

The St. Peter Option: To Everyone an Answer Living as Exiles in a Foreign Land

1 Peter, 2 Peter, Christian Vocation, and the Table of Duties

3. Life Lived as a Doxology of Praise Under Trials

1 Peter 1:3-9

- A. The unrelenting place of praise in the life of the baptized faithful.
- i. Our baptism has begotten us to a living hope of salvation
 - ii. Hope is unseen, but absolutely certain
 - iii. The abundant mercy of God in Christ's suffering and death is the cause of our salvation.
 - iv. The hope of salvation rests upon the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.
 - v. Salvation in Christ is an inheritance of grace that cannot be destroyed; it is incorruptible and undefiled; it does not fade away.
 - vi. Salvation in Christ cannot be taken away from the Christian or the Church.
 - vii. We are preserved in Christ by the power of God.
 - viii. This salvation is ours now through faith, but it is yet to come.
 - ix. Christ (and His Word) is the singular object of our faith
 - x. We rejoice in this salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time, even though "for a little while" (John 16:16) we have been grieved by various trials (persecution, discrimination, hardship, imprisonment, the loss of property, and martyrdom for the faith). See John 15:26 through all of John 16.
 - xi. God's purpose in "these various trials" is to refine our faith and hope in Christ, which is more precious than gold which perishes.
 - xii. Our joyful confession of faith in the face of various trials gives "praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ" in the testimony of the Gospel and on the last day.
 - xiii. We love Christ, though we do not see Him, because of the certainty of our faith in Christ and the hope of salvation.
 - xiv. Our rejoicing with joy is "inexpressible and full of glory" (the mystery of putting into words the comfort we have in Christ).
 - xv. The conclusion to the various trials of the Christian life is the salvation of our souls in Christ.
- B. The place of singing in the Church:
- i. Confessing our faith and hope before a world of darkness and despair.
 - ii. To teach the faithful and to comfort those tempted to despair
 - iii. The purpose of trials is a cause of rejoicing

Baptismal Doxology

For the Church Living as Exiles in a Foreign Land

Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again
to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
⁴ to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away,
reserved in heaven for you,
⁵ who are kept by the power of God through faith
for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.
⁶ In this you greatly rejoice,
though now for a little while, if need be,
you have been ^(d)grieved by various trials,
⁷ that the genuineness of your faith,
being much more precious than gold that perishes,
though it is tested by fire,
may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,
⁸ whom having not ^(d)seen you love.
Though now you do not see *Him*,
yet believing,
you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,
⁹ receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of *your* souls.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.