

1Peter 11-01-14a

This is Friday the 14th of January 2011. We're in the book of 1st Peter and we resume tonight in the vicinity of chapter 1 verse 16 we'll take a moment to go to the Lord in prayer and then our Study will continue Father thank you for another opportunity to spend time together in fellowship and in the study of your word we are grateful for the provisions that you have made for us the grace that you have bestowed on us and the knowledge that you have granted to us of your plan and purpose We pray that as we spend time looking at this letter from the Apostle Peter that God the Holy Spirit will Enable us to understand it and to see its applicability to our circumstances and our Thinking in our decisions and the days that lie ahead we ask it in Jesus name. Amen Reading this passage After having done some of the detailed exegesis that we have done Really for me at least Sheds a lot of light on it and gives it a an additional richness and I'm going to read quickly from the beginning of his of the body of the letter in verse 3 up to where we are right now just to Run us up into the context where we will continue Peter says 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 and you know when I'm having conversations with Calvinists that I'm always sensitive to things that That bear on their distortion of biblical theology and one of the signature phrases that you see over and over again in In that literature and to me it there there are about three major avenues of attack on Christianity In our generation in our time and in the current day and one of them is Calvinism it has Subsumed Hundreds of thousands of believers and thousands of church congregations thousands of pastors the majority of conservative seminaries are Calvinist and It is a mixed blessing on the one hand they hold to Sola scriptura and and many of the other Bellwethers of the Reformation but You can get so Stuck on a thing that it kind of defines you and if the Reformation defines you and you can't get past the Reformation you wind up being stunted and I that in my opinion, that's what has happened and Don't ask me what the other two things are that are attacking Christianity because if I get off into that We'll never never get to our passage.

But let me just point out one of the things you'll always see in Calvinist and Reformed Converse is the phrase Sovereign grace God in sovereign grace did this God and his sovereign grace did that now? God is sovereign and God is certainly gracious, but the Bible never combines those two Concepts in the same verse If you can think of a verse or you ever find a verse where those two are conjoined In the way that the Calvinist do let me know because in my experience I know of no place Anytime a Calvinist wants to talk about salvation. They say well God, you know in his sovereign predestination in his foreknowledge his for loving and in his election God elected the elect before Time began and so on and there are two problems with that. One of them is The Bible does not link sovereignty to grace everything God does is sovereign Why would you say sovereign grace any more than you would say? Sovereign punishment or sovereign righteousness or sovereign justice or sovereign love or sovereign eternal life or sovereign omnipotence or salmon? Sovereign a everything God does is sovereign.

Why are they saying sovereign grace? Because what they're really saying they're using in that context sovereign for Arbitrary because God is sovereign. He can pick and choose what he wants to do and Who art that old man to answer back to God shall the thing form say to him that formed it? Why have you made me does it service that whole? Twisted view of Romans 9 and following and they use sovereign as a synonym for arbitrary God in his arbitrary grace saved us. That's what they really mean.

Well, look at how Peter puts it and My biggest encouragement anytime I run into and spend time talking with a Calvinist is to say look go back to your scriptures If you love God and you love the Lord Jesus and you love his word and you're seeking the truth Just read it. Don't go to Calvinist sermons where things are proof-texted and little excerpts are taken out and embedded in a lot of human logic My encouragement always is look go read the Bible for yourself these verses that you're constantly quoting about you know as many as were appointed unto eternal life believed and Go back and read the chapter read it in its context. Look at what Peter says here He says in verse 2 if you straighten it out there They are chosen pilgrims in the Diaspora and so on then he said but he doesn't say Bless me the God and father of our Lord Jesus Christ who according to his sovereign grace has begotten us again to a living hope Does he? He easily could The Calvinist would love it if he had But he doesn't he doesn't say according to his sovereign grace.

He says according to his abundant mercy. It is mercy The drive salvation not sovereignty Everything God does even his mercy is sovereign. Everything is sovereign doesn't Add anything that's why you so seldom see it used as an adjective in the scriptures It's taken for granted, but it's abundant mercy.

He has begotten us again Unto a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. What is Peter's emphasis? Is he talking about sovereignty? Is he talking about election? Is he talking about predestination? Is he talking about foreknowledge? He is talking about God's mercy and New life through the resurrection of Jesus Christ Everything that comes to us comes from Christ. This is the point of reference For you and for me.

I don't care what stripe of aberrant Christianity or misguided theology you run into this is the way to stay on an even keel. This is a way to Stay balanced stay focused and stay centered keep your eyes on Christ Don't take one attribute of God and blow it all out of proportion and make that the signature defining quality Somebody might have a good sense of humor, but if all you do is describe them as funny All the time you really diminish all the rest of what makes them who they are They can be funny, but they're not funny when they're chastising their children. They're not funny when they're grieving They're not funny when they're seriously pursuing their work, but you say oh, but they're just funny.

Well, that would be a great distortion Well, it is equally a distortion to constantly harp on God being sovereign The Apostles never do that. The Bible never does that There are two things that keep us balanced and straight and in the center of rightly dividing the word of truth It is God's

grace. It's God's mercy Through Jesus Christ everything we have comes through Christ I think I mentioned this last time but one of the biggest problems with this whole weird reformed view of election is It decides that in eternity past God sovereignly Elected and predestinated you and me to be Christians Before we came to saving faith before we were regenerate before we were in Christ What does that mean? It means that in the pool of sinners God looked down and picked just think of a little garden pond full of guppies there's you know, there's 50 guppies in there and you're gonna pick out 10 of them and Use them for some special purpose well There's nothing Particularly special you just reach in and grab some 10 according to whichever ones come to hand and those are the ones you're going to Do something special and then you're gonna turn off the water and turn off the pump and let the other 40 die This is pretty much the the view of salvation.

But the problem is the choosing has nothing to do with Christ Calvinist election Calvinist Predestination is apart from Christ God is looking at the pool of sinners at foreknowing and sovereignly electing and there's no application of the work of Christ There's nothing to do with Christ. And that's one of the ways, you know that it's Bent that it's twisted Everything we have comes through Jesus Christ elect in him before the foundation of the world chosen in him We are Predestinated so that he can be the firstborn among many brethren. It's about Christ.

It's not about us. It's not about God Picking certain ones and then saying oh shucks. I'm not proud.

It was nothing to recommend me We're all depraved and then what a wonderful thing They accuse the rest of us who believe in free will of being arrogant But there is an intrinsic arrogance in thinking that out of the pool of sinners Apart from Christ for no reason other than some inscrutable Idea of his own God picked me to be saved God picked me Look at what Peter says Bless God. Thank God That through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, he expressed saving mercy toward us and gave us new life in him Not only that but gives us an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away Reserved in heaven for you who are kept by the power of God through faith with a view toward deliverance Still doesn't link it to Predestination for ordination election or any of this other nonsense. He says look it's the grace of God.

Isn't it a great thing? In Christ, he saves us in Christ. He gives us an inheritance that doesn't fade away and we're kept by God's power through faith Faith is incorporated into God's plan and purpose and through faith. We are kept by the way Throwing away your faith abandoning your faith is the way to not be kept With a view toward that inheritance you have need of patience so that after you have suffered a while you receive the promise endurance persistence in faith secures and maintains Inheritance, which is separate and distinct from salvation Calvinism just flattens it all down and makes it all one thing in this you greatly rejoice if you understand it if you comprehend if we Grasp what it is that God has done for us in Jesus Christ.

We greatly rejoice We appreciate the Lord Jesus because it is in him and through him We're not

appreciating sovereignty and we're not appreciating predestination and appreciating election We're appreciating the person of the Lord Jesus Christ who made all of this possible for us who came and accomplished it in love If you don't have a living breathing appreciation for the Lord Jesus Christ as a man as God as the God man as the one mediator between God and men the man Christ Jesus If he isn't a person With whom we are greatly impressed and enamored our theology is screwy the purpose of the revelation of God's will in his word is to bring us through Christ to the Father and Everything is in Christ. Everything is through Christ. He is the new and living way And there is no other way and there's none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved and in a funny way The impersonal attribute of sovereignty gets swapped in for the living Christ The only the the name under heaven whereby we must be saved is election or sovereignty or some other weird theological Choice Instead of the living Savior, that's not Peter's theology at all You greatly rejoice even though now for a little while if need be you've been grieved by various trials So that the genuineness of your faith not the persistence of your election not any of the other Not the durability of God's You know Prevenient grace and his effectual call and so on the genuineness of your faith your faith Is going to be proved because some faith is genuine and some is not I will say that again some faith is genuine and some is not part of what we go through in this life is Revealing whether we've got real faith or pseudo faith Not whether or not we are truly elect.

I know I'm harping on this but I'm telling you the biggest lever that Satan has to pervert and distort the truth of God's Word Within the circle of believers one of his biggest tools is reformed theology. It is a Blight and the thing that makes it worse is that it has some good features. You can learn a lot as a Calvinist and yet It's it is the that's the sweetener.

That's the the chocolate coating that gets you to bite and You know the whitewash is over the tombstone there in that theology and what it does is is Alleviates and drags us away from the idea that our faith is important our faith the choice we make for salvation and the similar choices we make after salvation is central and You can throw a lot of other good Bible truth into your theology But if you don't understand faith and you don't understand that the reason we are here in this life after salvation is to have our faith Grow and be tested so that the genuineness of our faith, which is much more precious than gold That perishes though tested by fire reflects the glory of God Durable genuine faith is more valuable than gold We may live a very modest life in terms of how many worldly goods we acquire That's fine if our faith grows if we develop and exercise genuine faith It's more valuable than gold because any wealth you accumulate ends with the last second of your life not so with the treasure in heaven not so with the reflective surface that we build as we lay up for ourselves that treasure in heaven and It will be found a praise honor and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ whom having not seen you love Jesus Christ you see how Peter keeps returning to the Lord Jesus he is focused on centered on the Lord Jesus Christ not an Attribute not a theology or theological concept. It's the person of the Lord Jesus Though you do not see him yet believing you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory and there is a lot of Things to celebrate in the truth of God's Word we are so blessed we are you think about the

potential and the opportunity that God gives us regardless of how mean and Seemingly depressing our circumstances are if we view our situation in terms of its potential for testing our faith and If we have pursued a genuine faith Then the worse it gets the better off we are because the more our faith is tested the more produces Patience and patience is going to have its perfect work, and we are going to be perfect and complete lacking nothing This is why historically the church always seems to do better under persecution and under pressure you get the idea that there's a much livelier more intense and real Spiritual life in Places where it costs you something to be a Christian it endangers you it imperils you When we have a fat soft fluffy Safe environment we tend to relax and go to sleep Receiving the end of your faith the purpose of your faith. What's the goal of your faith? It doesn't say receiving the result of God's ordination The goal and purpose and the the fruit the result of your faith deliverance of your souls Faith counts for a lot faith is woven all through the plan of God and if you misunderstand faith and its role You can't understand God's plan therefore you can't pursue and fulfill God's plan therefore You've been neutralized and this is my my despair over our Calvinist brethren with whom I have had as you know hundreds of hours of Debate and conversation both in oral and written form this deliverance this Salvation is what the prophets inquired and searched carefully When they prophesied of this coming grace the grace that would come to you Searching what or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ who was in them Christ even in the Old Testament the Spirit of Christ the Spirit who reveals Christ the Spirit That was there because of Christ.

Do you realize that if it wasn't for Christ coming? Apparently there would have been no real purpose for the Holy Spirit to come and imbue and endue and Empower and indwell in the Old Testament Why did the Spirit empower the tabernacle workmen because the tabernacle is the teaching tool to teach Israel about God's presence and ultimately God's salvation through Jesus Christ the Spirit is called the Spirit of Christ because Old Testament and new he reveals the truth of God through Christ in Him all the fullness of God dwells in bodily form whether in prospect or in retrospect The purpose of the Holy Spirit is always to reveal Christ because Christ is our only revelation of the Father Even in the Old Testament it is the it is the prediction it is the the Anticipation of Jesus Christ that imbues and inspires the Old Testament record. That's what it was all for to demonstrate the need for Christ to prophesy the coming of Christ to give the details of the identity of Christ to Illustrate the nature of the work of Christ. It's all about Christ and God the Holy Spirit every judge every prophet every king every workman every Oracle every every word of the scriptures that was written in the Old Testament is all about ultimately Jesus Christ Indirectly or directly the Spirit of Christ Was in them indicating when he testified beforehand what? The sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow You look at the record of the book of Judges.

You say well, how is how is Christ being pictured when you've got Ehud and Jephthah and Barak and Deborah and all the rest of these Samson and Delilah and how do you see? Well, we've been through that book and we know how it anticipates We know how it illustrates the problem and how different elements of the deliverance that God Brought to Israel through the judges

reflect what the Lord Jesus was going to do and why he would need to do it To them it was revealed that not to themselves But to us or for us on our behalf They were ministering the things which now have been reported to you. They were setting it up. They were anticipating it they were putting in place the framework in the background and the understanding so that the Savior could come and do his work and Ideally be recognized by his own people which he largely was not but that wasn't his fault or the fault of the revelation but it has now been reported to you these things have been fulfilled and The fulfillment has been reported by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit the same Holy Spirit that inspired the Anticipation in the Old Testament and the prophecy in the Old Testament has Carried along and inspired the record of the witnesses.

It's Holy Spirit from beginning to end From the Spirit to the Spirit even now this Holy Spirit inspired record is only meaningful to us When God the Holy Spirit is active within us helping us to understand it It isn't authenticated by secular history The Bible wouldn't be more authoritative if we could find Deodorus Seculus or any one of the other ancient historians Verifying from a Roman point of view or a Greek point of view or an ancient Egyptian or Babylonian or Persian or Any other point of view, you know Well, the Bible is just not it's not authenticated. It's not verified by other outside witnesses And if it was that would it would be easier to believe that's not the nature of the revelation God didn't bother do you think God could have ensured that secular historians wrote a whole lot about Christ and the Christians and the Apostles and the Joseph and Moses in the early history of Israel and wrote down there all the great stuff about David and Solomon in the early days Of the United Kingdom and so on could God have arranged to have a bunch of extra records out there for that So that the Bible would be easier to believe He could but he didn't why? It's not designed to communicate to the carnal mind Carnal mind can't understand the things of the Spirit because they're spiritually discerned It's from the Spirit through the Spirit to the Spirit God The Holy Spirit has to be present every step of the way. It reminds me of radio You've got some kind of a signal and It is picked up if I'm speaking and somebody outside the state of Texas is hearing me right now.

How is that happening? You say well, we've got microphones and and we've got a you've got a computer and it's getting digitized and it's getting transmitted across in IP packet traffic and it's being decoded by another computer and Turned via circuitry and amplification into vibrations of a speaker at some other end. That's all true We could have all this same equipment, but if there's no electricity How well does it work? There's a microphone gonna transfer anything into the computer is the computer gonna process anything into IP packets Is the internet going to carry anything is it going to get decoded at the other end and and give it to an amplifier? It is the speaker gonna vibrate at the other end without electricity. It's all a great framework, but you've got to have the power at every stage What if you've got the power everywhere except one little place? Sorry It has to exist from beginning to end.

That's the Holy Spirit with the communication of God's truth It has to be there from beginning to

end or we don't get the truth That's why we always pray before we begin Bible class because the power might be on in every other place I've got to be sure that it's on in me before I start then you've got to be sure the power is on in your soul while we're sitting here or Guess what I can put the earbuds in and I don't hear anything it got stopped That's God the Holy Spirit and you see Peter talking about this over and over again the Spirit of Christ the Holy Spirit Enabled those who preach the gospel to communicate things that Angels want to bend down and get next to you saw that last time so we pick up now in verse 13 Therefore gird up the loins of your mind be sober and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you At the revelation of Jesus Christ, and you remember the the heiress participle and so on having girded your mind Being sober the imperative there is hope Hope completely hope to the end hope without reservation On that grace and we're right back to the grace that he mentioned way back in verse 3 That is being brought to you by the revelation of Jesus Christ this empowered system that God the Holy Spirit has Superintended all the way through this is delivering our salvation. This is bringing us our deliverance It's in the now. It's a present participle it is being brought as Obedient children verse 14 not conforming yourselves to the former lusts epithumia the former driving motivations What gets you up in the morning? What drives your train? What floats your boat and trips your trigger and gets your boilers lit? What is it that makes you go what winds up your mainspring? That's epithumia People have different things you boy You've listened to public radio for very long and you find that people get motivated by the strangest things They want to do a documentary film on stuff that Would just make me queasy They want to write a book or they want to they want to do research into some Bizarre thing or other and they get up in the morning.

It's all they can think about they have a hobby They have a some you know, well, that's my passion. That's my dream. That's this that's whatever it is.

Well, that's your epithumia So Peter says look God has put all of this in place he started in the past he be appointed the Lord Jesus Christ He has set up this plan God. The Holy Spirit energizes the whole thing. You've gotten the message.

Here's the potential and now as Obedient children and what's the thing about a child? Everything is set up for you You don't have to buy the house. You don't have to get the groceries You don't have to arrange for clothing and transportation and and make sure the utilities are running You wake up in the morning and everything is provided Your function as a child is to obey your parents in the Lord for this is right Right children obey your parents in the Lord This is right So Peter says look if you look at this system, I've just described over these last many verses Now as obedient children recognizing that you didn't have to come up with all of this stuff. You're living in it You were born into it as Obedient children not being propelled around by the old motivations When you were ignorant Didn't know any better But as he who called you is holy, so you also be holy in all your Conduct this word conduct is really interesting.

It's on a strefo strefo means to turn on a means again and It means to to turn again and and it's talking about your your Revolutions your your daily spin, you know, you're you're going around

How do you go around? You're in you're going around and around that's a literal closest Translation is you be holy and all you're going around and around your routine your daily Repetitions It comes to mean your walk or your Conduct your affairs your dealings. We have lots of ways of referring How we live our life be holy Hagias means separate and apart The former Passions are various You look around the room and think where would we be if we weren't believers? Well, some people might be dancers. Some people might be Musicians some people might be this might be that might be the other we would all be Scattering to the winds following whatever particular thing had captured our fancy Joining the Society for the collection of monarch butterflies or whatever it might be Breeding roses or whatever it is that people do but He says we're not we're no longer driven by those passions But we all now have the same passion which is that separateness Hagias isn't so much You know holy sanctified going in the dark with a big shiny gold plate behind your head.

It is You're distinct. You're you're dedicated to this higher thing, you know sanctified means set apart Hagias be sanctified as I am sanctified and so our purpose is the same as God's purpose, which is the reflection of his perfection We're not we don't have to be perfect to reflect and and show forth the perfection of God This is the great thing about being a saint The saint doesn't mean you're perfect the saint means you are a reflection of the perfect God You're a manifestation of his work. You're a reflection of his glory.

You're a An indication of his presence and his power. We don't have to be perfect to be evidence of the perfection of God We we want to strive to be a better and better reflection, you know If you ever tried using a mirror that ladies use when they're putting their hairspray on when I you know, give myself a haircut I get this big mirror, but it gets used by everybody else who uses hairspray and Before I can really use that thing effectively I have to find it and that hairspray doesn't just you know immediately wipe off I don't know what they put in that hydrolyzed whatever but you got to do some work to get glass clean Well, you can see in the mirror vaguely Darkly, but it works a lot better if you can clean it up and our Sanctification our holiness is trying to get the mirror as clean as possible It'll never be perfect, but it can be better and better a reflection of the perfect God Well now we see through a glass darkly then we will see face to face well, let's brighten up the glass as much as we can and Verse 17 if you call on the father And this is really where we we pick up our new Material now if you call on the father who without partiality judges according to each one's work Conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear Knowing that you are not redeemed with corruptible things like silver or gold from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your father's But with the precious blood of Christ as of a lamb without blemish and without spot Well the interesting thing about this is you remember he says be holy in all your honest refo your honest ref a actually Then in verse 17 he says and if you call upon the father, and this is just Kaleo plus epi You literally call upon? God What does this mean to call upon him Does it mean if if you're a faithful prayer warrior it means if you claim his name if you if you call God your father Which you should if you're saved But it's a reminder. He could just go on and say Conduct yourselves throughout your the time of your stay with fear But he says if you call

on the father who without partiality judges according to each one's work.

Why would he phrase it this way? Well, what did he just refer to? two verses up as obedient children Abandon those driving passions that used to propel you around But now that we have a father who has an agenda who has a plan and purpose if You call on him as a father if you are in fact wanting to be an obedient child So he's he's harking back to verse 14 when he says if you as an obedient child Claim your own father and of course you know this has always been a big deal down through history You don't want to be fatherless That's the same as being an orphan you don't want to be illegitimate in the sense that your father doesn't claim you If if you're an obedient child and you call on the father in other words if there's any rectitude if there's any rightness and and normalcy about your relationship with God You'll remember that as your father. He is going to judge impartially what we do That's a father's job when he raises his children is to judge impartially That's why it's you know important to try to keep your emotions out of your out of your evaluation and discipline of children Because it is to be done impartially just as the father does it so remembering that you can't You Can't wheedle him you can't wrap him around your finger. You know there's some Daughters that kind of get their dad's bamboozled the brothers always think the sisters are getting over because they You know they smile or they little tear run down their cheek and dad melts And they don't get the justice that the brother thinks they deserve Or vice versa The girls think oh, you know he likes the boys best because he's a man And they're you know there's chips off the old blocks and but they think that there's some kind of partiality and Peter says look God is impartial he just got through referencing his holiness and his Dedication to his own purpose, and he says so if you call on this father who without Partiality judges.

I like this word without partiality. It's Appro It's actually a pro sopo lepto's a pro sopo lepto's without partiality Judges and that's Krino according to each one's work This takes away the do you know what church? I'm a member of syndrome So many people you know you circulate. I circulate a lot of Christian institution circles of various kinds and rub elbows with people who are Here and there in the Christian world and Many times it comes up that well.

You know our church is doing this or our our seminaries doing that or our college is doing this and and people sort of appropriate to themselves a glory that is assigned to their Their group their institution their church, whatever it may be oh my my pastor is so-and-so or my my school is so-and-so God judges according to the individuals work when we stand before the judgment seat It's not going to be so now tell me again. What congregation you are all that congregation did so many well, okay? Well, no problem go right on in Here's your giant reward basket Based on what others may or may not have done each one's work We are accountable for what we do we didn't get no credit for trying to associate and cling to and hang ourselves on Any thing or anybody else? Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things like silver or gold. I think it's interesting that We have that story of the tax that the temple tax being due and Peter comes to the Lord and Jesus tells him we'll go Catch a fish and when you open it up.

What did he find in the fish's mouth? Found the gold coin, and this is the second time now that Peter is referred to gold within just the space of a few Verses he said back in verse 7 the genuineness of your faith being much more precious than gold which perishes Peter and James and John and Andrew and probably some others left behind Prosperous businesses to be followers of the Lord Jesus and you remember there's a conversation where they said You know Jesus said except a man leave father and mother and you know dedicate himself He can't be my disciple and Peter and the disciples say well Lord. We've left all to follow you and he says you know To the extent that you've left things in this life It will be restored to you a hundredfold in the kingdom come but Peter is aware of monetary things He's a businessman He knows what the worth of things are and so he can't help but phrase it in these terms your faith is more precious than gold and he says the blood that Redeemed us is more precious than gold or silver Which is Corruptible and it's an odd thing because we tend to think that they are not You know, those are the things that don't corrupt. They survive the fire.

They are Durable but he says compared to the work of the Lord Jesus Christ even gold and silver are perishable Corruptible you are not redeemed with corruptible things and it doesn't say like silver or gold This comes from the case of the words Argoria and crucia which are the silver and gold you remember the atomic symbol for silver is a G didn't and that's that's Related to this word our guria That's related to silver and then Crucia is Crucius is gold and these are far toys ph th a r t o is Corruptible things and these are in the Dative which Substitutes for the preposition here, but the idea is Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible silver and gold basically from your aimless on a strefo on a strefe same word he used up above You weren't brought out from your aimless conduct your aimless aimless Circular living your aimless going around and around By mere gold and silver and this aimless conduct was and It's just one word. It says received by tradition from your father's is all one word in Greek. It's patro para dotu It's basically patro para did a me Para is alongside did a me is given and patro is your father so your father handed it to you, so On a strefo live your life Throughout the time of your power oika, you know Oi ke o means to dwell para is alongside it means it's similar to dwelling But it's not you're kind of a temporary resident.

You're you're staying beside you've pulled up your camper beside somebody's house You've pitched your tent beside the oasis But it's a it's a sojourn. It's a it's a visit so on a strefo Live your life turn do your daily turnaround in the time of your sojourn the time of your temporary Dwelling in Fear in Phobos and of course, we know this is not terror. This is not craven cowardice fear means Caution Sober regard Awareness of The possibility, you know when I'm driving my car at high speed down the highway I'm not Shaking in my boots, but I am very alert and I am very aware and I am very sober I am very cautious and very diligent because I know what the potential is to get smeared all over the road if I'm not careful and so it's it's Sober regard it is caution.

It is respect for the possibilities if things go wrong but it doesn't mean you know, I don't just Have to take a pill every time I get behind the wheel of the car quite the contrary I kind of enjoy driving

but at the same time You have the fewest accidents and live the longest and are injury-free the longest if you are as careful as possible you can drive aggressively and be extremely careful and That's how I drive Phobos, so this is how we are to conduct ourselves Very aware of the potential danger the potential loss if we mess up Don't have to be fearful in the English sense of the word, but very Alive to the possibilities Knowing and this is an ongoing awareness the awareness that keeps us sober and diligent and cautious and respectful of the Potential for danger is That we were bought with a very precious price. We are valuable to God because of what God paid for us And he didn't pay silver and gold he paid with the blood of his son the Lord Jesus and he paid that precious price to buy us out of a directionless Manner of life, it's the same word. He says it's a contrast between a a an honest refo of Phobos that is directed that is motivated and is is Very aware that there are 99 ways to do it wrong and only one way to do it, right and the aimless The the word aimless here is you remember the word Matai Oates? We used to talk about a vacuum in the soul that there's Matai Oates.

Well, this is a form of that word. It's it's a Mataya Empty it's it's a vacuum There's it has no point. It has no purpose it accomplishes nothing.

It lays up nothing it anticipates nothing. It's It's pointless your your vacuous or pointless manner of life Handed to you by your father's Just because people have been living that way in the past doesn't mean it's any good It always kind of entertains me to see people who get enamored with Aborigines say oh, you know, they've been living this way. They're untouched.

They're unspoiled. They've lived this they're pathetic They got no wheel. They got no electricity.

They got no indoor plumbing. They've got no hygiene. They've got no health care They're they lose half of their babies before they're a year old it's pathetic there's nothing Glamorous about that.

There's nothing Great about that. It's it's pitiful They you know, God didn't didn't create man to be, you know running around in a with a leaf strapped around his waist Drinking out of each other's skulls and so on it's it's It's terrible But that's what was handed to them by their fathers and just because there's a long tradition of doing a thing This is where the Catholics always End up when you start arguing with them and say well prove the church has any authority and they say are you gonna argue with? 2,000 years of history. This is what's been handed to us literally by the fathers by you know, father Sanguine and father, you know Ted and whoever knows else Just because it's handed to you by the fathers doesn't make it right Even even biblical scriptural faith isn't any good if you just buy it because it comes from your father's We were redeemed with the precious blood of Christ Temeo Heimati and Temeo that's the same word that Timothy's name comes from means honorable precious as Of a lamb without blemish and without spot and this References the higher and greater Justice that was at work Lamb's blood isn't valuable.

They don't buy and sell that in alabaster jars and get huge amounts of money for lamb's blood It

is precious Because of what it represents It represents the work of Jesus Christ and his work in the eyes of the father is Valuable. Do you think do you seriously think that gold would impress God? do you think that you could get some kind of leverage with God by hauling in a couple of tons of gold or a Planet made of gold or a galaxy made of gold God is completely and totally unimpressed. He invented gold.

He can make as much of it as he wants. It's it's it's pavement for his Future kingdom, it's it's asphalt. It's it's gravel What's valuable in God's sight The work of the Lord Jesus Christ which by the way was accomplished in faith in obedience as a son For a father I do my father's work.

I Must be about my father's business This is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased That's What's valuable in God's sight as obedient children living respectfully of that? Sanctified purpose that God has called us to that's what's valuable in God's sight. It isn't our work. It isn't our accomplishments It isn't our praise songs endlessly repeated.

It's our faithful obedience just like the Lord Jesus In whom God was well pleased why was God well pleased with Jesus? Because he was faithful and he was obedient in his humanity to the plan and purpose of the father's just that simple Well, we'll pause here and take our break when we come back. We will pick up Peters point in verse 20 of chapter 1