

NEW BIRTH INTO A LIVING HOPE (Easter 2017)

1 Peter 1:3-2:3

Key verse 1:3

“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...”

1. Read verse 3. Whom did Peter praise, and what does this show about him? What has God given us and on what basis (Jn 3:6; 2Cor 5:17)? Jn 3:6 **“Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.”** 2Cor 5:17 **“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!”** What two things does he say we are born “into”, and what do they mean to you (3b-5)?
2. How did the early Christians respond in the midst of trials (6)? What purpose do trials accomplish (7)? What amazing thing did they experience in relationship with Jesus (8-9)?
3. How did God progressively reveal this salvation (10-12)? What does the Spirit of Christ point to, and what was preached to us? How did the Messiah accomplish our salvation? What grace and privilege do we have over the prophets and the angels?
4. How does new birth change our mind, our hope, our attitude toward God (13-14)? Who is our Father, and how shall we live before him (15-17)? What has he redeemed us from and how (18-21)? What does this mean to you in regards to your past?
5. How does obeying the truth alter relationships (22)? How does the word of God make this possible (23-25)? Of what should we rid ourselves (2:1)? How are we to grow up in our salvation (2:2-3)? What does this mean to you?