

Title: END RESULTS, 1 PETER 1:3-9  
(Chatham, NJ; 04/27/14, AM) [Pc – Exegesis]

Theme: The Resurrection marks a beginning point that leads us to numerous end results and outcomes.

Purpose: To set the end results as goals for us to achieve and to remember that the Resurrection leads to these things.

Introduction:

1. John 20:31 – by believing you may have life in his name.
2. John is goal-oriented.
3. The Resurrection is not the end result but the beginning.
4. Peter examines the end results, and we seek to make these our personal goals.

I. “Caused us to be born again,” (3) – the beginning

- A. First end result: born to a living hope
  1. Hope reaches into the future
  2. Though it cannot see the future, it paints it with vivid, appealing colors
  3. This hope is “living” – vibrant, active, and constantly growing
- B. Second end result: to an inheritance (4)
  1. Described as “imperishable, undefiled, and unfading”
  2. Similar to what he says in 1:23 – born of imperishable seed
  3. Plumbing inspector on Thursday commented on the bathroom colors he remembered from many years ago – they were outdated (he was just commenting not intending any insult)
  4. The nature of this mortal existence is change, deterioration, and spoilage
  5. Think for a moment what it will be like when nothing will wear out, spoil, fade, or even go out of favor!
  6. This existence will be transformed from mortality to immortality
- C. Ultimate goal: salvation revealed in the last time, 5
  1. God’s power guards this
  2. Our faith “sees” it
  3. There will come a time when our faith will be sight (salvation revealed)

II. The paradox that associates joy with suffering, 6-7

- A. Joy comes with trials
  1. The trials come “as necessary” (Christianity is a package deal)
  2. A Christian is like a tea bag: not useful until plunged in hot water
  3. G. McGovern learned some things too late (*World Magazine* 5/3/14, 72)
  4. Our faith has to be tested to be proved genuine (and useful?)
  5. Like fire that purifies gold, so do trials purify our faith
  6. We endure the fire of trials of various kinds
- B. The outcome, end results
  1. Praise, glory, and honor eventually are bestowed on us
  2. Most of us humbly recognize that we are undeserving of such recognition
  3. But God will honor those who honor his Son, Mt. 10:32
  4. Once again we long for the “revelation of Jesus Christ,” the last day when all men will see him (7)
  5. We rejoice at this outcome despite our sufferings now

### III. The paradox of seeing without sight (8-11)

- A. You have not seen him, 8
  - 1. Jesus pronounces those who believe without seeing as “blessed” John 20:29
  - 2. You love him
  - 3. You believe in him
  - 4. You rejoice with inexpressible joy
  
- B. The consummate end result: salvation of your souls, 9
  - 1. This is what we strive to accomplish
  - 2. It is the outcome we all want
  - 3. Though it is yet intangible and unseen, we see the salvation of our souls and yearn to reach that outcome

#### Conclusion:

- 1. Peter is writing to people who have accepted Jesus and the Gospel.
- 2. All the things he mentions are things that accompany our faith and drive us to remain faithful: inheritance, joy and hope in our trials, and the salvation of our souls.
- 3. Every decision we make is with that goal in mind.
- 4. If you haven't made the first decision to follow him, now is the time.
- 5. Your new birth through faith, repentance, confession, and baptism will begin your journey toward that glorious outcome.