

## WHAT THE BELIEVER HAS IN CHRIST—PART 1

### 2 Peter 1:1-4

#### **Introduction:**

If the world only knew and could understand what exactly it is that believers have in Christ Jesus, how different things might be for them as well.

They could have the very same things we enjoy, if they would only repent of their sin and trust in Christ's finished work on the cross of Calvary!

*2 Corinthians 4:3-4* **3** *But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:*  
*4* *In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.*

Sometimes when we try to win folks to Christ, some of them act as if we are trying to give them a dose of castor oil!

**a. In Christ They Could Have The Forgiveness Of Sins.**

*Ephesians 1:7*—“*In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;*

**b. In Christ They Could Have The Gift Of The Holy Ghost.**

*Ephesians 1:13*—“*3**In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, 14**Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.*”

**c. In Christ They Could Have The Peace Of God That Passeth Understanding.**

*Philippians 4:6-7*--“*Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7**And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*”

**d. In Christ They Could Have An Abundant Life That Satisfies.**

*John 10:10* “*...I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.*”

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*Psalms 107:9*—“*For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness.*”

*Psalms 34:10*—“*The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the LORD shall not want any good thing.*”

*Isaiah 55:1-3*--“*Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. 2**Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness.*”

**e. In Christ They Could Have A Conscience That Is Pure.**

*2 Corinthians 1:12*—“*For our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom, but by the grace of God, we have had our conversation in the world, and more abundantly to you-ward.*”

*1 Timothy 3:9*—“*Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience.*”

**f. In Christ They Could Have Joy Unspeakable And Full Of Glory.**

*1 Peter 1:8-9*--“*Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: 9**Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.*”

But you know, sometimes we forget what we have in Christ and take for granted His great salvation!

The writer of the Book of Hebrews said, “*How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?*” It is truly a “great salvation” and should be cherished by those of us who have been redeemed.

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1. We've Been Redeemed From A Life Of Despair.
2. We've Been Redeemed From A Life Of Defilement.
3. We've Been Redeemed From A Life Of Destruction.
4. We've Been Redeemed From A Life Of Damnation.

In the passage before us tonight I want us to see **SEVEN THINGS PETER SAID THAT WE HAVE IN CHRIST:**

#### I. WE HAVE A LIKE PRECIOUS FAITH THROUGH THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD AND OUR SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST! (Vs. 1a)

##### A. Faith Brings A Relationship With God The Father And That Is Precious!

*Galatians 4:6—“And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.”*

##### B. Faith Brings A Relationship With God The Son (Jesus Christ) That Is Precious!

*1 Peter 2:4-7—“To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and **precious**, Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, **precious**: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. **Unto you therefore which believe he is precious**: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,”*

*“Precious”— “a valuable or something highly esteemed.”*

##### C. Faith Brings A Relationship With God The Holy Spirit That Is Precious!

*John 14:16—“And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;”*

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The word “*another*” means “*another of the same kind.*”

#### D. Faith Brings A Fellowship With Saints That Is Common. “like precious” faith – “means of equal value or honor.”

*Jude 3—“Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of **the common salvation**, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.”*

The word “**common**”— doesn't mean that it's not extraordinary. It means that it is **shared!**

*Titus 1:4—“To Titus, mine own son after **the common faith**: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour.”*

#### WE HAVE A LIKE PRECIOUS FAITH THROUGH THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD AND OUR SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST! II. WE HAVE THE VERY RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD THROUGH JESUS CHRIST! (Vs. 1b)

##### It gives us an unquestionable standing before God in Him!

*Romans 3:21-22—“But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; **22Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:**”*

*2 Corinthians 5:21—“For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; **that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.**”*

##### A. You May Question My Personal Righteousness!

*Romans 7:18—“For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.”*

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### B. You Cannot Question His Righteousness!

*1 Timothy 6:14-16 That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ: Which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.*

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RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD AND OUR SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST!  
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THROUGH JESUS CHRIST!*

### III. WE HAVE GRACE MULTIPLIED THROUGH THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD! (Vs. 2a)

*2 Peter 3:18—"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen."*

#### A. We Have Grace That Is Abundant!

*2 Corinthians 4:15—"For all things are for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many redound to the glory of God."*

#### B. We Have Grace That Is Available!

*1 Corinthians 10:13—"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."*

#### C. We Have Grace That Is Adequate (Sufficient)!

*2 Corinthians 12:9—"And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me."*

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### IV. WE HAVE PEACE MULTIPLIED THROUGH THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD! (Vs. 2b)

#### A. Peace In The Midst Of The Storm!

*Mark 4:39—"And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm."*

#### B. Peace In The Midst Of Sorrow!

*John 11:21-23—"Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died. But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee. Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again."*

#### C. Peace In The Midst Of Confusion!

*Philippians 4:6-7—"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."*

*John 14:27—"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."*

### Conclusion

My what blessings we have in Christ Jesus!

We have a like precious faith through His righteousness!

We have the very righteousness of God through Jesus Christ!

We have grace multiplied through the knowledge of God!

We have peace multiplied through the knowledge of God!

That is the reason why Peter ended the book the way that he did! **(3:18)**