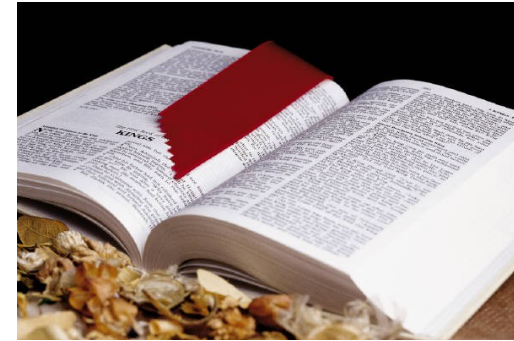


Living Insight

How important is your faith to you? Peter understood his faith to be precious in the sight of God. He knew that his faith would be ***“refined by fire”*** in much the same way that gold is refined by fire. There is one very important difference: gold perishes, but our faith will not perish. Our faith protects us during trials. Our faith leads us into our inheritance in Christ. Our faith is what will prove us to be genuine in the end. How strong is your shield of faith right now? Let’s make sure we fortify ourselves and build up one another!

~ Through His Grace, Mercy & Power,

Ed



Prayer Requests



CHURCH OF CHRIST Sixteenth & Decatur

Sermon Outline

Refined by Fire

1 Peter 1:3-7

Date: Sunday, April 06, 2014

Time: 11:00 A.M.

Refined by Fire



I. Introduction: The Christ-like Walk is a Life of Praise.

- A. Do we enjoy a life of praise?
 - 1. Our praise is not limited to Sunday morning.
 - 2. We have a **“new birth into a living hope.”**
 - 3. We have a living Savior and a great inheritance.
- B. We praise God because of His great protection.
 - 1. He shields us by His power through our faith.
~ **Ephesians 3:14-21**
 - 2. He protects us during our fiery trials.
 - 3. Our shield of faith protects us from Satan.
- C. Our lives are filled with praise because of Jesus.
 - 1. Our faith in Christ will be proved genuine.
 - 2. We are receiving the goal of our faith. **(1:9)**
 - 3. Jesus will be revealed in the end.

II. Body: How is our Faith Refined by Fire?

- A. Our faith is tested through the trials we endure.
 - 1. Satan will send flaming arrows at us to hurt us.
~ **Ephesians 6:16**
 - 2. The enemy sent Paul a thorn in the flesh.
 - 3. The devil does not want to refine us.
- B. Our faith protects us from the power of sin.
 - 1. When we are filled with His Spirit, we are very powerful people. ~ **Luke 11:24-26**
 - 2. We must fill our lives with more Jesus.
- C. Our faith is proved genuine when refined by fire.
 - 1. Others may not benefit when our faith is tried.
 - 2. God already knows how strong we are.
 - 3. **We benefit the most from the trials.**

1 Peter 1:3-7

III. Conclusion: What Can We Learn from Peter?

- A. We are valuable in the eyes of God.
 - 1. The Lord compares our faith to gold.
 - 2. He is strengthening our faith.
 - B. There is a reason for the trials that we face.
 - 1. The Lord may be teaching us through trials.
 - 2. We must remain patient, attentive & alert.
 - C. Trials are temporal, but heaven is eternal.
 - 1. We all look forward to the restoration.
 - 2. We must always live in hope.
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Special Update

***Be sure to join us today for our
Ministry to 2 Local Nursing Facilities***

- ◇ ***Carroll Manor Nursing Center at 2:00 pm***
- ◇ ***Unique Residential Care Center at 3:00 pm***