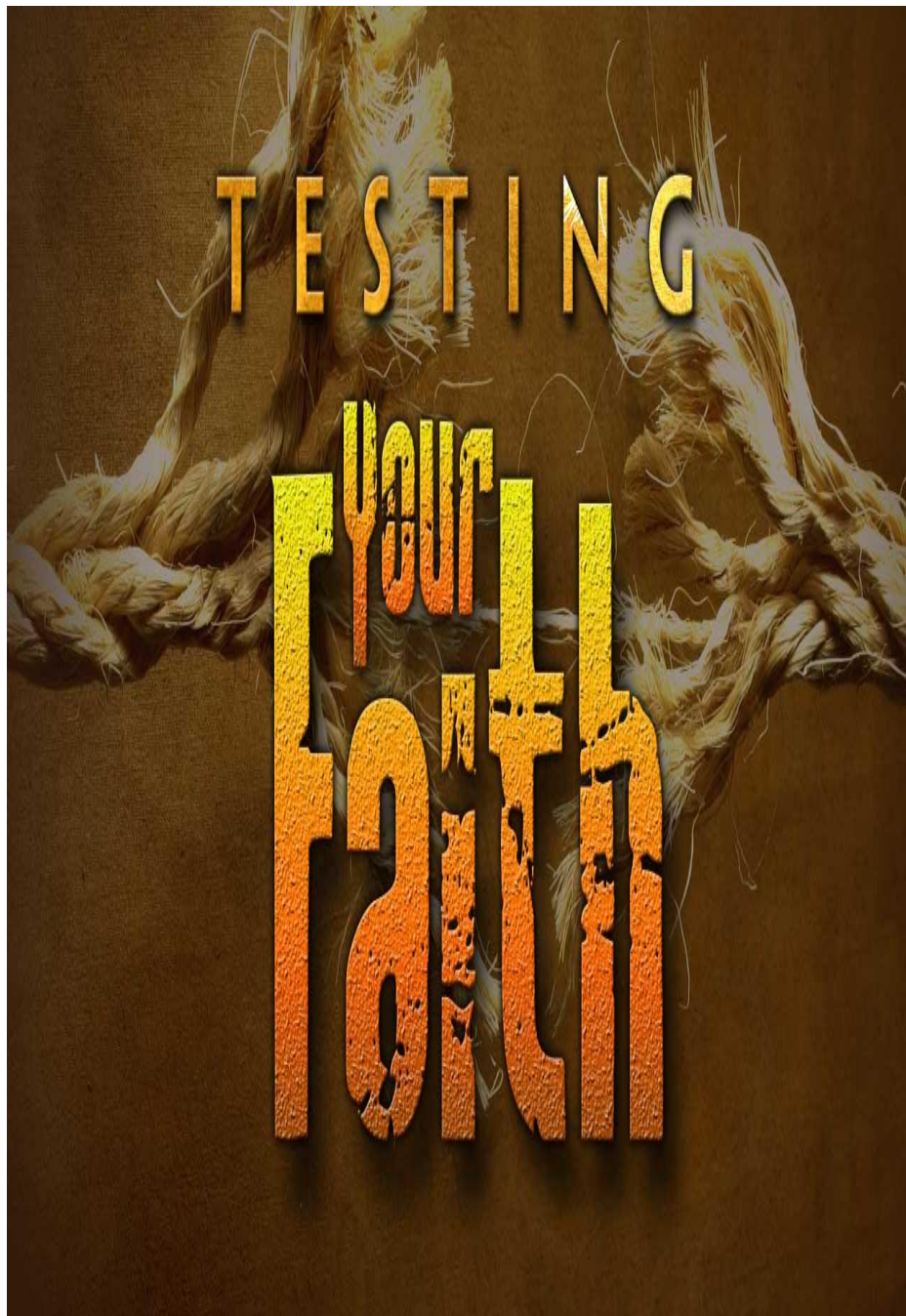
- **THE CONTEXT:** The basic theme of 1 Peter is the proper response to suffering.
- **THE PARADOX:** All of us will face various kinds of difficulties and problems in life.
 - It is easy to become confused, frustrated, fearful, stressed, and even bitter
 - It is easy to believe that God has somehow forgotten us, withdrawn His favor from us, or is punishing us.
 - Although a believer may become bewildered and discouraged in the midst of a difficulty, the anticipation of something great has a way of making the past and the present seem unimportant.
- **LESSON:** The future **anticipation** of the believer governs the believer's **perspective** of the present.
- 1 Peter 1:6-12 shows us two ways how this is true.

- **ANTICIPATION OF A FUTURE HOPE RESULTS IN PRESENT REJOICING INSPITE OF PRESENT TRIALS. 1 PETER 1:6-7**





- Present Trials Cause **Grief** in the Present--But They do not Stop the Joy of the Future Hope. 1:6
 - Grief from trials are **present**, but only for a little while.
 - Trials are real and do cause grief.
 - Trials cannot take away our future hope.
 - Grief from trials are **necessary**, but only for a little while.
 - God, for His own reasons, allows trials in our life.
 - We should not become bitter due to trials because of our great future hope.



- Present Trials Have the Purpose of **Testing** Faith--But They do not Stop the Joy of the Future Hope.
 - The purpose of trials, regardless of the reason, is to refine or purify one's faith, i.e., to **mature** our faith.
 - The purpose of trials, regardless of the reason, is to prove the reality on one's faith, i.e., to prove if one's faith is **genuine**.

- **ANTICIPATION OF A FUTURE HOPE RESULTS IN PRESENT REJOICING INSPITE OF PROOFLESS TRUTH. 1 PETER 1:8-12**





- Without Ever Seeing Jesus, Believers Love Him.
 - **Question:** How can you love somebody you never seen?
 - **Answer:** You believe the message about Him as the Word of God.
 - **Note:** We do not know what Jesus looks like!



- Without Ever Seeing Jesus, believers believe in Him and rejoice in His promises.
 - **Question:** How can you believe in someone whose promises you never personally heard?
 - **Answer:** You believe the message about who He is, what He has done, and what He has promised.
 - **Note:** Jesus never wrote anything like a book, letter, or poem.



- Without Ever Seeing Jesus, believers receive as the result of their faith in Him the salvation of their souls.
 - **Question:** How do you know that salvation based on faith in Jesus is real?
 - **Answer:** The salvation is confirmed and affirmed by the prophecies of the O.T. prophets.



- The O.T. prophets prophesied of the grace that would come to believers.
- The O.T. prophets did not produce their prophesied based upon their own testimony, reason, wisdom, intelligence, or wishful thinking; but by the inspiration of the Spirit of Christ who was speaking in and through them.

The Prophets

- Moses is the first of many Old Testament prophets to speak for God.
- **Major prophets**
- Isaiah
- Jeremiah
- Ezekiel
- Daniel
- **Minor prophets**
- Hosea
- Joel
- Amos
- Obadiah
- Jonah
- Micah
- Nahum
- Habakkuk
- Zephaniah
- Haggai
- Zechariah
- Malachi

- The Spirit of Christ who was in the O.T. prophets was testifying beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow--the prophets wanted more details as to the timing of their fulfillment.
- The O.T. prophets, who prophesied of the grace that would come to believers, were prophesying of the things now preached in the gospel message.



- Even the angels desire to look into the things preached to us in the gospel—which were confirm beforehand by the prophets through the Spirit of Christ within them.
 - Angels know the gospel message.
 - Angels even rejoice at the salvation of a sinner (Luke 15:10)
 - Angels, like the prophets, want to know the timing off the glories that would follow

A CHALLENGE FOR YOU

- **Your Anticipation of the living hope will help you deal with any present trials?**



RECEIVE THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR
SAVIOUR TODAY!!



- 1. Acknowledge** that the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, **died** on the cross for your sin, and that He **arose** again from the dead on the third day.
- 2. Admit** that you are a sinner, **guilty** of sin and **responsible** and **accountable** to a holy God for your sin, and that you are under His just condemnation and eternal punishment for your sin.
- 3. Accept** the Lord Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour by **receiving** His provision of salvation through your faith in Him alone.