

A Great Salvation

1 Peter 1:10-12

Leader Discussion guide

Sermon Summary:

1 Peter 1:10-12 is the ending of a long doxology that begins in verse 3. In this doxology, Peter is erupting in praise over our great salvation. In verses 3-9 Peter has the current and future blessing of our salvation in view. In verses 10-12 he looks back to the work of the prophets to rejoice over salvation. Salvation was predicted by ancient prophets over time. They wrote about a suffering Messiah who would experience glory. The prophets were not serving themselves, but you.

Illustrations Used:

- People would chant “*soteria*”/salvation, when a victorious king returned after victory
- OT is like an arrow pointing forward. A person who introduces the President of US
- When reading the first pages of a novel and it is confusing, “Keep reading.”
- A Grandfather planting oak tree seedlings
- 19th Century pastor who told of a blind lamp lighter

Comprehension Questions:

1. Salvation means saved from ruin or destruction. In 1 Peter, what are we saved from? 1 Peter 3:18 and 4:17 and 5:8 – Sin and judgment and Satan.
2. Many believe that the OT describes God as full of anger and wrath and that the NT describes God as loving. What is the truth about the scripture?
 - a. On the next page, the quote from the Jesus Storybook Bible is included. Read this to the group to help answer the previous question
 - b. What about this quote stands out to you?
3. In light of the way the Bible is put together, how should we read the OT and NT? What does the OT have to do with the NT? What does the NT have to do with the OT?
4. Read Matthew 13:16-17. In what ways are we in a better spot to understand the OT and to understand and grasp the glory of Christ than the greatest prophet before Christ came?

Application Questions:

1. In 1 Peter 1:3-12, Peter is modeling worship centered on the theme of salvation. What makes this section worship? Is this type of worship something that we can practice today? What would it look like today to worship God like Peter is here?
2. The prophets served future generations as they labored to write out prophecy. How can we labor and sacrifice today, not for our benefit, but for the benefit of future generations?
3. Mark suggested that we should be grateful people. What is the basis of our gratitude? How do we cultivate grateful hearts and attitudes?
4. We can be grateful for those who preached the gospel to us while we were not yet saved. Tell us who helped you understand the gospel. Do they know the role they played? Can you contact them?

Extended Quote From Jesus Storybook Bible:

Now, some people think the Bible is a book of rules, telling you what you should and shouldn't do. The Bible certainly does have some rules in it. They show you how life works best. But the Bible isn't mainly about you and what you should be doing. It's about God and what he has done.

Other people think the Bible is a book of heroes, showing you people you should copy. The Bible does have some heroes in it, but (as you'll soon find out) most of the people in the Bible aren't heroes at all. They make some big mistakes (sometimes on purpose), they get afraid and run away. At times, they're downright mean.

No, the Bible isn't a book of rules, or a book of heroes. The Bible is most of all a Story. It's an adventure story about a young Hero who comes from a far country to win back his lost treasure. It's a love story about a brave Prince who leaves his palace, his throne—everything—to rescue the ones he loves. It's like the most wonderful of fairy tales that has come true in real life!

You see, the best thing about this Story is—it's true.

There are lots of stories in the Bible, but all the stories are telling on Big Story. The Story of how God loves his children and comes to rescue them.

It takes the whole Bible to tell this Story. And at the center of the Story, there is a baby. Every story in the Bible whispers his name. He is like the missing piece in the puzzle—the piece that makes all the other pieces fit together, and suddenly you can see a beautiful picture.

Extended Outline:

Introduction: In verses 3-12 we find one long doxology. Peter erupts in praise. What is he praising God for? Salvation. Verse 5b. verses 8-9. In verses 10-12, Peter continues reflecting on and exulting in our great salvation. What are we talking about when we say “salvation?”

Illus: In ancient times, the people chanted “*soteria*”/salvation, when a victorious king came through the city after defeating their oppressors.

What are we saved from? 1 Peter 3:18 and 4:17 and 5:8 – Sin and judgment and Satan.

The Christian has experienced salvation from these things. God wants us to rejoice in this salvation. In verses 10-12, Peter's praise continues... “concerning this salvation.”

We will walk through the passage, and then give 3 applications.

1. Salvation was predicted by ancient prophets

- a. V10 – the “prophets who prophesied.”
 - b. Salvation is the main theme of the prophets and the whole OT.
 - i. V10a – look what they prophesied about. This salvation.
 - 1. V10 – “the grace that was to be yours...”
 - 2. V11 – Salvation through a suffering and glorified Christ
 - a. This was their message. A deliver is coming. Someone who will save His people from oppression, and from their sins, and from God’s judgment which we deserve for our sins. That is what the OT and NT are about.
 - ii. **App:** This means the Bible has a unified message.
 - 1. **Illus:** Page 14-17 of the *Jesus Storybook Bible*.
- 2. God’s plan of salvation wasn’t revealed all at once.**
- a. V11 – The prophets didn’t have all the information.
 - b. **Examples:** they knew a deliverer was coming...
 - i. Moses, Nathan, Jeremiah, Isaiah, Amos
 - c. **Illus:** The OT is like an arrow pointing forward.
 - i. **Illus:** Ladies and gentlemen, the President of the US.
 - d. The OT is fulfilled in Jesus Christ.
 - i. **Luke 24:25-27**
 - e. **App:** This has implications for how we read the Bible.
 - i. **Illus:** When we a novel, lots of questions. “keep reading”
 - 1. Keep reading. Don’t read the OT separate from the NT.
 - ii. **app:** If we do, we can fall into error. If you keep reading we read Jeremiah saying a New Covenant is needed. Paul said the Law was a tutor to lead us to Christ. SEE Col. 2:16-17. Substance is Christ.
- 3. The prophets predicted that the Messiah would suffer and experience glory.**
- a. Often these predictions were right next to each other:
 - i. Psalm 22 & 24; Isaiah 53:5 and 54:13.
 - b. The Spirit was leading them to write. But they were not sure how it fit together. **Illus:** Like two mountain peaks.
- 4. V12 – “They were serving not themselves but you”**
- i. **Illus:** Like a grandfather planting seedlings.
 - ii. **Illus:** 19th-century pastor talked of a blind lamp lighter.
 - iii. **App:** that is what the prophets were doing. Serving those who would see Christ’s fulfillment, and hear about it through the gospel.
- b. **App:** This is so often the case in the Christian life.
 - i. We are called to serve, not ourselves, but those who don’t know Christ. We are called, not to make sure we grab all we can, and enjoy as much as we can, but to serve others so that generations to come can hear the gospel.
 - ii. **App:** Listen church, it is not about us. We have an inheritance. It is coming. Now we are called to serve, with urgency and sacrificial hearts, so that others will know Christ and follow Him.

3 applications

- 1. We should be a grateful people.**
 - a. Grateful to Jesus Christ:

- i. Christ suffered for you, so you could experience glory:
 - ii. Christ planned to suffer for you.
 - 1. V11 –Why does he say, “Spirit of Christ?” Peter is highlighting the fact that it was Christ who was predicting his own suffering.
 - 2. See also 1 Peter 1:20.
 - b. Grateful for prophets who served us, before we were born. V12
 - c. Grateful to those who preached the good news to us. V12b
- 2. We should carefully and persistently look into the depth of our salvation.**
 - a. Look again at how much attention the prophets gave the salvation they prophesied. V10, v11.
 - i. And they only had part of the story.
 - ii. See Matthew 13:16-17 We are in a better spot to understand the Old Testament and to understand and grasp the glory of Christ than the greatest prophet before Christ came. Matthew 11:11.
 - b. V12b – Look at the angels.
 - i. They long to, and they can observe on one level. But they have never experienced salvation. If angels get excited about our salvation, how much more should we. We aren’t just onlookers, we are beneficiaries. As we look into it, we will say with Peter, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. . ."
- 3. Enter into this experience of salvation.**
 - a. **App:** Right now you are hearing the gospel preached. If you will turn from your sin, trust in Christ, and give your life to him. You will be saved.