

1 Peter 1:10-12

10 As to this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that *would come* to you made careful searches and inquiries, **11** seeking to know what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating as He predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories to follow. **12** It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves, but you, in these things which now have been announced to you through those who preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things into which angels long to look.

THEME: Since the angels of God look so intently into the topic of salvation, we should be studying the reality of our salvation more often and more intensely than we do.
THE ANGELS GAZE, AND SO SHOULD WE.

OUTLINE:

- I. The Prophet's Inquiry (1:10-12a)
 - A. Their careful search (1:10a)
 - B. Their prophetic ministry (1:10b)
 - C. Their personal perplexity (1:11)
 1. The Person or time (1:11a)
 2. The sufferings and the glories (1:11b)
 - D. Their restricted service (1:12a)
- II. The Spirit's Prediction (1:11-12a)
- III. The Preacher's Sermon (1:12b)
- IV. The Angel's Gaze (1:12c)

"As to this salvation" - (c.f. 1 Peter 1:9; Psalm 3:8; 1 Timothy 2:3,4)

"the prophets" - (From Moses to Malachi, even including John the Baptist)

"who prophesied" - (c.f. 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Matthew 11:13)

- 2 Peter 1:20,21 *"But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God."*

"of the grace" - (*Grace* is unmerited favor; the entire motive behind God's saving work)

"that would come to you" - (c.f. Isaiah 9:6-7)

"made careful" - (intensive, not causal)

"searches and inquiries" - (plural; repeated in-depth study and prayer)

“seeking to know” - (Matthew 13:16-17 *“But blessed are your eyes, because they see; and your ears, because they hear. For truly I say to you that many prophets and righteous men desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.”*)

“what person” - (Messiah, Christ, Savior, Coming One)

“or time” - (The prophets definitely did NOT understand that Messiah would come TWICE)

“the Spirit of Christ” - (God; Holy Spirit)

“within them” - (prediction came from within them [i.e. the Holy Spirit], not *from* them personally)

“was indicating” - (literally means: ‘making plain’)

“as He predicted” - (literally means: ‘witnessed beforehand’)

“the sufferings” - (c.f. Isaiah 53:1-12; Psalm 22:1-18)

“of Christ” - (Messiah, The Awaited One)

“and” - (both the Person of Messiah and the era)

“the glories” - (The resurrection, ascension, and enthronement of Christ)

“to follow.” - (i.e. in the future)

“It was revealed” - (They received an answer ... just not the answer they expected)

“to them” - (They were assured)

“that they were not serving themselves” - (Hebrews 11:13 *“All these died in faith, without receiving the promises, but having seen them and having welcomed them from a distance, and having confessed that they were strangers and exiles on the earth.”*)

“but you” - (Luke 10:23-24 *“Turning to the disciples, He said privately, “Blessed are the eyes which see the things you see, for I say to you, that many prophets and kings wished to see the things which you see, and did not see them, and to hear the things which you hear, and did not hear them.”*)

“in these things” - (things about the Messiah and the times)

“which now have been announced” - (We are so blessed to be on this side of the Resurrection!)

“to you” - (directly and personally)

“through those who preached” - (apostles, evangelists, pastors, and teachers)

“the gospel” - (“gospel” means “good news”)

“to you” - (again, both directly and personally)

“by the Holy Spirit” - (c.f. 1 Corinthians 2:1-5)

“sent from heaven“ - (These are not worldly or earthly truths; sent from God and initiated by God)

“things into which” - (Everything about the gospel, salvation, grace, and our future in glory)

“angels” - (Created beings; servants of God and ministers to those who inherit salvation)

“long to look.”

- ‘long’ → having a strong desire or overpowering impulse that is not easily satisfied.
- ‘look’ → literally means “to stretch one’s head forward” or to “bend down.”

Points of Reflection and/or Application:

1. Your salvation is so precious that God’s Holy Spirit moved in the hearts of other believers from around the world to reach out to you and share the gospel with you!
2. Your salvation is so amazing that even the angels are still taking notice today. (This very moment!)
3. Your salvation is so important that you need to go and share it with as many people as you can!

CONCLUSION: - (Luke 15:8-10)

8 “Or what woman, if she has ten silver coins and loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? **9** When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin which I had lost!’ **10** In the same way, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What does your salvation mean to you, and why is it so important for us to study the gospel?
2. How often do you pray and read your Bible? Do you find it “easy” to do these things, or do you struggle with them? Why are these sometimes so difficult to do consistently? Please discuss.
3. Which Old Testament book of the Bible do you often go to for spiritual encouragement, and why?
4. Discuss how you study the Bible. Do you tend to read small portions repeatedly, or do you prefer to read larger portions at a time? Do you journal or make notes? What about cross-referencing?
5. Imagine what it would be like trying to live a God-honoring life in the Old Testament era, before Messiah was even born. Discuss how living in the New Testament era does (or should/could) empower, encourage, and equip us to live more obedient lives to the glory of God alone.