

**SERIES: "CHOSEN AND EXILED"- -5/12/24 (#4)
PASTOR LEE**

Celebrating
God's Grace
&
Gift of
Salvation

- Pastor Lee reiterates the two-part core of last week's sermon on 1 Peter 10-12.....First, **SALVATION**: Jesus' incredible gift...we were completely and devastatingly separated from God....Christ dies on the Cross and offers redemption. With faith and trust in Him, we have **SALVATION**. Second, the prophets pondered this notion of the Messiah and, through His Spirit, recognized and prophesied about this promise of grace.
- Many people (38) were baptized last week...declaring their faith "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God"their free, genuine and outward expression of their faith!
- Peter is writing this book in AD 64...around - just before, during or after- the start of Nero's persecution (burns down the City of Rome and blames on the Christians). From that point, outward professions of Christian faith were extremely dangerous.

Be Prepared-
Keep Your
Eyes on The
Prize!

1 Peter 1: 13-16 - Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be bought 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 as I am holy."

- Re: V 13, "preparing your minds for action...." - -Peter is saying: this salvation is going to be amazing but it won't come without struggle, so be ready- - and be sober-minded (serious). "Setting your hope on the grace...."; in other words, keep your eyes on the prize: **SALVATION**. Pastor stresses that, today, we need to do the same, counter-culturally and accepting whatever the risk, in living out our faith in whatever darkness.....doing so to bring glory to God (our ultimate purpose). So, again, prepare your minds for all this... stay grounded in Jesus!

Looking
Forward From
Re-Birth

- All this envelopes "obedience" to your 'now' 'faith-in Christ' focus....not reverting back (V 14) to earlier principles/behavior/reactions in your 'pre-Jesus' life. Using analogy of obeying your Mom, 'obedience' is not for sake of itself: it produces positive results (eg. safety, security, positioning for success). How much unfathomably more to be obedient to Jesus!
- You can recognize 'schematics'....that is, 'pattern of life'....those that are Godly and those that are not. There's, indeed, a stark, clear choice....don't go backward!

Choose life!
(Faith/Obedience)

Deut 30: 19 - I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live.

And Be
Holy!!!

- Therefore, chose life (faith/obedience)..... or death (self, sin, etc.) Which schematic will you chose?
- V 15-16: "You should be holy as I am Holy". The term, "holy", often misused and abused in the vernacular, refers to the sacredness and "set-apartness" which penultimately starts with the perfect Holiness/Presence of God. Yet, if you are a child of God and whereby Jesus has atoned for your sins, He has made you holy too....holy by the power/love/sacrifice of Jesus! You are, indeed, 'set apart' for what Jesus did for you....You are NOT the same anymore....a new heart, reflecting new behavior (obedience!), new thoughts, etc. Eight

