

# 1 Peter 1:6-9

Truth for Christians That's Off the Awesome Chart!  
The Christ Who Loved Us Enough to Save Us Actually Likes Us and Will  
Work Hard to Find Things to Reward/Commend About Us in Heaven!

## **Purpose Statement of the Book of 1 Peter (2:11-12)**

As spiritual aliens/short-timers on Earth, Christians should not be controlled by our emotions/feelings but we should consistently live our faith centered on our Lord Jesus Christ so that unbelievers who slander us because we are believers will see the reality of Christ in our lives and ultimately glorify God by coming to Him in faith.

## **Seeing Our Problems Now Thru the Lens of Faith/Hope Permits Believers to Persevere with Joy in the Midst of Pain v6**

**In this you greatly rejoice** leads to two questions

Q1: What does "this" mean?      Q2: What does "rejoice" mean?

A1: our living hope/heavenly inheritance that is secure and "waiting for us" in Heaven

A2: joy (chara in NT Greek) does not necessarily describe "ecstatic happiness" it describes a range of sensitivity from ecstasies to calm stability depending on one's emotional makeup and/or circumstances. Think: our Lord Jesus/Hebrews 12

### **even though now for a little while**

faith and hope should encourage us to deny our problems but they can/should allow us to put our suffering now in the larger eternal context...which will greatly shrink it down!

### **if/since necessary**

based on God's Plan/Purpose (either + as a barbell or - as a blow torch)

### **you have been distressed by various trials**

Christians can/do face all the same kind of trials, crime, cancer, career-issues that unbelievers do...one reason for this is so that the world can see the difference. In John 9, our Lord Jesus corrects the false assumptions of the Apostles about a man born blind.

## **Persevering with Joy in Midst of Painful Problems Now Will Lead to Special Commendation from Christ in the Future v7-9**

your faith, more precious than gold...(will) result in praise, glory and honor FOR YOU!  
at the revelation of Jesus Christ

and though you have not seen Him, you love Him  
and though you do not see Him now, but trust in Him

you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and <sup>1</sup>full of glory, (in your painful suffering now as you anticipate) obtaining as <sup>a</sup>the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls in the blessed/loving presence of your Savior.

### **This Leads to a Big Question: Is This Really Biblical?**

Simple A: Yup (Okie for “Affirmative”)

### **BEWARE These are Mind-Blowers So Buckle Your Spiritual Seat Belts**

#### **Zephaniah 3:16-17**

In that day it will be said to Jerusalem...The LORD your God is in your midst, a victorious Warrior. He will exult over you with joy...He will rejoice over you with shouts of joy.

#### **Luke 22:15**

Jesus said to them, I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.

#### **John 17:6-8**

(speaking in prayer about the Disciples just before they run away from Him after He was arrested and crucified the next morning): ...they have kept Your word...they have come to know that everything You have given Me is from You...and they truly understood that I came forth from You, and they believed that You sent Me.

#### **Revelation 22:12**

Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward *is* with Me, to give to every believer according to what s/he has done.

### **Great News about the Good News**

The Christ Who Loved You Enough to Save You Actually Likes You and Will Work Hard to Find Things To Commend You About in Heaven!

### **Christians Should Live Now/in Time in Light of the Not Yet/Eternity Including**

- 1: Our Residence<sup>+</sup> in Heaven with Christ (Our Inheritance)
- 2: The Review/Reward of the Fruit of Our Faith by the Perfectly Objective/Omniscient Judge Who Will Be Looking for “Stuff to Like!”

Whoever gives you a cup in My name...he will by no means lose his reward Mark 9:41