

## KEPT BY THE POWER OF GOD (PART 1)

1 Peter 1:3-5 **SLIDES x 2**

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His **abundant (poly) mercy** has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,*

*<sup>4</sup>To **an inheritance** incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, **reserved [guarded] in heaven for you [YOUS],***

*<sup>5</sup>Who are **kept by the power of God** through faith for [FULL] salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*

**THE VERB 'TO KEEP' (phrouroumenous) MEANS: TO SET ASIDE & GUARD – TO HEM IN, PROTECT.**

**SOMEBODY KEEPS SOMETHING BECAUSE IT HAS SOME INTRINSIC VALUE TO THE PERSON KEEPING IT.**

*My Mother tells me over and over again to make sure I don't get rid of her special bookshelves which her husband – my father - made for her. (It's a great story for another time).*

*You see, these shelves are very important to her and valuable. So I have to **KEEP THEM** for her.*

This is how God thinks of you. You are precious and priceless to Him, and He is determined to keep you forever ... for a special time to come ... God has set you aside, hemmed you in and is guarding you safely.

### **WHAT ARE WE BEING KEPT FOR?**

*'... For **salvation** ready to be revealed in the last time' (verse 5).*

***BUT YOU SAY, 'I'M ALREADY SAVED!'***

Salvation is a comprehensive word. It takes in now and the future. It covers what has happened to you, what is happening to you now and what will happen to you in the future.

***YOU ARE SAVED NOW SPIRITUALLY ...***

***YOUR SOUL IS BEING SAVED GRADUALLY ...***

***AND YOUR BODY WILL BE SAVED FINALLY ...***

### **REGARDING THE FINALITY OF OUR SALVATION:**

There is something wonderful about to happen to you / us.

Something pristine ... perfect ... glorious ...  
IT IS THE DAY WHEN JESUS CHRIST RETURNS FOR US & WE WILL BE  
CHANGED INTO HIS EXACT LIKENESS ... SPIRIT, SOUL & BODY.

1 Corinthians 15:51-52 Berean Study Bible

*Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but **we will all be changed**— <sup>52</sup>in an instant, in the twinkling of an eye, **at the last trumpet**. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and **we will be changed**.*

**THIS IS THE SALVATION verse 5 TALKS ABOUT -**

**'... SALVATION READY TO BE REVEALED IN THE LAST TIME.'**

**A TIME WHEN WE WILL RECEIVE A NEW BODY & OUR SOUL WILL BE FULLY RESTORED**

You will emerge shining in His glory ... brighter than 10 million suns ... purer than the driven snow ... as holy as God Himself ... and 100% righteous with God's own righteousness – spirit, soul and body ...  
THIS IS OUR FINAL REDEMPTION.

1 John 3:2

*Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.*

**WE ALSO SEE HERE: *BEING BORN AGAIN* OF OUR SPIRIT IS NOT THE  
END GOAL OF SALVATION**

1 Peter 1:3 **SLIDE**

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant (poly) mercy has **begotten us again to a living hope** through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead ...*

**WE ARE BORN AGAIN TO A LIVING HOPE OF THE COMING SALVATION**

**WHAT IS THIS LIVING HOPE?**

**IT IS WHEN WE WILL BE GLORIFIED WITH CHRIST IN HIS GLORY**

Colossians 3:4 **SLIDE**

*When Christ who is our life appears, then **you also will appear with Him in glory**.*

2 Thessalonians 2:14 Berean Study Bible

*To this **He called you** through our gospel, **so that you may share in the glory** of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

**SALVATION IS: **SLIDE****

**JUSTIFICATION / REGENERATION / *GLORIFICATION***

**WE ARE BORN AGAIN FOR THE LIVING HOPE OF OUR GLORIFICATION, WHICH IS OUR FULL SALVATION**

**WE ARE ALSO BEING KEPT FOR OUR INHERITANCE  
TOGETHER WITH CHRIST, WE WILL INHERIT THE KINGDOM OF GOD**

Matthew 25:34

*Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, **inherit the kingdom prepared for you** from the foundation of the world'.*

Luke 12:32 Berean Study Bible

*Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father is pleased to **give you the kingdom**.*

Romans 8:17

*And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and **joint-heirs with Christ ...***

**THIS GLORY & INHERITANCE IS OURS ALREADY**

1 Peter 1:4 **SLIDE**

*To **an inheritance** incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, **reserved [guarded] in heaven for you [YOUS]**.*

These great blessings up ahead are not something we have to try and be good enough for; not something we need to earn ... **THEY ARE ALREADY OURS.**  
THE MOMENT YOU WERE BORN AGAIN ... THEY WERE YOURS ...  
THEY CAME WITH THE NEW NATURE. YOU JUST HAVEN'T RECEIVED THEM YET.

**THIS GLORY & INHERITANCE CANNOT DECAY**

1 Peter 1:4-5 **SLIDE**

*To **an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away** reserved [guarded] in heaven for you [YOUS], <sup>5</sup>who are **kept by the power of God** through faith for [FULL] salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*

*When I was a little boy, I once kept a chop bone I had been eating because it looked like a motorbike. So, I put it in my toy box with bits of meat and gristle still on it. About 6 months later my mum found it ... it was putrid ... And she threw it out.*

**BUT THIS KEEPING DOESN'T DECAY ... IT IS PRESERVED PRISTINE  
NEITHER THE INHERITANCE OR YOU CAN EVER DECAY**

**NB: The inheritance *is preserved* and protected for you ...**

**You are also *preserved* and protected for it ...**

**YOU ARE PRESERVED FOR WHAT HAS BEEN PRESERVED ...**

**YOU ARE GUARDED SO YOU CAN INHERIT WHAT HAS BEEN GUARDED FOR YOU ...**

**GOD HAS THIS WHOLE THING COVERED.**

1 Peter 1:23 NIV **SLIDE**

*For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of **imperishable**, through the living and enduring word of God.*

YOUR SPIRIT WITHIN YOU CANNOT SIN / FALL / HE'S GOT YOU ...

**BUT YOU SAY**, 'BUT I FALL ALL THE TIME ... SURELY I WON'T QUALIFY FOR THIS GREAT GLORY ...'

**YOUR FLESH MAY FALL BUT ...**

**YOUR SPIRIT REMAINS KEPT BY THE POWER OF GOD**

Psalms 37:23-24 **SLIDE**

*The steps of a good man [v21 - a righteous man] are ordered by the Lord ... Though he fall he shall not be cast out, for the Lord upholds him with HIS HAND.*

**THE LORD KEEPS HIM / HER THROUGH THEIR FALLING**

NB: THE MAN WHO FALLS HERE IS ALREADY CALLED RIGHTEOUS. [v21]

NB: THE LORD KEEPS HIM UPRIGHT DESPITE HIS FAILING.

WE NEED TO LEARN TO STOP LOOKING AT OUR FALLING & LOOK CONSTANTLY AT HIS UPHOLDING AS DECLARED IN THE GOSPEL.

**HE'S GOT YOU**

2 Timothy 1:12 **SLIDE**

*For I know whom I have **believed** and **am persuaded** that He is able **to keep** what I have committed to Him until that **That Day**.*

*NB: Paul talks of not only believing ... but being persuaded ...*

*Paul knew **in his heart** ... and he taught **his mind** the truth.*

*Some of us need to harness our thinking ... to train our thinking to think what our heart knows and believes ...*

*Our heart knows and believes the good news of the grace of God.*

*It knows and believes **THE GOSPEL**.*

NB: THIS IS NOT PAUL TRYING TO CONVINCE HIMSELF ...

THIS IS PAUL RATIONALISING THE GOSPEL IN HIS UNDERSTANDING.

**WHEN WE UNDERSTAND THIS ... WE WILL HAVE GREAT CONFIDENCE WITHOUT ENDLESS CONFESSING & FASTING & FIGHTING THE DEVIL ... WITHOUT ASKING GOD FOR PROPHETIC WORDS ... OR SEEKING SIGNS ....**

**WHEN WE UNDERSTAND ... WE KNOW IN OUR HEART & MIND & WE BECOME STEADFAST ... IMMOVABLE ...** kept for that day ... for an eternal inheritance.

**GOD IS KEEPING YOU PURE & SAFE FOR THIS MAGNIFICENT DAY**

**1 Corinthians 1:8** Berean Study Bible **SLIDE**

*He will sustain you to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

### **IT'S HIS POWER / GRACE, NOT MY EFFORT THAT KEEPS ME**

Why does Paul have such confidence?

Because he knows it's not he himself that is responsible to make it to the end ... still a believer ... still saved ...

He knows if it were up to him, he would surely fail!

No, his confidence is in **the power of God keeping him** ... knowing it is God who began a good work in him ... who will complete it until the coming of our Lord Jesus.

**Jude 1:24** **SLIDE**

*Now to **Him who is able to keep you [guard you] from stumbling [keep you unfallen], and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory [before His face – right in front of Him] with exceeding joy [wild joy, ecstatic delight].***

**to keep** (phylaxai) Verb - Aorist Infinitive Active

Probably from **phule** through the idea of isolation; to watch, i.e. be on guard; by implication, to preserve, obey, avoid.

**from stumbling** (aptaistous) - Without stumbling or falling, sure-footed. Not stumbling, i.e. without sin.

**faultless** (amōmous) - Blameless, without blemish, unblemished, faultless.

**Jude 1:1**

*Jude, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and **preserved** in Jesus Christ.*