**I Peter 1:3-5**

***Living Hope***

Introduction:

1. How can we get up and go on? We have ‘living hope’!

2. In I Peter 1:3-5 we have 7 reasons for a ‘living hope’:

**I. OUR SOURCE OF LIVING HOPE 1:3a**

Hope that comes from God the Father:

1. ***Praise*** *Blessed*
2. *Blessed* This is not the same as the Sermon on the Mount. There the word is *makarios. Blessed* is received from that which already exists on the inside.
3. Here we get our word eulogy which means, ‘to speak well of’. It is blessing on account of something inherent in the person.
4. It is one thing when a father blesses a child. Here the child is blessing the Father.
5. Instead of *‘bless me’* it is *‘bless the Lord’.*
6. ***Powerful*** *God*
7. All three persons of the godhead is seen in v. 2. Vss. 3-12 is one sentence and relates the involvement of the triune God: God the Father (3-5) God the Son (6-9) God the Spirit (10-12).
8. This God is Sovereign, Everlasting, All-Knowing, Self-existent and Unchangeable. All of which is needed when life is upside down!
9. ***Parental*** *Father of our Lord Jesus Christ*
10. Fatherhood is part of His deity.
11. Because of our relationship with Jesus Christ, He is our Father (Rom 1:12). Because of Jesus we call His father our Father.
12. Christianity is a relationship. I shy away from religion. Religion is a manmade approach to God. When we come to Jesus we are introduced to a person.
13. ***Personal*** *Our Lord Jesus Christ*
14. *Our* every believer..every chosen, consecrated and cleansed person…Peter is included. He has a personal relationship.
15. *Our Lord* He is sovereign, He is one who rules. *Jesus* speaks of His humanity, one who understands, one who died for our sins. *Christ* relates Him as the anointed one, the Messiah, the coming King.
16. This One is ours when we cannot get up and go on. **He is our ‘living hope!’**

**II. OUR SPRING OF LIVING HOPE 1:3b**

*Who according to His abundant mercy…*

1. ***The Overflow***
2. *According to* is not out of *His abundant mercy.* If Bill Gates gave out of his $110 billion…you may get $10, but if he gave *According to* his $110 billion you would be RICH!
3. *Abundant* is much or very great. How great is God’s mercy?? You can only make God smaller. You can never make Him bigger than He is. His *mercy* is bigger than you can fathom.
4. ***The Origin*** *mercy*
5. *Mercy* is God not giving us what we deserve, but giving us something better. *Grace* is giving us what we do not deserve.
6. *Mercy* is so needed when you can’t get up and go on.

**III. OUR SALVATION IN LIVING HOPE 1:3c**

1. ***We Are Begotten***
2. *He has* God (this BIG God) took an interest in you.
3. *Begotten* means, *Born.* You were dead in sins. He made you alive! As with Nicodemus in John 3 *‘you must be born again’. How can a man be born when he is old? That which is born of the flesh is flesh…that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.*
4. ***We Are Beginning***
5. *Anew* is again. It is the act of the Holy Spirit who imparts new life.
6. As a child of God, I am given a new nature. I am a new creation. (II Cor. 5:17)
7. That is why we have hope. **I am not who or what I was!**

**IV. OUR SURETY OF LIVING HOPE 1:3d**

How do we know we are *begotten anew*? How can we be sure? Hope is sure by the resurrection of Jesus Christ!

1. ***He’s Alive*** *by the resurrection*
2. This is our living hope. Jesus is alive!
3. This is the basis of this new life. This is our assurance, hope and confidence.
4. This Jesus is now in heaven at the right hand of the Father for us!
5. ***He’s Available*** *from the dead*
6. (I Cor 15:14-19) *If Christ be not risen, then is our preaching empty and our faith is futile…we are found false witnesses…but Christ is risen from the dead!*
7. *From the dead* is ‘out from among the dead.’ Jesus really died!

Because He lives, we shall live also. We identify with Him!

1. This life isn’t all there is! Don’t live like it! We serve a risen Savior!

**V. OUR SURPLUS IN LIVING HOPE 1:4**

This is hope that cannot be lost!

1. ***Our Inheritance*** Those to whom Peter was writing had lost everything!
2. *Inheritance* requires the death of a person who has willed his property to a relative.
3. We are in His family. Instead of death there is life!
4. ***Our Interest*** Four features are given based on eternal life:
5. *Incorruptible* means what is ours will never perish and is not subject to death or destruction. It is not limited by time.
6. *Undefiled* means, without defect or flaw. It can never be spoiled. It remains free from any blemish.
7. *That fades not away* means, to dry up or wither. It won’t wear away in time like the inscriptions on a tombstone.
8. *Reserved in heaven for you* means it is safely guarded by God. All that is mine. All that is eternal is being carefully guarded. *For you…*it has my name on it! It has your name on it. It isn’t for everyone, just those who are *begotten anew.* **These were losing everything. All earthly possessions now belonged to someone else.** This is their hope. Not this life, but the next!

**VI. OUR SECURITY OF LIVING HOPE 1:5a**

1. ***The Persons*** *Who…*you can only be *kept* if you are *begotten anew.*
2. ***The Protection*** *Kept*
3. *Kept* means shielded, guarded. It is a military term with two possible meanings:

**\***To protect someone from danger. **\***To prevent someone from escaping.

 **2.** Not only is our salvation kept safe. We are protected. Satan can only go so far.

 ***C. The Power*** *by the power of God*

**1.** We are kept by His awesome power!

 **2.** *Power* the word is *dunamei* from which we get our word dynamite. It was the most

 powerful word known when dynamite was invented. The dynamite power of God keeps

 us!

 ***D. The Primer*** *through faith* (to rest your full weight on an object, roll a burden on, take refuge in)

1. This is the human response. It began the day we received Jesus Christ.
2. Now He wants us to believe Him as our preserver. God has promised to keep us and protect us (which doesn’t mean that nothing negative will happen). **He will see us through!**
3. *Faith* is acting positively on God’s word. *Faith* implies divine revelation. Otherwise it is wishful thinking. We live by God’s word, not circumstances. Looks are deceiving!

**VII. OUR SPECULATION IN LIVING HOPE 1:5b**

This hope is *ready to be revealed unto salvation in the last time. Salvation* has three aspects:

 ***I am Saved from the Penalty of Sin…I am Being Saved from the Power of Sin…I will be***

 ***Saved from the Presence of Sin. Saved*** means deliverance…delivered from.

1. ***The Testimony*** *our salvation is ready to be revealed*
2. These are the final aspects of what the Christian has and enjoys already.
3. It is a salvation…a deliverance which even now stands ready to be revealed. Everyone shall see this inheritance, but only the believer will possess it!
4. ***The Time*** *In the last time*
5. How long will He guard those who are His? As long as it takes!!
6. We are secure until Christ comes for His church!

How can we get up and go on?

**Jesus is alive! WE HAVE LIVING HOPE! He will take care of everything! REST!**