

COMMUNITY GROUP LEADER SERMON SUMMARY, 2/10/13

1 Peter 1:10-12 — “What’s So Great About Salvation?,” Ryan Kelly

Series: *First Peter: Between Two Worlds*

In short: Our perspective on life is set aright when our hearts marvel at the greatness of God's salvation plan.

SUNDAY’S OUTLINE

1. It was foretold by the Spirit and prophets
2. It was studied and awaited by prophets
3. It has been revealed and fulfilled in Jesus
4. It is now preached and is ours
5. It is still celebrated and pondered by angels

HELP FOR OBSERVING, INTERPRETING, AND APPLYING THE SERMON TEXT

1. In 1 Peter 1:10-12, Peter continues writing about salvation. Why?

Peter writes to give perspective to the present suffering of his readers.

2. In 1:3-9, Peter writes about our salvation in terms of future hope and present faith. Now in 1:10-12, Peter writes about a different aspect of our salvation. What does he say here? What did the prophets know and not know about salvation in Christ? How does this work to encourage believers on hard times?

The salvation we now know was long awaited by the prophets and is a wonder for angels to behold. The prophets knew many things: that someone would come (See of the woman, Lion of Judah, a prophet like Moses, David’s royal son, born of a virgin, God himself, a suffering servant, etc.). What they did not know was the “who,” “when” or the “how” of this salvation. Our Bible has a humanness to it that speaks to its authorship by man, but marvelous unity that bears witness to its divine authorship.

3. What is another famous passage of Scripture that we can discuss that shows us that Jesus’ suffering and resurrection should not have come as a surprise to the disciples?

Luke 24

4. Why are we as Christians in a better position than John the Baptist or even angels?

John didn’t know as much as we know now (Matt. 11:11-12; 13:16-17). Angels may even know the names written in the Lamb’s book of life, but they can’t know salvation first hand in the way we know it as those God has saved. They long to know it more, ponder it more, and see more of it played out (1 Cor. 4:9; Luke 15:10).

5. Are you surprised by suffering? Why do you think that is? How can the story of Jesus’ own life give us encouragement? How can the reality of our privileged position in God’s salvation story bring us encouragement? How can we grow in wonder at God’s salvation?

For the Christian, perspective is crucial for a godly life and growth through trial. Jesus’ sufferings preceded his glorification. And so we carry our crosses in following Christ before our glorification with Christ. We can grow in our appreciation for God’s salvation story and our place in it through a commitment to regularly be in the Word.

QUOTES, ILLUSTRATIONS, AND OTHER MATERIAL FROM THE SERMON

- Illustration: The transforming importance of perspective can be illustrated by those illusion pictures you may recall. You look at it close up and all you see is a little picture or shape. But when you stand back you can see an image that you could never see without stepping back. This is something like how the Bible is and also our lives. The meaning is made clear in light of the big picture.