

This Salvation.

1 Peter 1:10-11 (NKJV)

10 Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, 11 searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.

Peter is like the old man who starts to tell you a story and as he goes along his story keeps expanding as he tries to explain parts of the story.

9 receiving the end of your faith--the salvation of your souls. 10 Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, 11 searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.

So he takes a moment to speak more of this salvation that we all true Christians experience.

One of the things that I notice here is that This Salvation is the same salvation that the Old Testament prophets proclaimed.

Some people think there are different ways of salvation down through history but this verse tells us that that is not true.

When we sing about the old old story we need to realize that it is older than what we might consider since the Old Testament prophets also proclaimed it.

So let us look at this Old Old story of salvation.

- I. Of this salvation
 - A. Salvation is the same today as it was in the Old Testament.
 - B. It has always be by grace through faith.
 - 1. Abraham believed God.
 - 2. Noah believed God.
 - a. He found grace in the eyes of the Lord.
 - 3. Abel by faith offered a more excellent sacrifice.
- II. The prophets have inquired and searched carefully
 - A. Many times the prophets did not understand all that they spoke concerning this salvation.
 - 1. In Ephesians 3:3–6 (NKJV) Paul explains
 - a. 3 how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, 4 by which, when you read, you may

understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), 5 which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets: 6 that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel,

2. Isaiah 53 has many things that could not be fully understood until they had been fulfilled.
3. Psalm 22 speaks so plainly the sufferings of Jesus on the cross although David was writing concerning himself.
4. At the end of Daniel he was told to seal up the book for it was not his to understand all that he had written of.
 - a. Daniel 12:8–9 NKJV 8 Although I heard, I did not understand. Then I said, "My lord, what shall be the end of these things?"⁹ And he said, "Go your way, Daniel, for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.

B. But yet they foretold of Jesus' birth, death, miracles, resurrection, and His glory.

1. That was the message of the first witnesses.
2. Jesus began at the prophets and explained how that the Christ must suffer.
 - a. Luke 24:27 (NKJV)
 - (1) 27 And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.
 - b. Luke 24:26 (NKJV)
 - (1) 26 Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?"
3. So this was the message of the first Church
 - a. That prophets foretold that Jesus must fulfill the Old Testament of all things concerning Himself.
 - b. How that He must suffer and die and rise again the third day.

III. Who prophesied of the grace that would come to you

- A. Although most scholars among the Jews did not get the message.
 1. It was this message of grace to all, Jews and Gentiles that the prophets wrote about.
 2. You see if it is of grace then it is sure to all the seed.

- a. Romans 4:16 (NKJV)
 - (1) 16 Therefore it is of faith that it might be according to grace, so that the promise might be sure to all the seed, not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all

B. To the Jews this was an amazing thing.

- 1. Peter experienced it first. In Acts 10
 - a. Acts 10:44–45 (NKJV)
 - (1) 44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. 45 And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.
 - b. Why had not Peter understood this beforehand? Because he had not fully understood the Old Testament scriptures.

IV. The same Spirit.

- A. Searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating
 - 1. The Spirit of Christ, the Word, the testimony of the gospel.
 - a. Their prophecies were inspired by "the Spirit of Christ," showing that their words are authoritative and accurate. The prophecies were not the invention of the prophets or their best "guess." *Thomas R. Schreiner, 1, 2 Peter, Jude, vol. 37, The New American Commentary (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2003), 73. Thomas R. Schreiner, 1, 2 Peter, Jude, vol. 37, The New American Commentary (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2003), 73.*
 - 2. Their prophecies were inspired by "the Spirit of Christ," showing that their words are authoritative and accurate. The prophecies were not the invention of the prophets or their best "guess." *Thomas R. Schreiner, 1, 2 Peter, Jude, vol. 37, The New American Commentary (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2003), 73. Thomas R. Schreiner, 1, 2 Peter, Jude, vol. 37, The New American Commentary (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2003), 73.*
 - 3. Jesus is the eternal Word, the same Word that was spoken by the prophets.
 - 4. 2 Peter 1:21 (NKJV)

- a. 21 for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.
- V. When He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.
 - A. This was the part that was hard to be received, that is the sufferings of the Messiah.
 - 1. Even the disciples had a hard time accepting this.
 - 2. When we get used to understanding something a certain way even when it is wrong it is hard to come to a different view.
 - B. The sufferings.
 - 1. Psalm 22 (NKJV)
 - a. 1 My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?
 - b. 6 But I am a worm, and no man; A reproach of men, and despised by the people. 7 All those who see Me ridicule Me; They shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying, 8 "He trusted in the LORD, let Him rescue Him; Let Him deliver Him, since He delights in Him!"
 - c. 12 Many bulls have surrounded Me; Strong bulls of Bashan have encircled Me. 13 They gape at Me with their mouths, Like a raging and roaring lion.
 - d. 14 I am poured out like water, And all My bones are out of joint; My heart is like wax; It has melted within Me. 15 My strength is dried up like a potsherd, And My tongue clings to My jaws; You have brought Me to the dust of death. 16 For dogs have surrounded Me; The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me.
 - e. They pierced My hands and My feet;
 - f. 17 I can count all My bones. They look and stare at Me. 18 They divide My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots.
 - 2. Isaiah 53 (NKJV)
 - a. 2 There is no beauty that we should desire Him. 3 He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.
 - b. 4 Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. 5 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by

His stripes we are healed.

- c. 6 All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.
- d. 7 He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth.
- e. 8 He was taken from prison and from judgment, And who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; For the transgressions of My people He was stricken. 9 And they made His grave with the wicked-- But with the rich at His death, Because He had done no violence, Nor was any deceit in His mouth.
- f. 10 Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, And the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand.
- g. 11 He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, For He shall bear their iniquities.
- h. 12 Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, And He shall divide the spoil with the strong, Because He poured out His soul unto death, And He was numbered with the transgressors, And He bore the sin of many, And made intercession for the transgressors.

C. The glory that would follow.

- 1. THE SUFFERINGS AND THE GLORY TO FOLLOW. “This seeming contradiction was very puzzling to the prophets, and they tried to find out how both could be true. As the prophets looked down the corridors of time they saw these two events as two great mountain peaks, but they could not see the valley of time between them.” *J. Vernon McGee, Thru the Bible Commentary: The Epistles (1 Peter), electronic ed., vol. 54 (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1991), 32.*

What do we do with this?

We rejoice and praise God

We tell others the story.

We live each day in the light of this passage.

