

Courage and Indescribable Joy

I. Introduction to Courage

The **ability** to do something that frightens

Strength in the face of pain or grief

Faithfulness to one's belief despite danger or disapproval

Peter's purpose: COURAGEOUS JOY [Slide 1]

1Pet. 5:12 ... I have written briefly to you, **exhorting (encouraging)** and **declaring (testifying)** that this is the **true grace of God**.
Stand firm in it.

NLT My purpose in writing is **to encourage you and assure** you that what you are experiencing is **truly part of God's grace for you**.
Stand firm in this grace.

II. Multiplied Grace & Peace

Apostolic Directive for Limitless Resources

1Pet. 1:1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to those... elect exiles.. 2
according to the **foreknowledge** of God the **Father**, in the **sanctification** of the **Spirit**, for **obedience** to **Jesus Christ** and for sprinkling with his blood:

May **grace** and **peace** be multiplied to you.

Grace – the saving gift of God (all His riches) that authorizes and empowers you to be free.

Peace – fullness, nothing lacking. Absence of absence, No evil, no lack. **Multiplied!!**

III. New Life & Resurrection Joy

A. New Birth into a LIVING HOPE

1Pet. 1:3 **Blessed** be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
[According to his **great mercy**, he has **caused us** to be **born again** to a **living hope** through the **resurrection** of Jesus Christ from the dead,] [vv. 3-5 baptismal confession] [Slide 2]

THANKSGIVING! Creator and Incarnate Word
GREAT (varied) mercy
LIVING HOPE
through the Resurrection!

B. Protected —

4 to an **inheritance** that is **imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven** for you,

Inheritance — The portion that transfers to an heir upon death.

imperishable - cannot be destroyed, no expiration.

undefiled - untainted, pure, unpolluted

unfading - cannot rot or lose its brightness

kept - guarded, immune from disaster.

for you! — It's for all of us. The least to the greatest.

C. Shielded by Power — through Faith unto Salvation

5 **who by** God's **power** are being **guarded through faith** for a **salvation** ready to be **revealed** in the last time.

D. Faith Overflows with Joy into Glory!

6 In this you **rejoice***, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been **grieved** by various trials,

***jumping up and down** kind of **joy**

Everything has **Purpose, Meaning**

7 **so that** the tested **genuineness of your faith**—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be **found to result** in **praise** and **glory** and **honor** at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Faith opens up Indescribable Joy!

8 Though you have not seen him, **you love him**. Though you **do not now see him**, **you believe in him** and **rejoice* with joy** that is **inexpressible** and **filled with glory**, 9 obtaining the **outcome** of your **faith**, the **salvation of your souls**. [Slide 3]

Joy OBTAINS the outcome of Faith — Liberation of our Souls

E. This Mystified Prophets & Angels

10 Concerning this salvation, the **prophets who prophesied** about **the grace that was to be yours** searched and inquired carefully, 11 inquiring what **person** or **time** the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he predicted the **sufferings** of Christ and the **subsequent glories**.

12 It was **revealed to them** that they were **servicing** not themselves but **you**, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who **preached the good news** to you by the **Holy Spirit sent from heaven**, things into which **angels long to look**.

II. Courageous Living

The **ability** to do something that frightens

Strength in the face of pain or grief

Faithfulness to one's belief despite danger or disapproval

13 Therefore, **preparing your minds for action**, and being **sober-minded**, **set your hope fully** on the **grace** that will be brought to you **at the revelation of Jesus Christ**.

14 As obedient children, **do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance**,

15 but as he who called you is holy, **you also be holy in all your conduct**, 16 since it is written, "You shall **be holy**, for **I am holy**."

- 17 And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, **conduct yourselves with fear** throughout the time of your exile,
- 18 **knowing** that you were **ransomed*** from the **futile** ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, 19 but with the **precious blood of Christ**, like that of a **lamb** without blemish or spot. *60M slaves in Roman Empire
- 20 **He** was foreknown **before the foundation of the world** but was made manifest in the last times **for the sake of you** 21 who **through him** are **believers in God**, who **raised him** from the dead and **gave him glory**, so that your faith and hope are in God.
- 22 Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, 23 since you have been **born again**, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, **through the living and abiding word of God**; 24 for
- "All flesh is like grass
and all its glory like the flower of grass.
The grass withers,
and the flower falls,
- 25 but the **word of the Lord** remains forever."
And **this word** is the **good news** that was **preached to you**.

III. Power to Engage

1Pet. 1:2. May **grace** and **peace** be multiplied to you.

Multiplied!!

1Pet. 2:9 But you are a **chosen** race, a **royal** priesthood, a **holy** nation, a people **for his own possession**, that you may **proclaim the excellencies** of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. 10 Once you were not a

people, but now you are **God's people**; once you had not received mercy, but now you have **received mercy**.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit!