

PATTERN NUMBER ONE

*DON'T GET SHOOK, GOD HAS THE CONTROLS 1:1-12

KEY VERSES: 1:3-5 "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, unto an inheritance imperishable, and undefiled and unfading which has been reserved in heaven for you, you who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."

MEMORY VERSE: 1:3TEXT: 1:1 - 12

Peter an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the chosen exiles of the dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia. According to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in setting apart of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ. May grace and peace be yours in ever greater measure. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Unto an inheritance imperishable and undefiled and unfading which has been reserved in heaven for you. You who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you are rejoicing, though now for a little while, if it must be (if there is need for it) you have been distressed in the midst of various kinds of testings. In order that the genuineness of your faith which is more precious than gold which is perishing though it is being tested by fire may be found for praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Whom having not seen, you are loving, in whom now, not seeing, yet believing, you are rejoicing with inexpressible and glorified joy. Obtaining as an outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls. Concerning which salvation prophets searched and inquired carefully those who prophesied concerning the grace intended for you. Searching what time or what kind of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was making clear when he was testifying beforehand concerning the sufferings of Christ and the glories along with them. To whom it was revealed that not for themselves but for you they were ministering these things, which now have been reported to you through those who have proclaimed the good news to you by the Holy Spirit who was sent from heaven, which things angels are eagerly desiring to gain a clear glance (to look into).

EXPOSITION: It is the deep desire of Peter that as he writes to these suffering saints they will not panic, but practice the patterns he has outlined for them in this epistle.

- 1. Many of the things that Peter will have to share with us in this book come from some of his own bitter experiences.
- 2. Peter's salvation can be seen in the Luke 5 account when he falls on his knees in the bottom of the boat and recognizes his sin before the Lord. He was taught the tremendous lesson of submission in the Book of Acts as he allowed the Spirit of God to use him to reach thousands and he too, knew full well what it was to suffer for the cause of Christ.
- 3. You find an graphic Old Testament illustration of the truth of First Peter in the children of Israel, their salvation from Egypt took place in the crossing of the Red Sea. They learned what it was to suffer through the desert experience and they learned the great lesson of submission as they entered the land by faith in the book of Joshua, and before they ever conquered, Joshua was confronted by the angel of the Lord, who was the pre-incarnate Christ and it is clear that the Lord did not

in the upper
Room + book
of Acts

"From victory unto 18
victory His Army shall
He lead..."

come to bless Joshua's plans but He came to take over as the commander of the Lord of Hosts. And Joshua got the message for he fell on his face to the earth and worshiped and said to Him, what does my Lord bid his servant? And verse 15 says "and the commander of the Lord's army said to Joshua, put off your shoes from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy, and Joshua did so."

- 4. What a tremendous comfort it is to know that when the world seems to be falling apart and everything looks like chaos and confusion, that the Christian does not have to allow his heart to fail him for fear, because he is rightly related to a sovereign God who has the controls in His hand.

III. OF Job wave upon wave -- worshipped --

Verse One: Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the chosen exiles of the dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia.

1. In this first verse we meet the author of the epistle and also the ones to whom he is writing.
2. When you read the gospels, the best known apostle of the twelve is probably Peter. Peter is so easy to identify with him both in his successes and his failures. He was a rugged fisherman and when Jesus first saw him, he said "you shall be called Cephas, or Peter" which is by interpretation, a stone.
3. G. Coleman Luck points out "though already a married man, Peter instantly responded when the Lord Jesus called him from his boat to become a fisher of men. In the new role of disciple, tremendous experiences came in rapid succession in Peter's life. Glorious successes such as walking to Christ on the water were followed by ignominious failures, as when with eyes turned from Jesus to wind and waves, he found his only salvation from sinking to be in the strong arm of the Saviour. His great confession, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God" was followed within moments by the Lord's rebuke of the satanically suggested idea that Jesus must not suffer. Peter's self confident boast, that he at least would never forsake his Lord was but the prelude to a three-fold denial, that he never knew him. But a tough exterior concealed a tender heart. Deeply penitent Peter was granted a special interview with the risen Lord in which he was recommissioned after three times affirming his love for Christ. Victory followed victory as Peter truly became a fisher of men. As a result of his Pentecostal message, three thousand souls were saved.
4. Peter calls himself merely an apostle of Jesus Christ. Paul S. Rees points out that "this is brief, simple and direct. An apostle is one sent as an authorized agent or representative. In the case of the original apostles the authorization was given by the risen Lord to those who were witnesses of his resurrection. Hence Phillips adoption of the title, special messenger, Peter was that despite his one time failures. The denier has become the defender, in the fires of Pentecost. The mere bravado has been burned out, in its place is the steadfast courage of a man crucified with Christ. The impetuous vacillator has become the impregnable votary who now takes it in hand to brace the hearts of his Christian brother."
5. Its hard to believe that a man so rough and so fond of action would be selected by the Lord of glory to write some of the sweetest words that have ever been given to console and to encourage suffering and persecuted saints. Evidently this tough exterior has been torn away through suffering to the point now that it has been sweetened. F. B. Meyer points out that "very different was this apostle of Jesus Christ when he wrote this epistle, from the fisherman who girded himself in early life to his toils from the disciple who abandoned all to follow the Master with enthusiastic ardor. Frost and fire had disintegrated the rock, age had diminished the writer's strength, taken the sparkle from his eye, sown his head with grey, and bowed his frame. His self reliance had learned to cling to a stronger than himself, his wisdom to defer to a wiser. In the deepest sense he was converted at last, that he might set himself to strengthen his brethren."

Age either hardens or softens
suffering does the same thing!

bitter or better
brash or broken
stubborn or submissive
Sweet or Sour...
resisting or resting...

- ** Pilgrims Passing thru looking for A City ***
- 6. Peter is living up to his name. Certainly, a rock who has found his source of strength and rest in the time of storm in the Rock, Jesus Christ, and through this epistle, he made it his prayer that others will find this same source of stability and strength in the Saviour. It was not long after this that Peter himself, suffered martyrdom, being crucified, upside down.
 - 7. Peter is addressing his letter to the chosen exiles of the dispersion. Peter is very fond of making reference to the fact that God chose us to be in Him before the foundation of the world. Exiles of course, are people who are away from their real home. "Of the dispersion," is a term that James also uses in his introduction to refer to Christian Jews who were scattered in various places through the persecution. Evidently these Jews became Christians at Pentecost and Peter is now writing a letter to strengthen and encourage them in the midst of their suffering.
 8. Ironside points out that "Peter addresses his letter to the strangers scattered. In accordance to the Lord's instructions, Peter seeks to feed and care for these scattered sheep of the House of Israel, dispersed among the nations. The lands mentioned are all in what we call Asia minor, north of Palestine and Syria, and south of the Black Sea. In these countries many Jews were living who had been brought to know Christ through the ministries of both Paul and Peter."
 9. There are five locations named in this first verse. ① Pontus, ② Galatia, ③ Cappadocia, ④ Asia and ⑤ Bithynia.
 10. These countries are all within close proximity of one another and can easily be located on a map which dates from this period of time.

VERSE TWO: "According to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in setting apart of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ, may grace and peace be yours in ever greater measure."

ForeKnowledge The phrase, "according to the foreknowledge of God, the Father" refers us back to the phrase in verse one, "chosen exiles". In other words these words, chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father.

2. Paul makes reference to the foreknowledge of God in Romans 8:28-30. "And we know that all that happens to us is working for our good if we love God and if we are fitting in to His plans. For from the very beginning God decided that those who came to Him and all along He knew who would, should become like His Son, so that His Son would be the first with many brothers. And having chosen us, He called us to come to Him, and when we came, He declared us not guilty, filled us with Christ's goodness, gave us right standing with Himself and promised us His glory."
3. "Whereas we were chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, we were set apart by the Spirit unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ. God the Father chose us according to His foreknowledge and God the Spirit set us apart and God the Son made it possible by the shedding of His blood upon the cross."
4. Dr. F. B. Meyer points out "we know little or nothing of the secret transactions of eternity, but we can tell if we were included in them by a very simple test. All whom the Father gave to Christ come unto Him, John 6:37. If therefore we have come to Christ, attracted to Him as steel filings to the magnet, we may assure our hearts and there to lay claim to the blessings and responsibilities included within that mystic circle."
5. J. Allen Blair in his book Living Peacefully, points out that it was Dr. Ironside who pictured a man wandering down a broad road leading to destruction. Along the way, he comes to a building, its door is open and over it wherever a passerby may see, "whosoever will may come". But on the other side, where only those who have believed and entered in may see, there is inscribed "Chosen in Christ" before the

*Father
Selection
son
salvation
spirit
sealing*

*sprinkling
of the blood
on the mercy
seat*

foundation of the world. The door of salvation is open to all. Those who enter may be certain they were chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world. D. L. Moody has said that the whosoever wills are the elect and the whosoever won'ts are the non-elect. Let not one of us pass by the door lest he never approach it again, lest he travel on to destruction. Take God at His Word, believe Him, obey Him.

6. It is a comforting thought to remember even in the midst of difficulty, that God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit have each had a part in our salvation and that no matter what happens we will never be left or forsaken.
- 7. By using the phrases "unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ" Peter is thinking of the old covenant under the law whereby it was a conditional covenant depended upon the obedience of those involved and it was ratified or made effective by the sprinkling of the blood of animals.
- 8. Hebrews 9:19-28 speak of this: "For after Moses had given the people all of God's laws, he took the blood of calves and goats along with water and sprinkled the blood over the book of God's laws and over all the people using branches of hyssop bushes and scarlet wool to sprinkle with. Then he said, this is the blood that marks the beginning of the agreement between you and God, the agreement God commanded me to make with you. And in the same way he sprinkled blood on the holy tent, and on whatever was used for worship. In fact we can say that under the old agreement, almost everything was cleansed by sprinkling it with blood and without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness of sin. That is why the sacred tent down here on earth and everything in it, all copied from things in heaven had to be made pure by Moses in this way by sprinkling them with the blood of animals. But the real things in heaven of which these down here are copies were made pure with far more precious offerings. For Christ is entered into heaven itself to appear now before God as our friend. It was not in the earthly sacred tent that he did this for that was merely a copy of the real one in heaven. Nor has He offered Himself again and again as the High Priest offered animal blood in the Holy of Holies each year, down here on earth. If that had been necessary, then He would have had to die again and again ever since the world began, but no, He came once for all at the close of the age to put away the power of sin by dying for us. And just as it is destined that men die only once and after that comes judgment, so also Christ died only once as an offering for the sins of many people. And He will come again, but not to deal again with our sin. This time He will come bringing salvation to all those who are eagerly and patiently waiting for Him!"
9. William Barclay in commenting on these two phrases says "in the Old Testament there are three occasions when sprinkling with blood is mentioned.* It may well be that all three were present in Peter's mind and that all three have something to contribute to the thought behind these words. When a leper had been healed, he was sprinkled with the blood of a bird. Leviticus 14:1-7. ① Sprinkling with blood is therefore, the symbol of cleansing by the sacrifice of Christ. A Christian is cleansed from sin. Sprinkling with blood was part of the ritual of the setting apart of Aaron and the priest. Exodus 29:20-22; Leviticus 8:30; Sprinkling was the sign of ② setting apart for the service of God. The Christian is especially set apart for the service of God not only within the temple, but within the world. But the great picture of the sprinkling comes from the covenant relationship between Israel and God. In the covenant God of His own gracious free-will, approached Israel that they might be His people and that He might be their God. But that relationship depended upon the Israelites accepting the conditions of the covenant and obeying the law. Obedience was a necessary condition of the covenant and failure in obedience, meant failure of the covenant relationship between God and Israel.

So the book of the covenant was read to Israel and the people pledged themselves "all the words which the Lord hath said, we will do." As a token of this relationship of obedience between the people and God, Moses took half the blood of the sacrifice and sprinkled it on the altar and half the blood of the sacrifice and sprinkled it on the people. Exodus 24:1-8. ③ Sprinkling was sprinkling for obedience. Through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, the Christian is called into a new relationship with God in which the sins of the past are forgiven and He is pledged to obedience in the time to come. Through Christ the Christian is ① cleansed, ② set apart, ③ pledged to obedience for all his days. It is in the purpose of God that the Christian is called. It is by the work of the Holy Spirit that his life is hallowed towards God. It is by the sprinkling of the blood of Christ that he is cleansed from past sin and dedicated to future obedience to God.

10. Hort points out that "it is not rash to surmise that Saint Peter's words were used by him with an ulterior reference to the immediate occasion of his epistle. Persecution having begun, martyrdom would not long be absent, both for the writer and the recipient of the epistle. It was a not remote prospect of having to seal their testimony with their blood."
11. Peter expresses a two-fold wish for these to whom he is writing in the last phrase in verse two. "May grace and peace be yours in ever greater measure."
12. Throughout the epistle we are going to note that Peter often mentions "grace." We will see "grace" in all three tenses. Grace in the past, in the offering of His Son; grace in the present, to live life for His glory and grace which is yet to be ours at the revelation of Jesus Christ.
13. Dr. Ryrie in his book "The Grace of God" points out that "the grace of God in the New Testament is his unmerited favor in the gift of His Son who offers salvation to all and who gives to those who receive Him as their personal Saviour, added grace for this life and hope for the future. Every facet of this broad conception of grace is rooted in the fact that in the New Testament, the grace of God is the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ."
14. * Peter's wish here is for these saints to experience present grace and peace to meet the difficulties they are encountering. When they came to know Jesus Christ, they experienced the grace of God in finding a provision for their sin, adequate to satisfy the holiness and justice of God in the person of Christ, and as a result of receiving this grace, in Christ, peace was theirs, the Holy God.
15. It is Peter's wish now however, that they might experience grace to endure the suffering that is going to be theirs and that no matter how difficult the storm, there will still be peace.
16. J. Allen Blair tells about the time that an award was offered to the artist who could best depict a scene of peace. Among the paintings submitted, one seemed to portray the theme of peace more vividly than the others. A blue sky flecked with clouds above a field of golden grain, heavy and ripe for harvest, cattle quietly grazing on a far hill and to one side of the tree standing stately and serene as though surveying peace. To the surprise of many however, this painting did not win the award, but rather one which depicted a bleak forbidding shore where breakers dashed angrily upon sharp rocks, and skies gray and overcast, suggested biting winds. Jutting from the rocks was a solitary tree branch with a birds nest resting securely on it. There sat a little bird snug in its nest; warm and safe above the jagged rocks and raging sea. This was peace. And this is the peace that Peter is talking about here, hopeful that in the midst of storm, these who are suffering and will continue to suffer may experience from God, a present treasure of grace and also peace.

use
This!

Resurrection

- ① Thursday nite
- ② Friday
- ③ Saturday
 - A. Mourning
 - B. Satisfaction in Silence
- ④ Sunday - Resurrection
 - A. Women
 - B. 10 disciples
 - C. Emmaus → Thomas
 - D. 500
- ⑤ All other religions go to a dead leader for life.
- ⑥ I Cor. 15:17 "And if Christ has not been raised, ~~therefore~~ your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins."
 - v. 18 Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.
 - v. 19 If we have only hoped in Christ in this life, we are of all men most to be pitied.
- John 11:25-26
- ⑦ Golgotha + the tomb.

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I Peter 1:3-5

I. Salvation Past V.3

Verse Three: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to his great mercy, has caused us to be born again to a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

- +1. Verses 3, 4 and 5 are the key verses in our first pattern, Don't get shook, God has the Controls. In these next verses we are going to see our salvation from three perspectives: Salvation from the past, salvation in the present, and Salvation in the future. We are also going to be introduced in verse 8 to the person who makes it possible and in verses 10-12 to the prophets who predicted it.
- +2. In this third verse Peter breaks forth in praise to God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ for making it possible for us to (be born again to a living hope) and the basis for this new birth is the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.
- +3. John 3:7 We have been born again to (a living hope) not (a dead hope) because Jesus Christ has been raised from the dead and is alive and at the right hand of God the Father even at this time.
- +4. Lenski points out that "a living hope is the opposite of an empty, false, deceptive hope. It is bright, strong, active in us because God guarantees and produces its fulfillment. All men have some sort of hope, but while so many deceive themselves with the dead hopes of their own making, we whom God Himself begot, have a living hope that rests on God's promises and power. When the hopes of others go to pieces in the last flood, our hope will sail triumphantly into the harbor of eternal fulfillment. Note how Peter combines the beginning of our spiritual life with its consummation. So much lies between these two extremes, but when we as strangers are called to suffer in this world, which is now so alien and also so hostile to us, our hearts praise the great mercy of Him who begot us as His own and who will presently usher us in to heaven and His own glorious presence."
- +5. We need not get shook, because God has the controls. He is the one who provided the new birth to make it possible for us to have a relationship with Him and He also is our living hope for the future. Thornly Smith points out "the hope of the worldling is vain. The hope of the hypocrite perishes and the hope of all who are unregenerate will sooner or later die, but the hope of the Christian lives lives in the storm, in the tempest, in the cloudy and dark day and even in the hour, an article of death. It is not the spectre of the hope we see, but a real hope, a hope which dwells within us, which nestles in our breast like a gentle dove and which does not leave us even when friendless and alone. Hope takes its stand upon the mountain top and gazes with an eagle's eye into the glorious future where it discerns worlds on worlds of blessedness and light and says to us, your home is there. It is characterized by calmness, endurance, fortitude and purity and thus it is, a living hope indeed for it (has life), (gives life) and (looks for life), so that those who are in possession of it need never be ashamed."

II. Salvation Future

- Verse Four: "Unto an inheritance imperishable and undefiled and unfading which has been reserved in heaven for you."
- +1. We not only have been born again to a living hope, but we also have the promise of an inheritance which has been reserved in heaven for us.
- +2. This inheritance has three qualities about it. First of all it's (imperishable) and second, it is (undefiled) and third, it is (unfading).
- +3. Romans 8:16-18 "For his holy Spirit speaks to us deep in our heart and tells us that we really are God's children and since we are his children, then we will share His treasures, for all God gives his Son Jesus, is ours now too. But we must also share His suffering if we are to share His glory. Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory He will give us later."
- +4. Ephesians 1:13,14 "In Him, you also who have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation and had believed in Him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit which is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it to the praise of His glory."

Eternal — Pure — Won't Fade

← Everything done here is the opposite: Perishable, defiled And it Fade. --

5. Paul Rees in commenting on this verse says "nor is that all, this risen Saviour has engaged himself to provide for the sons and daughters of faith, a heavenly inheritance which may be thought of as a guarded deposit whose riches are awaiting us when our often troubled-filled pilgrimage here has run its course. Keep your hope-lit eyes on that inheritance Peter would say. It is imperishable, no termites no moulding, no decaying, it is undefiled, no sin will ever stain it, no rebellion will ever rock it. It is unfading, it's beauty will be forever undiminished, its charms are ever enchanting.
6. D. L. Moody used to delight telling the story of a little girl who was sick unto death. Her parents and the doctor were standing by the bed and looking on her pale face. The Doctor thinking her to be unconscious spoke softly to the parents and said, "poor dear, I fear that her best days are gone." The little eyelids opened and a faint smile broke around the lips as the little girl said, "oh no, doctor, my best days are to come when I will be with Jesus." She knew that there was awaiting her, an inheritance reserved in heaven.
- +7. William Law wrote "all the happiness of this life is but trying to quench thirst out of golden empty cups. We cannot speak like this about the inheritance which has been reserved for us in heaven."
8. Matthew Henry gives us some of his thoughts about the blessed inheritance which is awaiting those who love the Lord. He designed it to be a testimonial after his decease. "Would you know where I am, I am at home in my Father's house in the mansion prepared for me there. I'm where I would be, where I have long and often desired to be. No longer on a stormy sea, but in a safe and quiet harbor. My working time is done, I am resting, my sowing time is done, I am reaping. My joy is at the time of harvest. Would you know how it is with me, I am made perfect in holiness. Grace is swallowed up in glory. The top stone of the building is brought forth. Would you know what company I have, blessed company, better than the best on earth. Here are holy angels and the spirits of just men made perfect. I am set down with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of God with the blessed Paul and Peter and James and John and all the saints. And here I meet with many of my old acquaintances that I fasted and prayed with who got before me hither and lastly would you consider how long this is to continue? It is a garland that never withers, a crown of glory that fades not away. After millions and millions of ages, it will be as fresh as it is now. and therefore weep not for me. "A mansion there. He has gone to prepare
Yes, a place for you and for me.
For ever to live with Christ over there
His pleasure, our pleasure to be."
- +9. First of all we note of this inheritance that it is imperishable. It is something that is not subject to decay nor will fire destroy it, and time will not turn it to dust.
- +10. The second thing we note about the inheritance is that it is undefiled. It is not an inheritance which is subject to the defilement of this earth.
- +11. The third thing that is said about this inheritance is that it is unfading. All the things of this life with time, fade away. Paul in writing to Timothy in 1 Timothy 6: says "do you want to be truly rich? You already are if you are happy and good. After all we didn't bring any money with us when we came into the world, and we can't carry away a single penny when we die, so we should be well satisfied without money if we have enough food and clothing."
12. Barclay raises the question "what then is this wonderful inheritance the Christian possesses? There may be many secondary answers to that question, but there is only one ultimate answer, the inheritance of the Christian is nothing other than God Himself. The Psalmist had said, the Lord is the portion of my inheritance. Ps.16:

III. Salvation - Present V. 5

"God is his portion forever"; Ps. 73:23-26; "The Lord said the prophet is my portion, therefore will I hope in him." Lamentations 3:24. Just because the Christian possesses God and is possessed by God, that he has the inheritance which is imperishable, undefilable and which can never fade away.

VERSE 5 "You who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."

- Wow!!**
- + 1. We learn in verse three that we have been born again to a living hope and in verse 4 we also learned that we have an inheritance reserved in heaven for us. And now in verse 5 we learn that we are being protected by the power of God. What else could we ask for, as we face the difficulties of this present life. We can look back to a point in time when we were born again to a living hope and we can look forward to an inheritance reserved in heaven and no matter what happens to us now here in this life, we are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.
 - + 2. Paul speaks of this in Ephesians 1 "and after you gave your confidence to Him, you were, so to speak, stamped with the promised Holy Spirit as a guarantee of purchase until the day when God completes the redemption of what He has paid for as His own and that will again be to the praise of His glory."
 - + 3. Philippians 4:7 "and the peace of God which passeth all understanding will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus".
 - + 4. God is willing to do for us all that His grace and power will allow to do.
 - + 5. Romans 8:35-39 "who then can ever keep away Christ's love from us when we have trouble or calamity, when we are hunted down or destroyed, is it because He doesn't love us anymore and if we are hungry or penniless or in danger or threatened with death, has God deserted us? No, for the Scriptures tell us that for His sake we must be ready to face death at every moment of the day. We are like sheep awaiting slaughter, but despite all this, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ who loves us. "For I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from his love, death can't and life can't, the angels won't and all the powers of hell itself cannot keep God's love away. Our fears for today, our worries about tomorrow, or where we are high above the sky or in the deepest ocean, nothing will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."
 - + 6. The reason given for our being protected by the power of God is seen in the last phrase, for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.
 7. Paul Rees waxes eloquent on this particular verse, "guarded is a good word but lets not surrender the word kept as we have it in the authorized version. In the preceding verse we have been told that our inheritance is being kept for us in heaven. In this verse, we have the counterpart of that truth, we are being kept amid the perils and difficulties of this testing, tumultuous world through which we must pass. What over reaches and underlies both of these keepings is nothing less than the power of God. Kept by the power of God, a tremendous phrase, who could thrill to it more than Peter. He who once tried to keep himself, impetuous, and self-reliant, full of zeal toward the Master, he was sure that though others might not hold to their loyalty, to him, he would. Then the sickening failure, the dark denial, the bitter tears, the tender recovery.
 8. Alan Stibbs points out, "not only is this wonderful heavenly inheritance prepared for our enjoyment, but we for whom it is divinely intended are being continuously guarded and so preserved throughout the whole of our earthly pilgrimage by nothing less than divine power in order that we may safely reach the goal of its full possession. Here we have expressed, the unmistakable confidence of the apostolic writers, that God Himself will see that those who are called to share in the fulfillment of this promise of an inheritance will all safely reach the goal of its full enjoyment.

"Protected"

9. The word here for "guarded" or "kept" is a military term referring to a small force of men who are placed inside a fort, to hold it against attack while the main body of the army moves on to take new ground.
10. Philippians 1:6 "Being confident of this very thing that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ."
- +11. The same power that was displayed in the creation of the worlds and the setting in motion of the times and seasons is the same power that is keeping us through faith unto a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.
12. There are three wonderful things then in these key verses in our first pattern. Don't get Shook, God Has the Controls. We don't need to get shook because first of all, God the Father has made it possible for us to be born again to a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Secondly, we don't need to get shook because we, as a result of experiencing the new birth, have an inheritance reserved in heaven for us. And thirdly we who have experienced the new birth also are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.
- +13. The big question that comes to my mind at this point in the study however, is, do you know Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour. If you don't, I would like to invite you to receive Him by faith right now, so that the things we have been discussing in these previous verses will also be true.

Verse Six: "In this you are rejoicing, though now for a little while, if it must be, (if there is need for it) you have been distressed in the midst of various kinds of testings."

1. Peter, in the first phrase, is referring back to what has been said in the previous verses, that is, you have been born again to a living hope, you have an inheritance reserved for you and the fact that you are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. These great truths provide a spirit of rejoicing even though the present circumstances may be difficult.
2. The fact that we are being protected by the power of God does not exempt us from trouble in times of testing.
3. F. B. Meyer points out "for ourselves, trials come generally from three sources, ① those brought on us by others, ② those caused by our own sins, mistakes and indiscretions and ③ those sent directly to us from God our Father, and beneath this various pressure, what wonder that the heart is bowed down. How apt was the summons of Jesus to the heavy laden and how incessant the great procession of such passing down in to the vale of tears at the end of which stands His cross, behind which the light of morning is breaking. No mother bending over her suffering child is more solicitous than is He. Suiting the trial to your strength, keeping his finger on your pulse so as to stay the flame when the heart begins to flutter, only too eager to see the scum pass off and His own face reflected from the face of the molten metal. Happy would it be for us if instead of looking at our trials we would look away to His face, only eager to understand His meaning and to learn His intended lesson, so that as the outward man perishes the inward man may be renewed day after day. While the marble wastes beneath the sculptor's hand, the image grows. So should each loss in our estate or circumstance have a corresponding gain in spiritual conformity to Christ."
- x 4. James 1:2,3 helps us understand God's design in testing. "Deem it pure joy my brethren, whenever you fall in to various kinds of trials, knowing that the testing of your faith is producing endurance or (patience)."
5. Howard Ferrin in commenting on this sixth verse says "sometimes we think it strange when God's people suffer affliction. The question is repeatedly asked, why is the life of a Christian drenched with so much blood and blistered with so many tears?"

use
This!

The answer is to be found in the answer that only as faith is tested through manifold trials can it be found to the praise and honor and glory of Jesus Christ at His appearing."

6. When I can read my title clear to mansions in the skies,
I'll bid farewell to every fear and wipe my weeping eyes
When cares like a wild deluge come and storms and sorrow fall
May I but safely reach my home, my God, my Heaven, my all.
7. Barclay points out "the rigors which the athlete has to undergo are not meant to make him collapse, they are meant to make him able to develop more and more strength and staying power. In this world, trial and affliction are not meant to take the strength out of us, but to put the strength in to us. In this connection there is a most suggestive fact in the language which Peter uses. He says that the Christian for the moment may well have to undergo as the authorized version has it, manifold trials; in the Greek the word for manifold is poikilos which literally means many colored. Now Peter uses that word once again and only once again and the one other time he uses it is to describe the grace of God, in 1 Peter 4:10. Our troubles may be many colored but so is the grace of God there is no color in the human situation which the grace of God cannot match. Whatever life is doing to us, there is that in the grace of God which will enable us to meet it and to overcome it."
8. It would be awfully easy to get shook and to feel that everything depended upon us when trials come because it seems so obvious that God is not in control. It's a real comfort to know that He designs trials and testings for a purpose and this purpose we will discover in the next verse.

Verse Seven: "In order that the genuineness of your faith which is more precious than gold which is perishing, though it is being tested by fire, may be found for praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ."

1. The purpose is seen for the test in order that the genuineness of your faith may be found for praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.
2. Ironside points out "that faith must be tested, otherwise it could not be verified so we need not fear when our faith is exposed to trial, that it indicates any displeasure on God's part toward us, rather it indicates his deep interest in and concern for us. For just as gold is tried in the fire in order to separate it from the dross, so faith which is much more precious than gold that perishes, must be tested in order that it may be found unto praise and honor and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, from heaven.
3. Dr. E. Stanley Jones wrote "as the affirmation for the day, grief comes to all, sours some, sweetens others, I still use it to sweeten my spirit."
4. Jowett in speaking on this verse points out, "the faith that is proved is more richly endowed, the strong wind and rain which try the tree are also the ministers of invigoration, the round of the varying seasons makes the tree well seasoned and solidifies and enriches its fiber. It is the negative which develops the strength of the affirmative. It is antagonism which cultivates the wrestler. It is the trial which makes the saint. The man who sustains his hold upon God through one trial will find it easier to confront the next trial and exploit it for eternal good. And so these manifold trials prove our faith, they reveal and they enrich our spiritual apprehension. They may strip us of our material possessions, the gold that perished, but they endow us with the wealth of that inheritance which is incorruptible and undefiled and that fades not away. God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform; He plants His footsteps in the sea and rides upon the storm. Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take, the clouds ye so much dread, are big with mercy and shall break with blessings on your head."

Various
Kinds

I am here
in full +
living color

High Definition

Job in The Crucible

Paul in Prison

Abraham & ISAAC

Joseph in Egypt

27.

5. Arnold Gabelein points out "that the way to the promised land for the literal Israel led through the desert sands with trials and testings. The way of the elect in Christ also leads through the desert with its wilderness experiences. Faith too, must be honored and glorified by testings. Faith is not only a precious thing for us, it is precious to God as well. It is His gold, that in which He rejoices to bring out its value, various trials are permitted by Him."

6. Why all the tests, in order that the genuineness of our faith may be found for praise and for glory and for honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Watchman Nee points out "what God does is right. Circumstances are his appointment for our good. They are calculated to undermine and weaken the specially strong points of our nature. It may not take him as much as twenty years to do this, or it may take longer. Yet God knows what he is doing. We see this clearly at the end of Jacobs life. Earlier he had inspired little affection in anyone for everyone had to serve his ends, yet at the last he became gentle and lovable. "Now for a little while you have been put to grief in manifold temptation, that the proof of your faith being more precious than gold that perishes though it is proved by fire, might be found unto praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ." There is nothing accidental in the life of the believer. It is all measured out to us. We may not welcome the discipline, but it is designed in the end to make us partakers of His holiness.

Verse Eight: "Whom having not seen, you are loving, in whom now not seeing, yet believing, you are rejoicing with inexpressible and glorified joy."

1. Whom having not seen of course refers to Jesus Christ in the last part of verse 7. Although we have not seen Him, yet we are loving Him because of who He is and what He has done in our behalf in making it possible for us to be born again, to have an inheritance reserved for us and also to be protected by the power of God.

2. 1 John 4:19, 20 "yes we love Him because He first loved us. The man says I love God and hates his brother, is a liar, for if he does not love the brother before his eyes, how can he love the one beyond his sight."

3. "In whom now not seeing, yet believing, you are rejoicing." Here Peter goes one step further and points out that although we are not seeing him, yet we are believing Him and rejoicing in the expectation of those things which are ahead for us with inexpressible and glorified joy.

4. We are not able to see Him but we can love Him and we are not able to see Him and yet we can believe in Him.

5. Peter has taken it for granted that we are rejoicing in the salvation that has been made available to us even though at present we are suffering through testing and now even though we cannot see the Lord, we can love Him and believe in Him and our attitude ought to continue to be one of rejoicing.

6. 1 Corinthians 2:9, 10. "that is what is meant by the Scriptures which say that no mere man has ever seen, heard or even imagined what wonderful things God has ready for those that love the Lord. But we know about these things because God has sent His Spirit to tell us and His Spirit searches out and shows us all of God's deepest secrets."

7. Whereas in the previous section we have been looking at the salvation which has been made available to us, now we are looking at the person who has made it possible.

8. Jowett points out that "we love Him because He first wooed us. The early love may be timid and shy, half afraid of itself and trembling in some uncertainty but it shall put on strength and sweetness in the deeper and riper fellowships of your wedded life. Wedded to the king you shall come to realize the freedom of His forgiveness, the triumph of His power, the sweet pressure of His presence, the

Elijah by the drying brook

Answering your Prayers
Making you
like my Son

John on Patmos

2 John
Phileas
John 21

alluring glory of the living hope and with the enrichment of your intimacies, your heart will become possessed by a more intense and fervent affection for Him who, whom not having seen, you love, on whom believing, here is the second expression of the Christian's relationship to Christ. On whom believing the figure is suggestive of a leaning posture, an attitude of dependence, a confident resting of one's wait upon the Christ we love. It is the acceptance of His reasonings as sound, it is the assumption that His judgments are dependable. It is the usage of His weapons as adequate for our strife. It is the assurance that His promises are the expression of spiritual laws and that there is no more caprice in their ministry than there is in the operation of laws in the physical world."

But what to those who find ^{love} ~~are~~ this, nor tongue nor pen can show.
The love of Jesus, what it is, none but His loved ones know.

9. It is quite possible that Peter has in mind the words that the Lord spoke to Thomas in John 20:29 "Jesus said unto him, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed, blessed are they that have not seen and yet have believed."
10. Jesus these eyes have never seen that radiant form of thine
The veil of sense hangs dark between Thy blessed face and mine.
I see Thee not, I hear Thee not, yet art Thou oft with me
And earth hath ne'er so dear a spot as where I meet with Thee.
Yet though I have not seen and still must rest in faith alone
I love Thee dearest Lord and will, unseen, but not unknown.
When death these mortal eyes shall seal and still this throbbing heart
The rending veil shall be revealed all glorious as Thou art.

Verse Nine: "Obtaining as an outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls".

1. Peter here gives us the ultimate end of our faith in that it is going to lead to the salvation of our souls. He has already spoken of this in verse 5 when he said we are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. We have also learned that this faith is being defined in the present process of things in order that the genuineness of it might be proven so that the outcome of the refined faith will lead to the salvation of our souls.

Verse ten: "Concerning which salvation prophets searched and inquired carefully those who prophesied concerning the grace intended for you."

1. Peter, in verses 10, 11 and 12 will now speak about the prophet who predicted this salvation that he has been talking about in the earlier verses. They searched and inquired carefully concerning the grace intended for you.
2. Whereas the grace spoken of in verse 2 was grace for present needs the grace spoken of here in verse 10 is the grace of the past that made it possible for us to have a relationship with God the Father through Jesus Christ.

Verse Eleven: "Searching what time or what kind of time the Spirit of Christ who was in them was making clear when he was testifying beforehand concerning the sufferings of Christ and the glories along with them."

1. The picture here is of one searching for the time or the kind of time that the Spirit of Christ was making clear to them.
2. Galatians 4:4 and 5 "But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son made of a woman, made under the law to redeem them that were under the law that we might receive the adoption of sons."
3. The Psalmist foresaw the sufferings of Christ in Psalm 22 and the glories along with them in Psalm 24.
4. Isaiah the prophet sees the suffering servant in Isaiah 52 and 53 and then the glories along with them in Isaiah 54 and following.

God's method is suffering then glory. Devil's method is glory then suffering. Romans 8:18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

Grace
A New
Program

Take fresh
heart & suffer
before you

Verse Twelve: "To whom it was revealed that not for themselves but for you they were ministering these things which now have been reported to you through those who have proclaimed the good news to you by the Holy Spirit who was sent from heaven, which things angels are eagerly desiring to gain a clear glance (to look into)."

- Eph. 2:8,9
1. First of all we notice that the truth about the sufferings of Christ and the glories along with them, as it was revealed, it was also revealed that this was not for them but for us, that they were ministering these things. "Which now have been reported to you through those who have proclaimed the good news to you by the Holy Spirit." I am sure Peter has in mind the day of Pentecost or subsequent occasions when they have heard the message of the crucified risen Lord from one of the apostles.
 - ✓ 2. Jesus promised in John 16:13 that when the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears, he will speak and he will declare to you things that are to come."
 - ✓ 3. He also spoke of this in John 14:26 "these things I have spoken unto you while I am still with you, but the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you."
 - ✓ 4. This promised coming of the Holy Spirit took place in Acts chapter 2 when Peter and the other followers of the Lord were gathered in the city of Jerusalem.
 5. "Which things angels are eagerly desiring to gain a clear glance (to look into). It is not only the prophets who are searching and inquiring carefully about this salvation which is made available to us but the angels themselves are desiring to get a clear glance of what is going on and what God is doing in this present time.
 6. Ephesians 3:8-12 "Yes to me, less than the least of all Christians has God given this grace to enable me to proclaim unto the Gentiles the incalculable riches of Christ and to make plain to all men the meaning of that secret which He who created everything in Christ has kept hidden from the creation unto now. The purpose is that all the angelic powers should now see the complex wisdom of God's plan being worked out through the Church in conformity to that timeless purpose which he centered in Jesus our Lord."
 7. Barclay points out that "someone tells of watching one night at dusk a lamplighter who was himself blind, lighting the lamps. He tapped his way from lamppost to lamppost bringing to others a light which he himself would never see. As the prophets knew, it is a great gift to receive the vision, even if the fulfillment and a consummation of the vision is for others who are still to come."
 - x 8. Holy holy holy is what the angels sing.
And I expect to help them make the courts of heaven ring.
But when I sing redemptions story, they will fold their wings
For angels never felt the joy, that our salvation brings.

* CONCLUSION: We come now to the end of our first study, Pattern Number One, "Don't Get Shook, God Has the Controls." What a glorious truth to realize that God in His foreknowledge has chosen us to be His children and that He has made it possible for us to be born again to a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead to an inheritance reserved in heaven for us and that during this present time here on earth, we are being protected by the power of God through faith and that although our faith is being tested it is only being tested to refine it in order that it may be found for praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ, the One whom we have not seen and yet we love and we believe in Him and as a result of our faith in Him, we are obtaining the salvation of our souls,

Walk Within Thy House with a Perfect Heart

Lord, How I long to serve Thee upon some great mission
field

And have the world see, How much I love Thee
By this my sacrifice.

"Nay," came his voice so gentle, yet so firm.

"Walk within thy house," With a perfect heart
And do not for other things yearn."

Then Lord make within these walls,
A perfect sacrifice of Thy grace.
A place where all who enter
May see Thy face
And rest and be renewed.

May those who dwell here Lord,
Find always warm welcome,
Peace and happy words.
That when they go,
Their own hearth to build,
They will have a perfect pattern,
And Thy perfect will fulfill.

Pearl Anderson

a salvation which the prophets predicted and the angels desired eagerly to look into.

* John Hunter points out that "some people are not sure about their home in heaven. They have doubts about their future salvation. This is sad because they have no assurance. They miss the point that he, that is Christ, is my salvation. My safety does not depend upon what I keep on doing, but upon what He is." Don't get shook, God has the controls.

Lessons:

- ① Being God's Child involves taking A gift, Have You done that?
- ② Your salvation was Planned by the Father, Purchased by the Son, Provided by the Spirit.
- ③ You Are Protected by the Power of God.
- ④ God is reFining our Faith And Making us like His Son in our tests.

Story of Dub's Dad A Circuit Rider w/ 3 churches in Texas Panhandle. Lost in a blizzard. Old cowboy said lay the reins on the horses neck. They know the way home And back to the barn!

God is AT work!

He is AT work in your life
Will You let Him.

Matt. 11: 28-30

You Raise Me up!

Celtic Singers!