

“Hope that Strengthens” Part 1
Mount of Olives | October 5, 2025 | 1 Peter 1:3-5
Pastor John Steward

Prayer of the Day

Heavenly Father, we worship You today for who You are, and for what You have done for us through Jesus Christ, our Savior. As we join together today in Holy Communion, may we remember all You have given us, and may we remember throughout all of the stress and strife in this world that peace and assurance may be found through You. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

Scripture Reading

1 Peter 1:3-5

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Message Notes

1 Peter 1:3-5

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Study Questions

Read 1st Peter 1:3-5

ICEBREAKER – Getting started:

1. Peter talks about an inheritance that is “imperishable.” What’s something you’ve owned that lasted way longer than expected?
2. Can you think of a time when hope carried you through a tough situation? What made that hope feel “alive”?

Based on 2nd Corinthians 12:7-10, answer the following questions:

OBSERVATION – What does the text say?

1. As you read 1st Peter 1:3-5, what comes to mind? What stands out? What is interesting to you and why?
2. In one sentence, how would you summarize this text?
3. What lesson or message do you think the author is trying to convey?

INTERPRETATION – What does the text mean?

1. What does Peter mean by “a living hope” in verse 3? How is this hope different from worldly hope?
2. How does the resurrection of Jesus Christ impact the believer’s future, according to verse 3?

3. What does it mean that our inheritance is "imperishable, undefiled, and unfading" (verse 4)? How does this contrast with earthly inheritances?
4. How does this passage provide encouragement to those facing trials and uncertainty?
5. In verse 5, Peter describes believers as being "guarded by God's power." What does this protection entail? Does it mean believers are free from suffering?
6. How does faith play a role in receiving the salvation mentioned in verse 5?
7. How does this passage shape our understanding of God's mercy and grace?
8. What are the practical ways Christians can live in light of the hope described in these verses?
9. How does the idea of an eternal inheritance impact our priorities and daily lives?
10. How can these verses help someone struggling with doubt or discouragement?

APPLICATION – How can you apply the text?

1. How does the reality of a "living hope" through Jesus Christ shape the way you approach challenges in your daily life?
2. How can you actively trust in God's power to guard your faith, especially during difficult or uncertain times?
3. In what ways does knowing your eternal inheritance motivate you to live differently today?
4. How can you encourage others with the hope found in these verses, particularly those who are struggling with doubt or hardship?