

1 Peter
Part Two: Perfectly Secure
Pastor Rick Henderson **February 11-12, 2023**

QUESTION: What is an achievement that could cause you to feel better about yourself? And what is a failure that could cause you to feel worse about yourself?

ANSWER: Anything that impacts our **SIGNIFICANCE**, **SECURITY**, or **SATISFACTION**.

1 PETER 1:3-9 *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a **living hope** through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an **inheritance** that can **never perish, spoil or fade**. This **inheritance is kept in heaven for you**, who through faith are **shielded by God's power** until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. **In all this you greatly rejoice**, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of **greater worth than gold**, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and **are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy**, for **you are receiving** the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.*

IDENTITY: I find joy in defining myself by what Jesus did, not what I do.
What is the story I'm telling myself about myself?

It's possible to **love** Jesus while being **unloving**.

It's possible to **identify** with Jesus and **deny** Jesus.

It's possible to be a **united** people in Jesus but live like a **divided** people.

1 PETER 1:5 *This **inheritance** is kept in heaven for you, who through faith are **shielded by God's power** until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.*

The **STRENGTH** of our faith is far less important than the **OBJECT** of our faith.

*You are **NOT** defined by your worst moments or your greatest accomplishments; your wins or your losses; your strengths or your weaknesses. God defines you. And his definition for you is "Beloved."* —**Tuillian Tchividjian**

1 PETER 1:6-7 *In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while **you may have had to suffer** grief in all kinds of trials. These have come **so that** the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.*

Whatever **PRODUCED** our suffering isn't as important as the **PURPOSE** of our suffering.

Christians can bear any disadvantage now because of the certainty of their eternal inheritance. —**Karen H. Jobes**

1 PETER 1:8-9 *Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, **for you are receiving** the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.*

THEOLOGY 101:

- We **ARE** saved.
- We **ARE BEING** saved.
- We **WILL BE** saved.

1 PETER 1:10-12 *Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of the Messiah and the glories that would follow. It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things.*

God's message never **CHANGED**. It continued and **CULMINATED** in Jesus.

1 PETER 1:13-16 *Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. **As obedient children**, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: "**Be holy, because I am holy.**"*

AUTHORITY: I find joy in submitting to Jesus and his word.
Who is in charge?

1 PETER 1:22 *Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have **sincere love** for each other, **love one another deeply, from the heart.***

SERIES THESIS: Let your **IDENTITY** drive your **ACTIVITY**.

ACTIVITY: I find joy in loving others the way Jesus loved me.
What does love require of me?

1 CORINTHIANS 13:18a *If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.*