




# 1 PETER

HOPE FOR WHEN THE  
WORLD SEEMS STRANGE





# SCRIPTURE READING

## 1 Peter 1:3-13





**#the**struggle**is**real****

## What's harder?

1. Helping someone find joy in meaningful hardship?
2. Helping someone that feels nothing/empty when things are easy?

# Hope and suffering

You'll end up looking for either hope or suffering.

If you don't have hope, you need it.  
If you have hope, you'll be moved to share it.

You don't need to make drama.

If you seek to love out of faith and hope,  
plenty of hard excitement will find you .



# The truth has many tensions.

We are **chosen exiles** and **rejoicing sufferers**.

Why not?

Later we'll be the  
“**responsibly elect**”

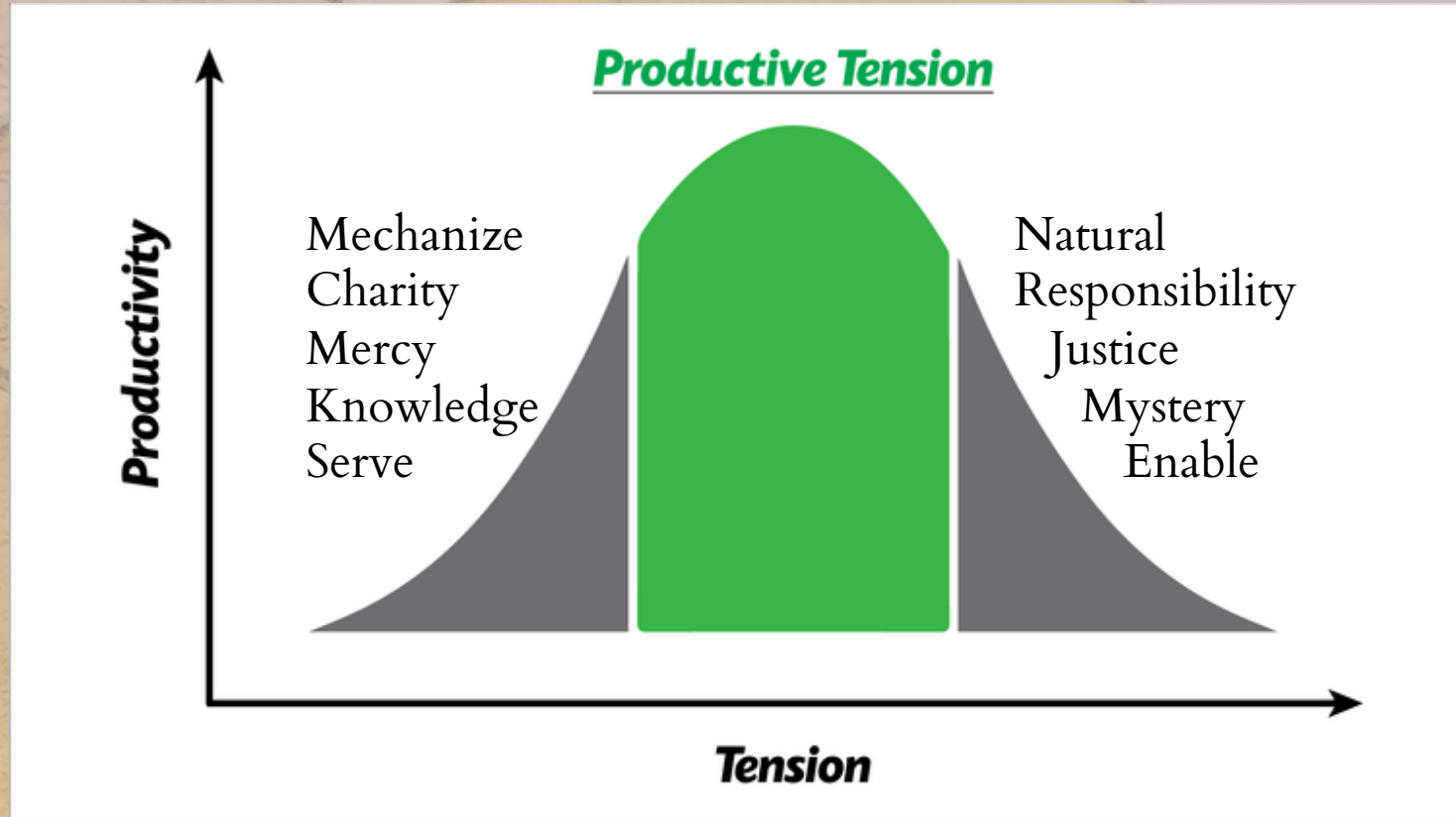
We are the  
people of the  
judged, dead  
criminal.



Who is the  
resurrected  
righteous  
judge?



Logical proofs don't like tension. Wisdom, ecosystems, morality, growth, relationships, etc. do.





Where there is parallel, not tension:  
Regeneration

**The resurrection of Jesus  
makes our new birth possible.**

Same Greek word for “birth” and “generate”  
(‘birth’ is a Germanic root, ‘generate’ is Greek root)





by means of faith

1. God gives regeneration  
through his regenerated Christ



# Regeneration in parallel

## 1 Peter 1:3

Εὐλογητὸς ὁ θεὸς καὶ πατὴρ τοῦ κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ  
Χριστοῦ (Again/above born/generation)

ὁ κατὰ τὸ πολὺ αὐτοῦ ἔλεος ἀναγεννήσας ἡμᾶς  
εἰς ἐλπίδα ζωσαν δι' ἀναστάσεως Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ ἐκ  
νεκρῶν (Again/above Raised)



# New Birth– truly a new start, true life

Justified, legally pardoned and morally renewed from our track record of guilt and deserved punishment.

Spiritually regenerated in inner spiritual life.

Spiritually alive from the dynamics of spiritual death.

Free from the covenant of bondage to sin's slavery (react/reflex).

Soft hearted/conscientious from pride and hardness.

Socially adopted into the family of God.

Politically repatriated from traitor against creation to citizen of heaven.

Familially re-inherited from being estranged from the Father.

“Replanted” with eternally perennial seed of the word of God 1:23.

ETC. – there are *a lot* more.

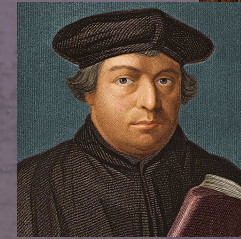


# “out of his abundant mercy...”

The gift of salvation is not an act of justice.

It is not deserved. It is not owed. We are not entitled.

God would be morally justified to save no one.



The gift of the New Birth is an act of Mercy.

God is good in more ways than that he is just.

He is generous, forgiving, longsuffering, gracious—none of these are attributes of justice, but they are attributes of goodness.

The cross made God's acts of mercy compatible with justice.

(Romans 3:26)

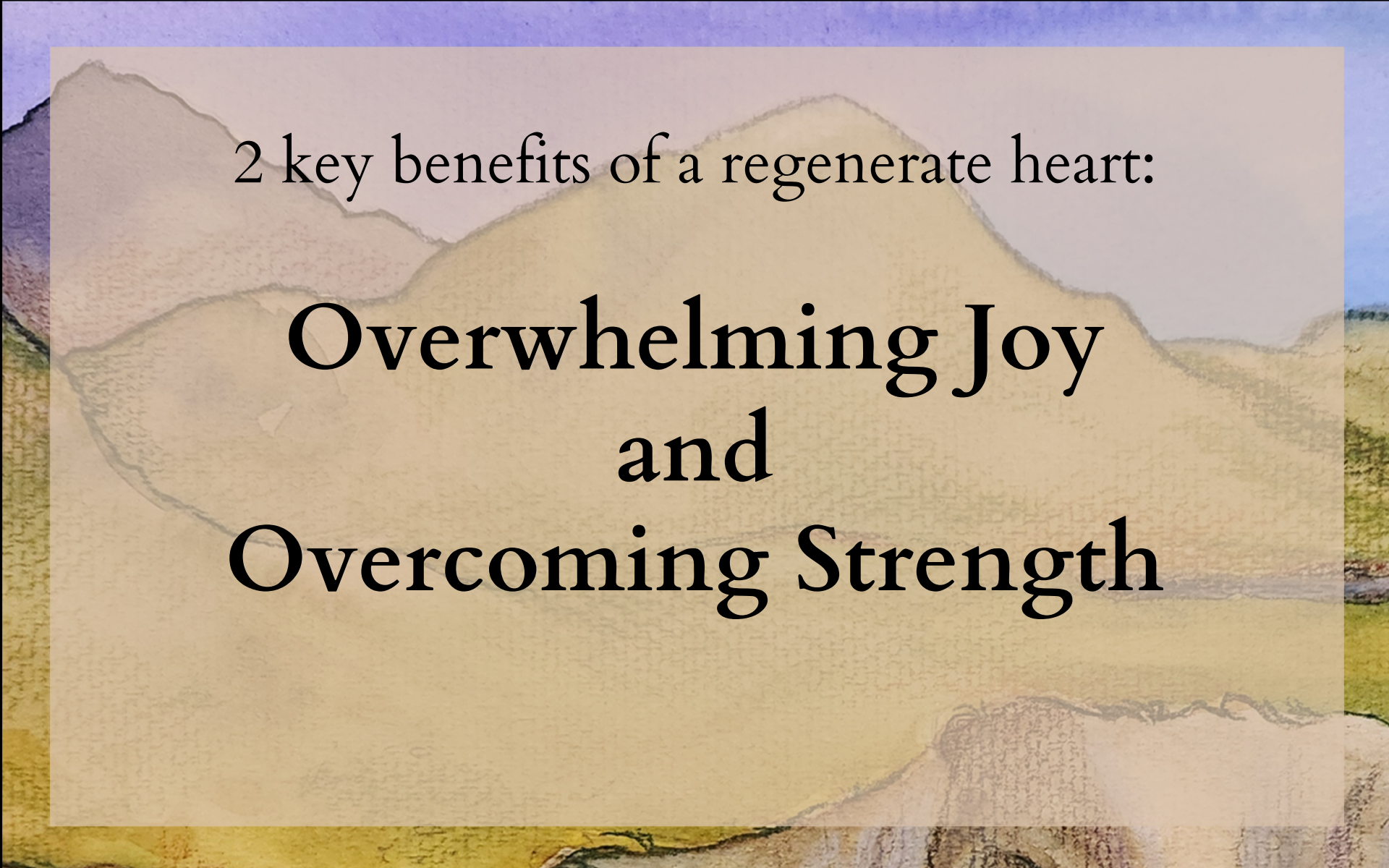


# “Praise be to the father...has given...”

AMONG the many distinguishing characteristics of the true Christian, this is not the least remarkable: that he can *rejoice* in the midst of the heaviest tribulations. Others may be *patient* under them: but no man who is not born of God can attain this high state of feeling, to *glory* in them. The Christians to whom the Apostle wrote were in a state of very severe affliction, scattered over diverse countries, where they had been driven by the violence of persecution. Yet, how did the Apostle address them? in terms of pity or condolence? No: but in terms of the sublimest congratulation. He thinks not of what man has done against them, but of what God has done for them; and he bursts forth in this rapturous strain: “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who, out of his abundant mercy, has given us the new birth!”

– Charles Simeon

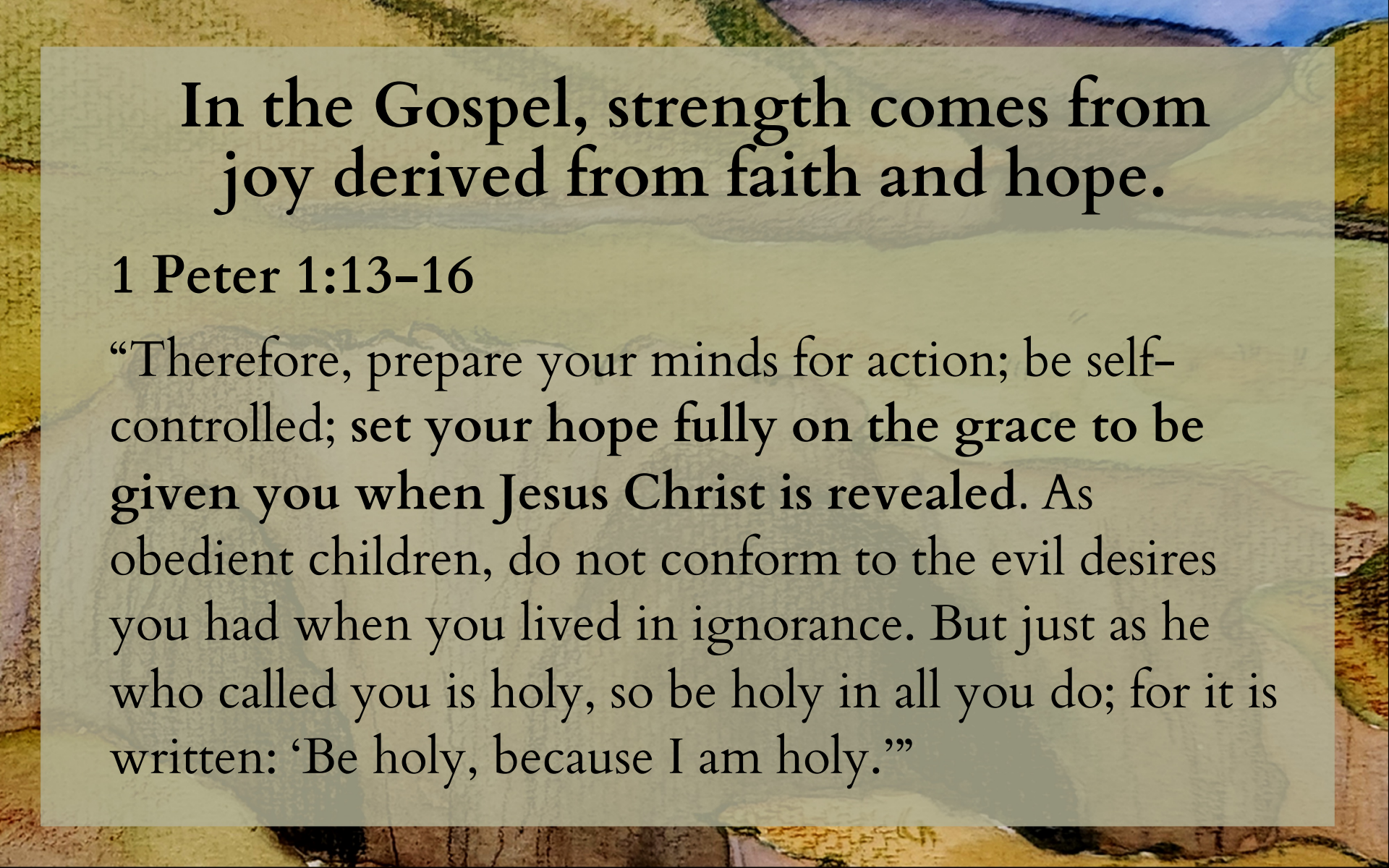




2 key benefits of a regenerate heart:

**Overwhelming Joy  
and  
Overcoming Strength**



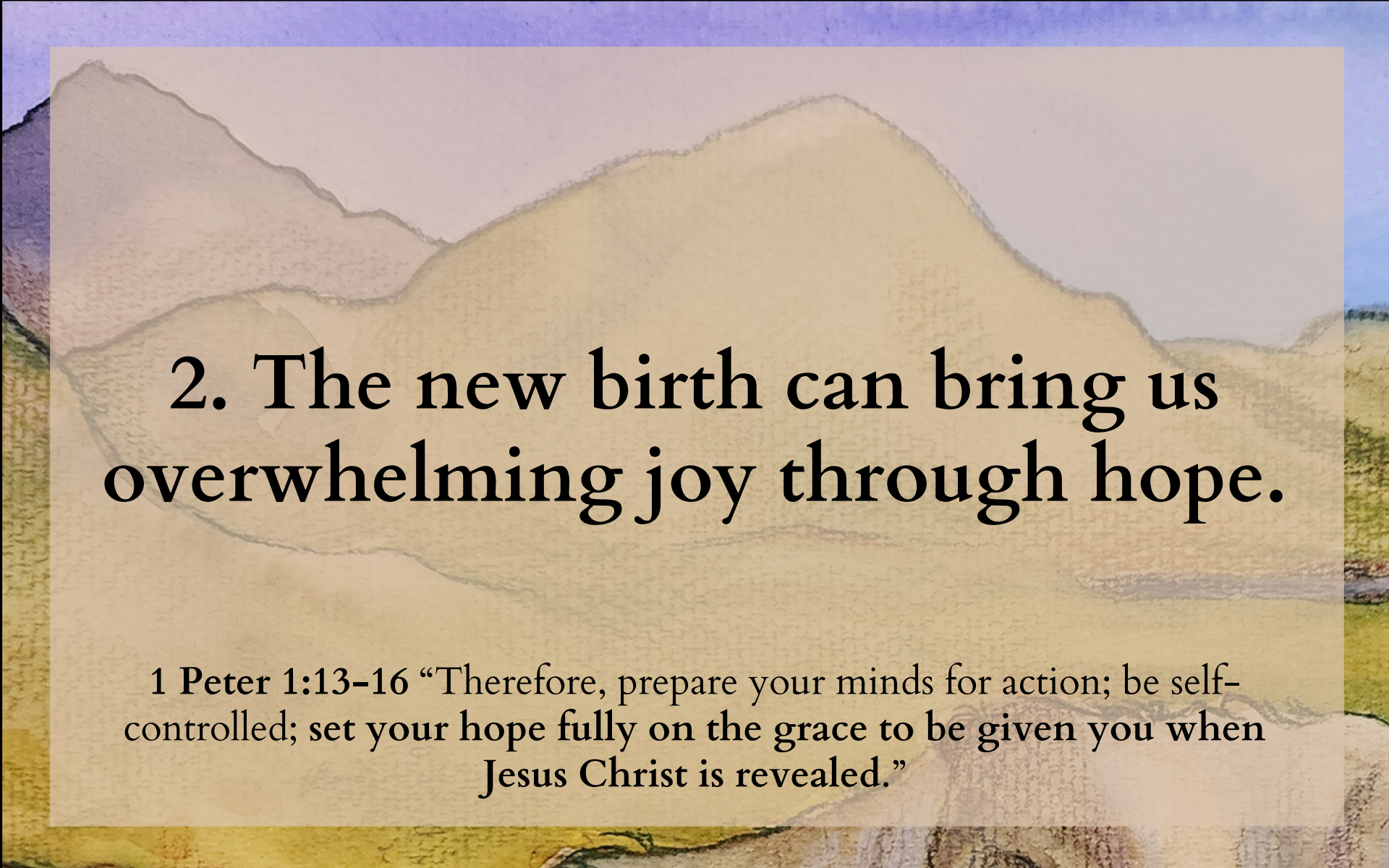


In the Gospel, strength comes from  
joy derived from faith and hope.

1 Peter 1:13–16

“Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: ‘Be holy, because I am holy.’”





## 2. The new birth can bring us overwhelming joy through hope.

1 Peter 1:13-16 “Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed.”



## 1 Peter 1:3-5

“In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can **never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you**, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.”



# 1 Peter 1:4 ...kept in heaven for you...

It's hope- you can't see it, touch it, or use it right now.

“Kept in heaven”- cannot be harmed.

“For you”- God is your steward.

## Matthew 6:19-21

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”



1 Peter 1:4 “an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade...”

### 3 great enemies of mortality:

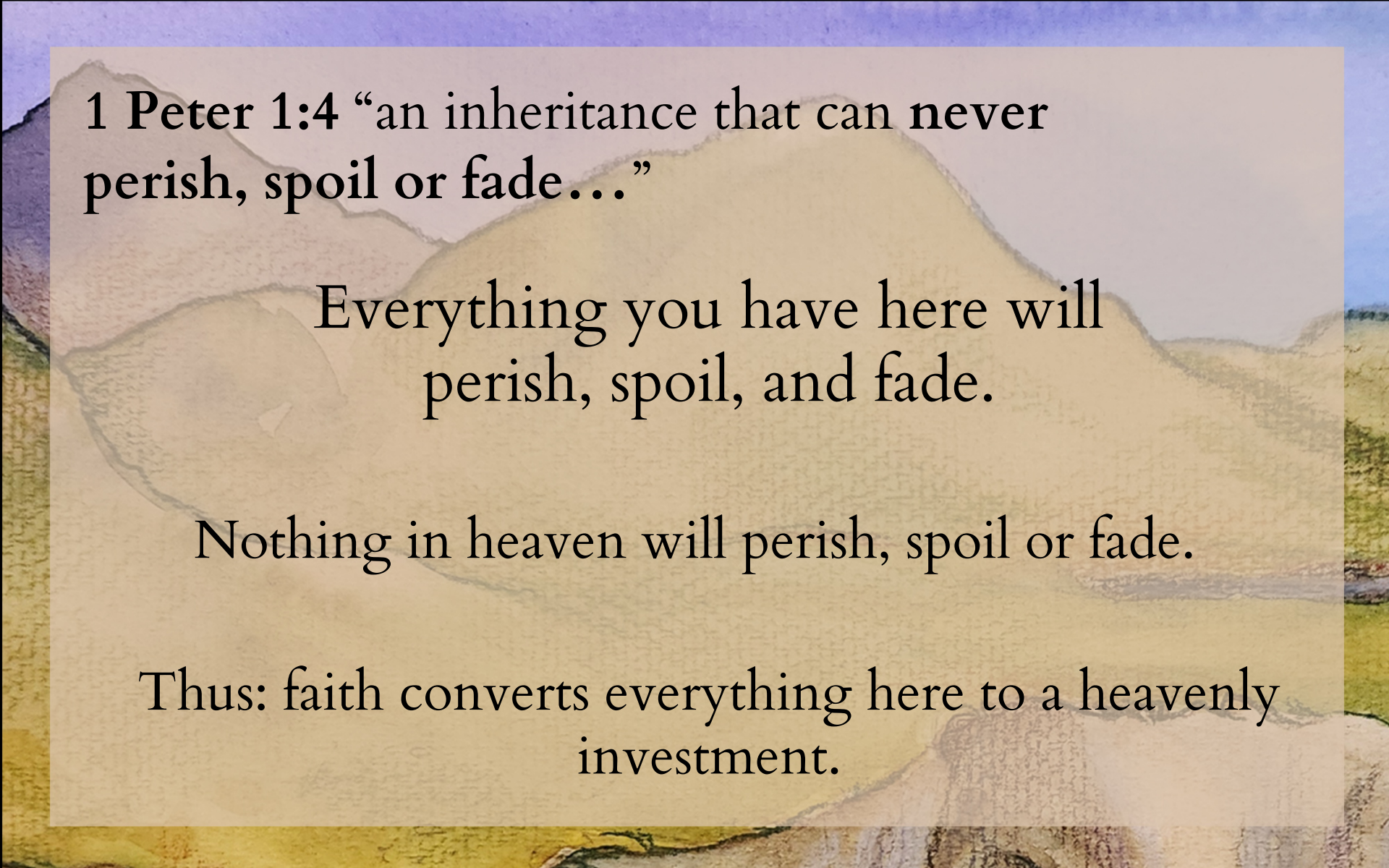
*Perish*– death and destruction. Everything is vulnerable.

*Spoil*– Contamination. Everything tends to go bad.

*Fade*– Diminished. Time decays. Nothing lasts.

The feels: YouTube ‘Arwen’s Fate’ and ‘Arwen’s Vision’





1 Peter 1:4 “an inheritance that can never  
perish, spoil or fade...”

Everything you have here will  
perish, spoil, and fade.

Nothing in heaven will perish, spoil or fade.

Thus: faith converts everything here to a heavenly  
investment.



# Spiritual investment and true good

1. God encourages us to think in terms of heavenly investment.
2. Investment is converting the perishable, vulnerable, and fading into the imperishable, unspoiled radiance of everlasting Life.
3. Investments of faith produce a reward, not a wage. They are a response to grace and rewarded by grace: inheritance.
4. Spiritual investment is doing God's will that is to do justly, love mercy, to walk humble with our God—loving our neighbor and enemy, and to sacrificially serve.
5. Thus, the more spiritual the Christian (the more faith in Jesus) the more earthly good they are to any society.

See Luke 6 & 16



# Spiritual investment and true good

5. Thus, the more spiritual the Christian (the more faith in Jesus) the more earthly good they are to any society.

This is not an apologetics answer.

This is a proof of our genuineness.

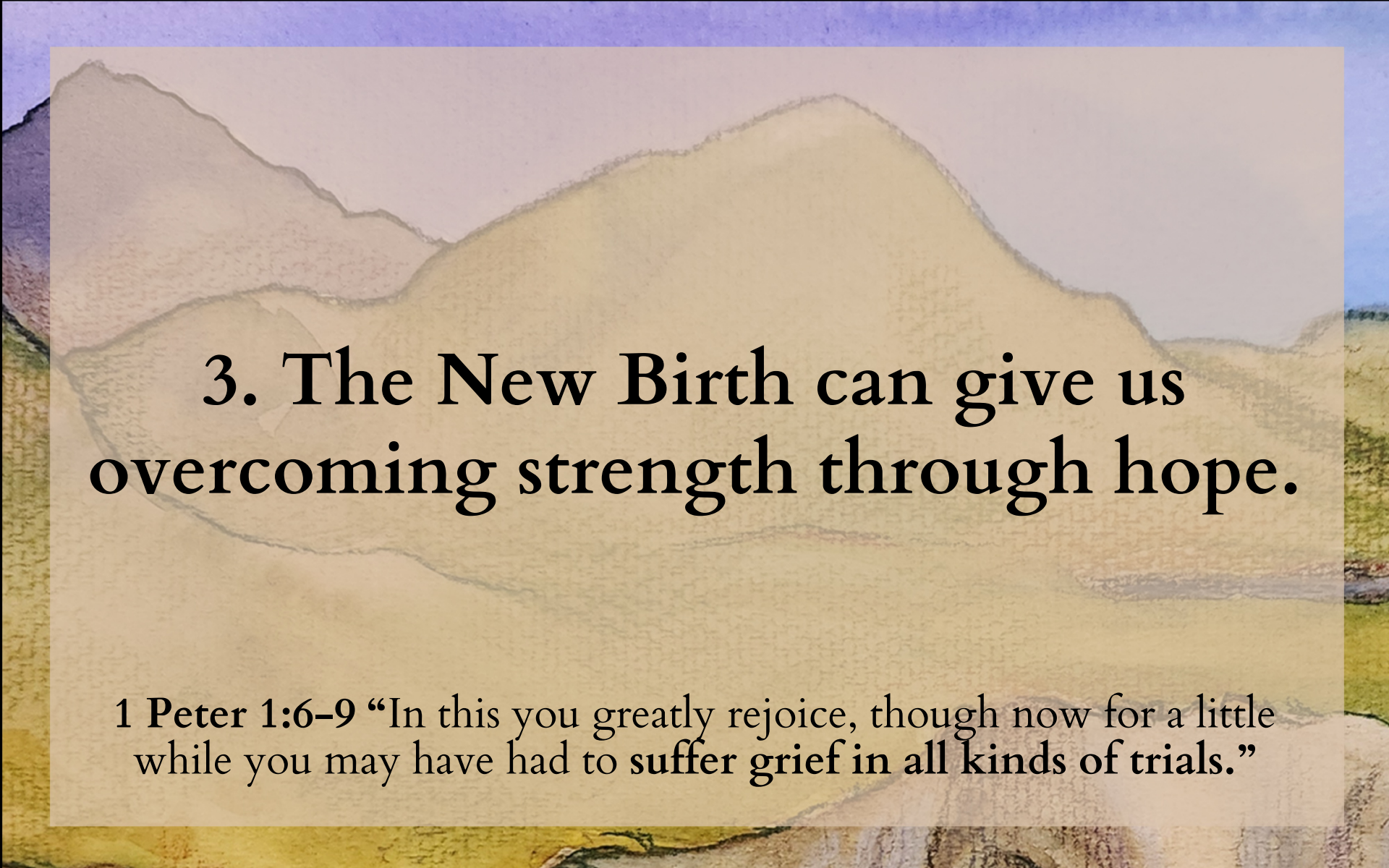
We aren't meant to be 5% more moral than our neighbors.

We are supposed to be impossible and supernatural people.

We are either the stench of death or the fragrance of life.

Is your hope **FULLY** on the grace that will be revealed?





### 3. The New Birth can give us overcoming strength through hope.

1 Peter 1:6-9 “In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials.”



Fire is the great destroyer. But...  
Intense heat is used to purify metal—to make it better.  
It's more pure, useful and valuable.



Is metal made better by fire everlasting? No, “it perishes”.  
But faith genuine, proven faith doesn't perish.  
Thus: Nothing is more valuable than proven faith.



# The basis of hope...

1. True regeneration- experiencing the New Birth.
2. The Living Hope- that we have the life of Jesus in us.
3. An everlasting inheritance- cannot perish, spoil or fade.
4. That further grace will be revealed when Jesus is.
5. That our faith is being proven and improved through trials.
6. ...There is one more Big One.



# Glory, honor and praise...

1 Peter 1:7

“Your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.”

This is a promise *for us*. The object of the praise is “your faith”.

Thus, we will receive praise for faith proved genuine.

But God will deserve praise as the one that gives the new birth, shields us by faith, and in the work of Jesus and his resurrection, and revealing these things that the prophets and angels couldn't see before.





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