

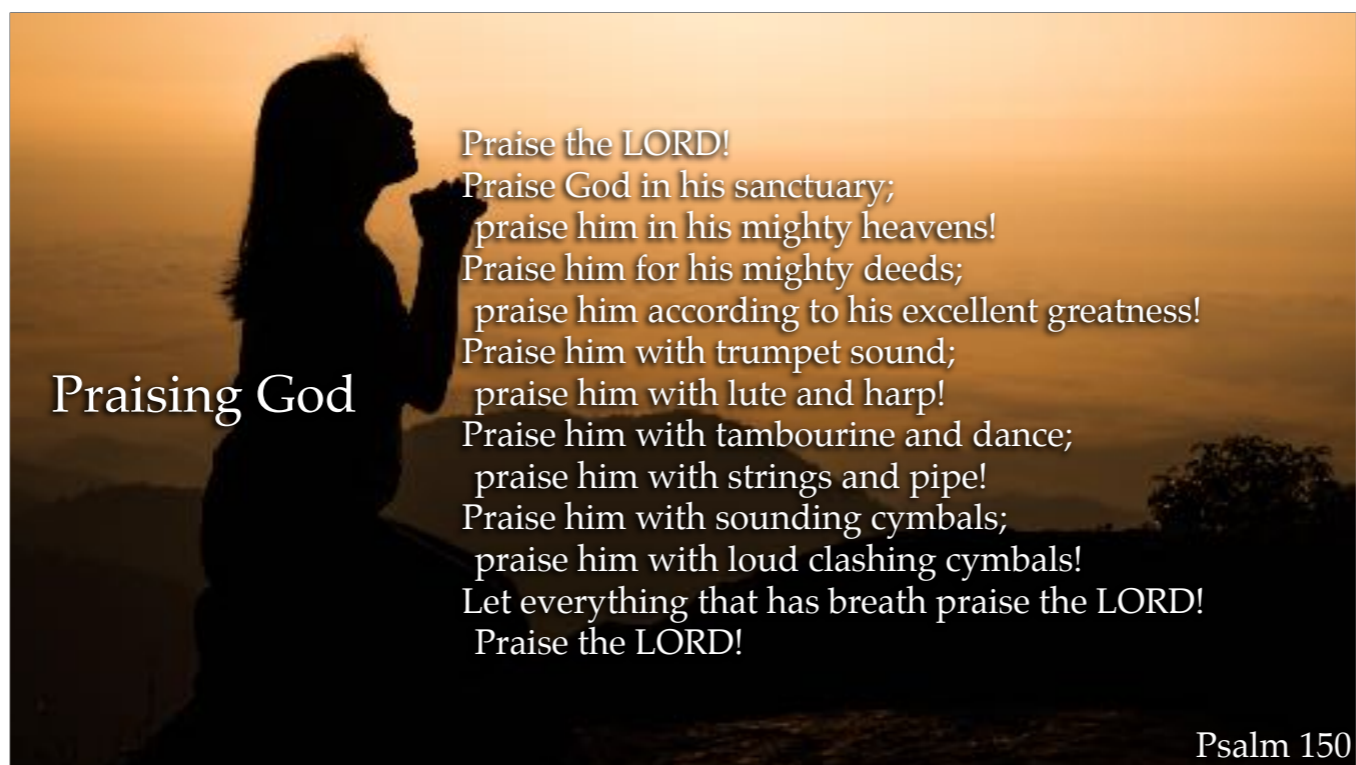


• 1 Peter 1:1-12

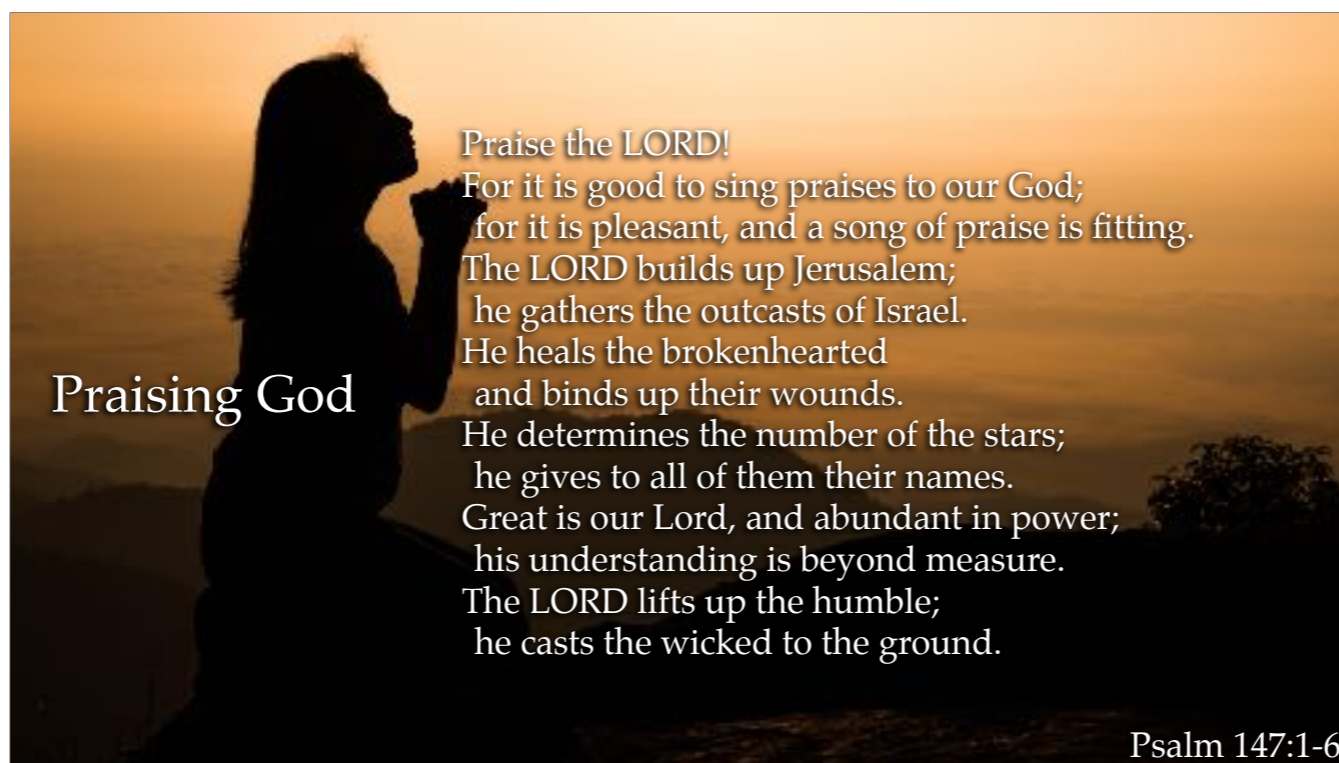


Praising God

- Praising God is different for each of us ... very individual
 - Some Psalms are short and simple ... appealing
 - Some Psalms are long and deep ... appealing to others



- Psalms 150 (ESV) 1 Praise the LORD!
- Praise God in his sanctuary;
- praise him in his mighty heavens!
- 2 Praise him for his mighty deeds;
- praise him according to his excellent greatness!
- 3 Praise him with trumpet sound;
- praise him with lute and harp!
- 4 Praise him with tambourine and dance;
- praise him with strings and pipe!
- 5 Praise him with sounding cymbals;
- praise him with loud clashing cymbals!
- 6 Let everything that has breath praise the LORD!
- Praise the LORD!

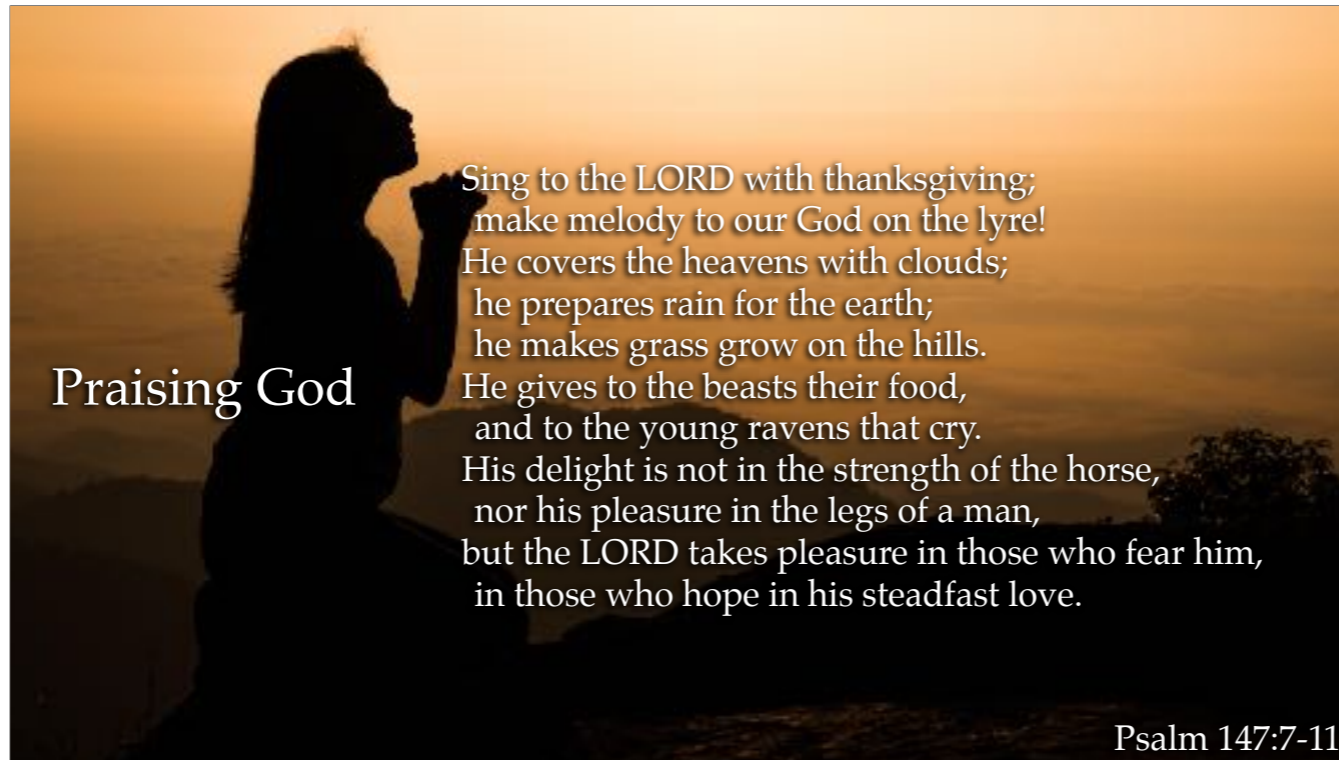


Praising God

Praise the LORD!
For it is good to sing praises to our God;
for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.
The LORD builds up Jerusalem;
he gathers the outcasts of Israel.
He heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.
He determines the number of the stars;
he gives to all of them their names.
Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;
his understanding is beyond measure.
The LORD lifts up the humble;
he casts the wicked to the ground.

Psalm 147:1-6

- Psalms 147:1-6 (ESV) 1 Praise the LORD!
- For it is good to sing praises to our God;
- for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.
- 2 The LORD builds up Jerusalem;
- he gathers the outcasts of Israel.
- 3 He heals the brokenhearted
- and binds up their wounds.
- 4 He determines the number of the stars;
- he gives to all of them their names.
- 5 Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;
- his understanding is beyond measure.
- 6 The LORD lifts up the humble;
- he casts the wicked to the ground.

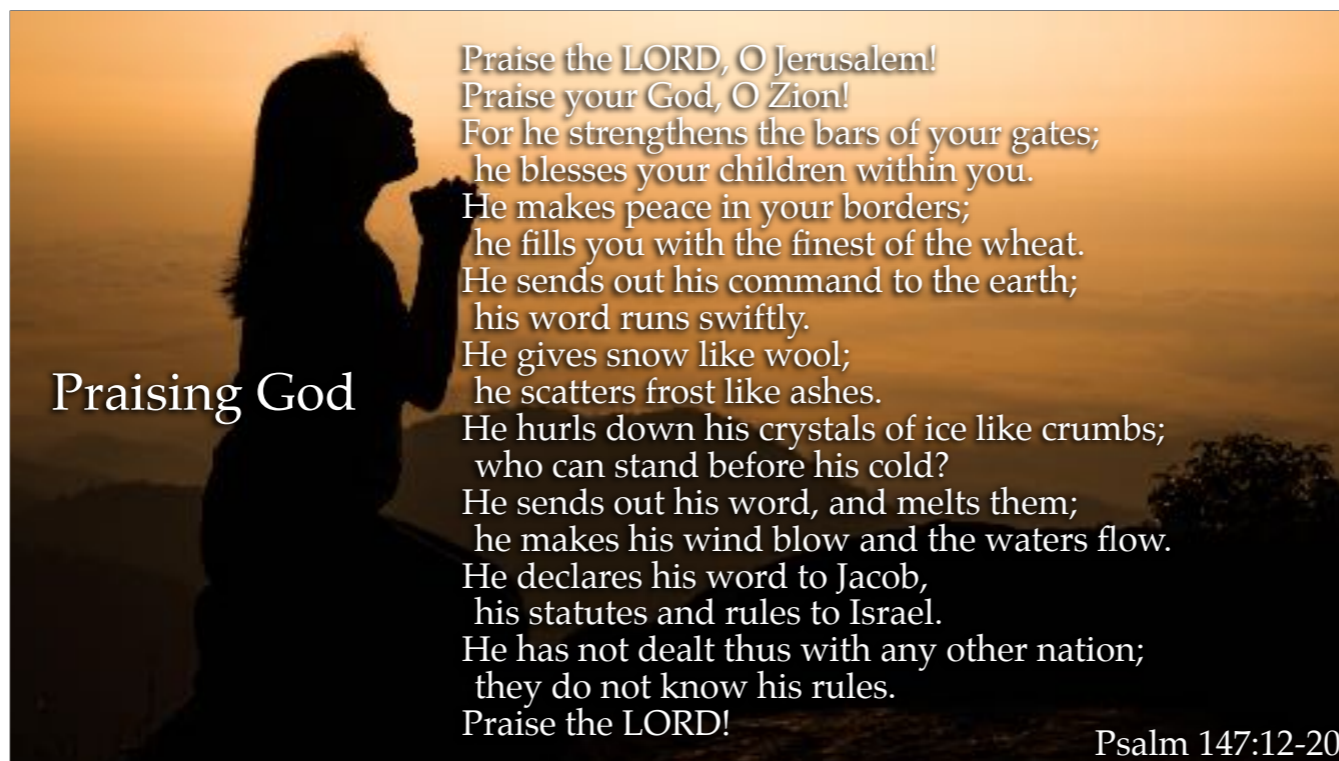


Praising God

Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;
make melody to our God on the lyre!
He covers the heavens with clouds;
he prepares rain for the earth;
he makes grass grow on the hills.
He gives to the beasts their food,
and to the young ravens that cry.
His delight is not in the strength of the horse,
nor his pleasure in the legs of a man,
but the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him,
in those who hope in his steadfast love.

Psalm 147:7-11

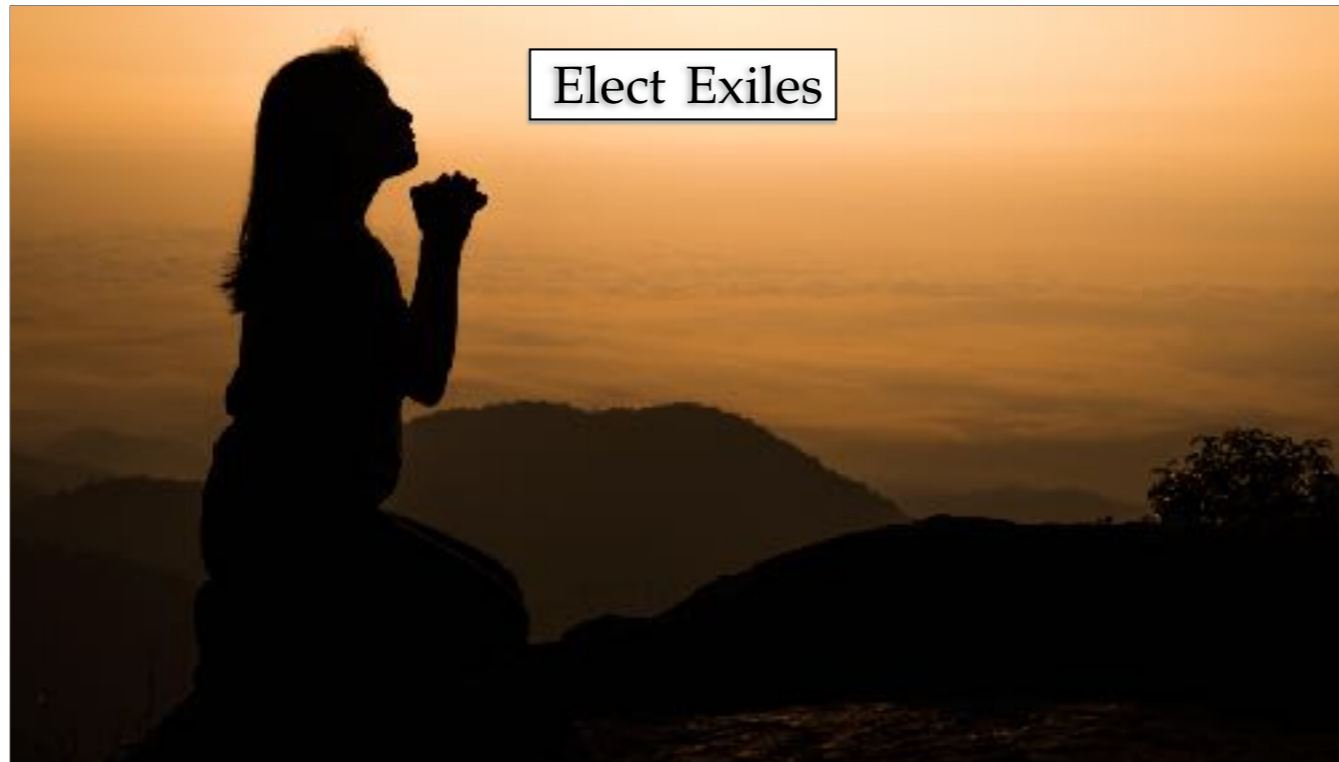
- Psalms 147:7-11 (ESV) 7 Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;
- make melody to our God on the lyre!
- 8 He covers the heavens with clouds;
- he prepares rain for the earth;
- he makes grass grow on the hills.
- 9 He gives to the beasts their food,
- and to the young ravens that cry.
- 10 His delight is not in the strength of the horse,
- nor his pleasure in the legs of a man,
- 11 but the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him,
- in those who hope in his steadfast love.



- Psalms 147:12-20 (ESV) 12 Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem!
- Praise your God, O Zion!
- 13 For he strengthens the bars of your gates;
- he blesses your children within you.
- 14 He makes peace in your borders;
- he fills you with the finest of the wheat.
- 15 He sends out his command to the earth;
- his word runs swiftly.
- 16 He gives snow like wool;
- he scatters frost like ashes.
- 17 He hurls down his crystals of ice like crumbs;
- who can stand before his cold?
- 18 He sends out his word, and melts them;
- he makes his wind blow and the waters flow.
- 19 He declares his word to Jacob,
- his statutes and rules to Israel.
- 20 He has not dealt thus with any other nation;
- they do not know his rules.
- Praise the LORD!



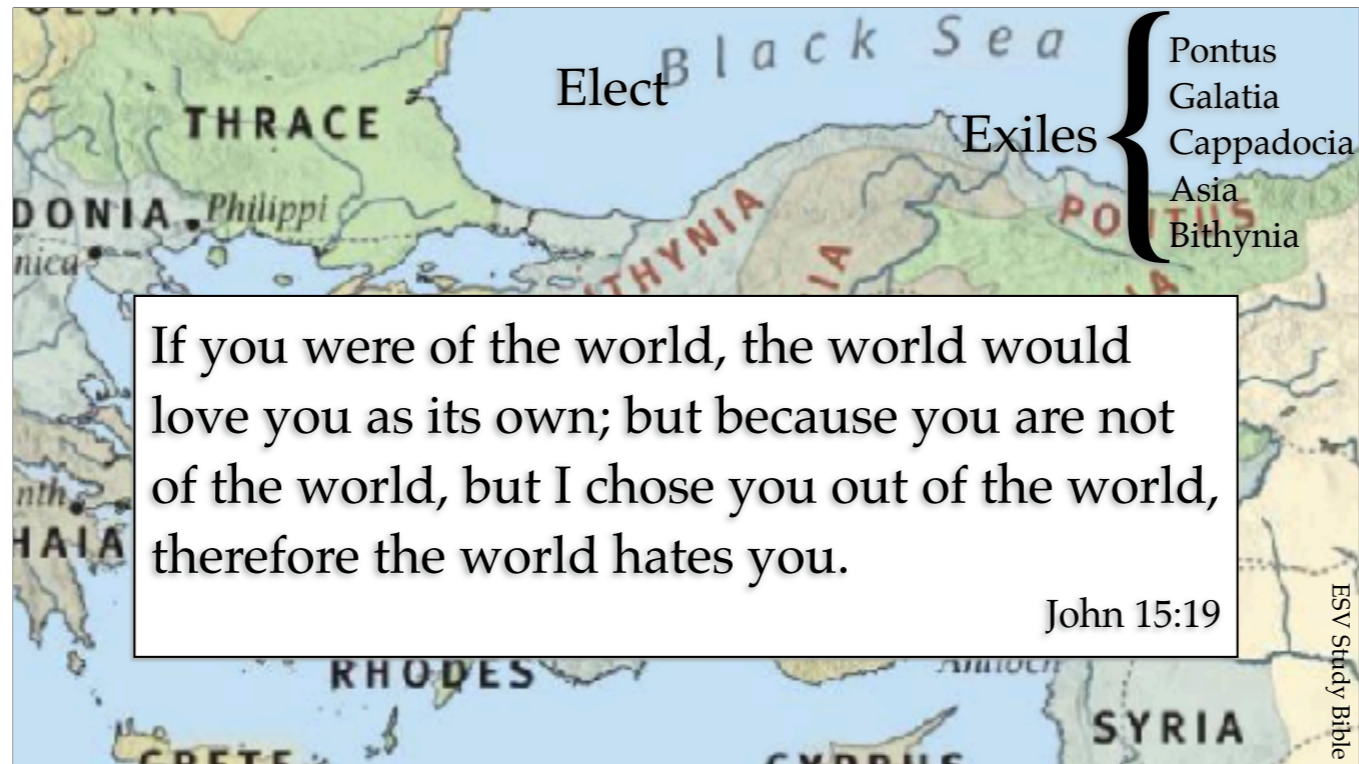
- Do you praise God?
 - Do you think you're good at it? Or is it a struggle?
 - Do you find it to be awkward?
 - unsure of what to say?
 - always saying the same things? (That's not inherently bad)
- As Peter begins his first letter to Christians who have had to leave their homes (persecution)
 - He begins by praising God
 - helping them remember who God is
 - But also who they are
- It's a model for praising God: maybe it will help you



- 1 Peter 1:1-2
- Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,
- To those who are elect exiles



- To those who are elect exiles
 - of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia,
- Exiles — strangers, foreigners
 - Literally? Christians who had left their homes and moved to these areas, possibly because of persecution that began with Saul? (Acts 8:1)
 - Spiritually? Exiles from the world who choose to follow after Christ.
 - Peter will make other references to exiles in his letter.



- Certainly for us
- John 15:19 (ESV) 19 If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.
- John 16:33 (ESV) 33 I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”



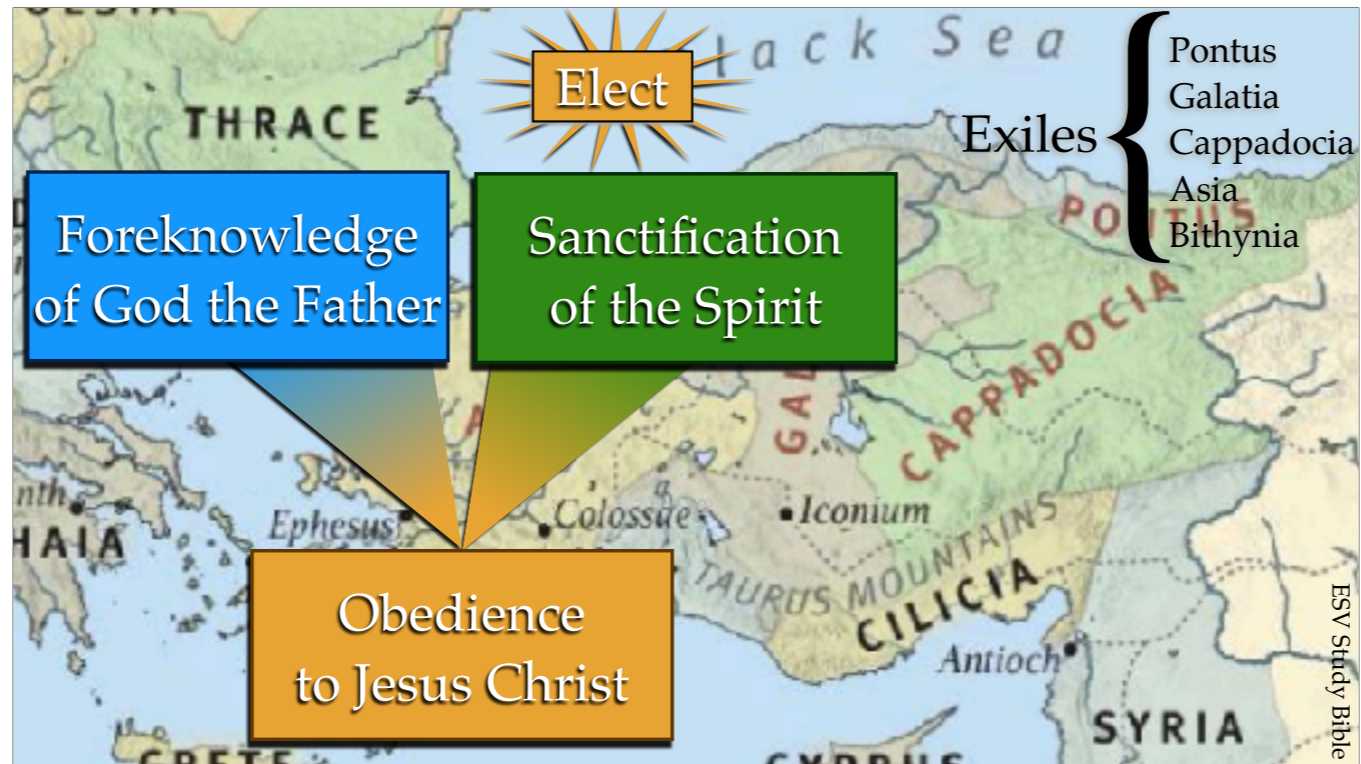
- To those who are elect exiles
 - chosen, select
 - 2:9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession,



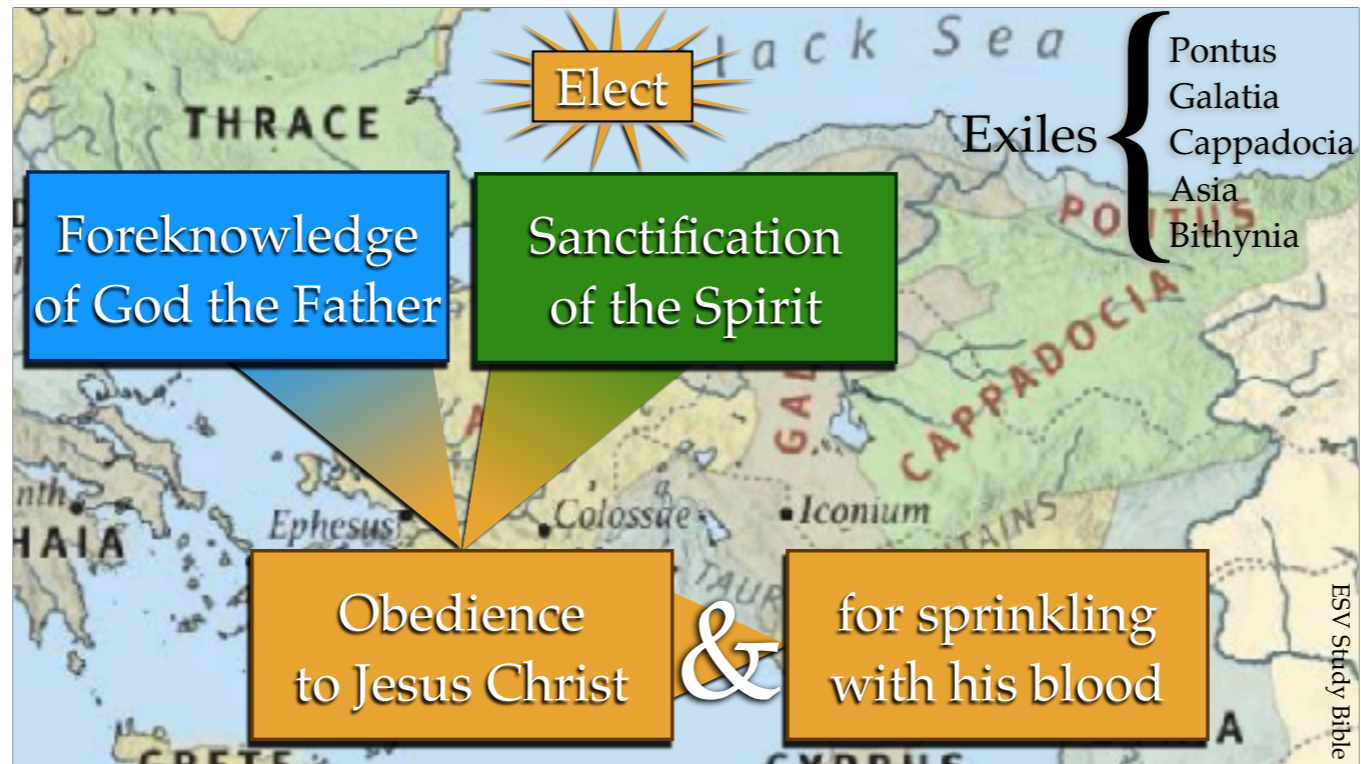
- 2 according to the foreknowledge of God the Father
 - God's plan from eternity to save souls
 - Reconcile us, adopt us, to be his children



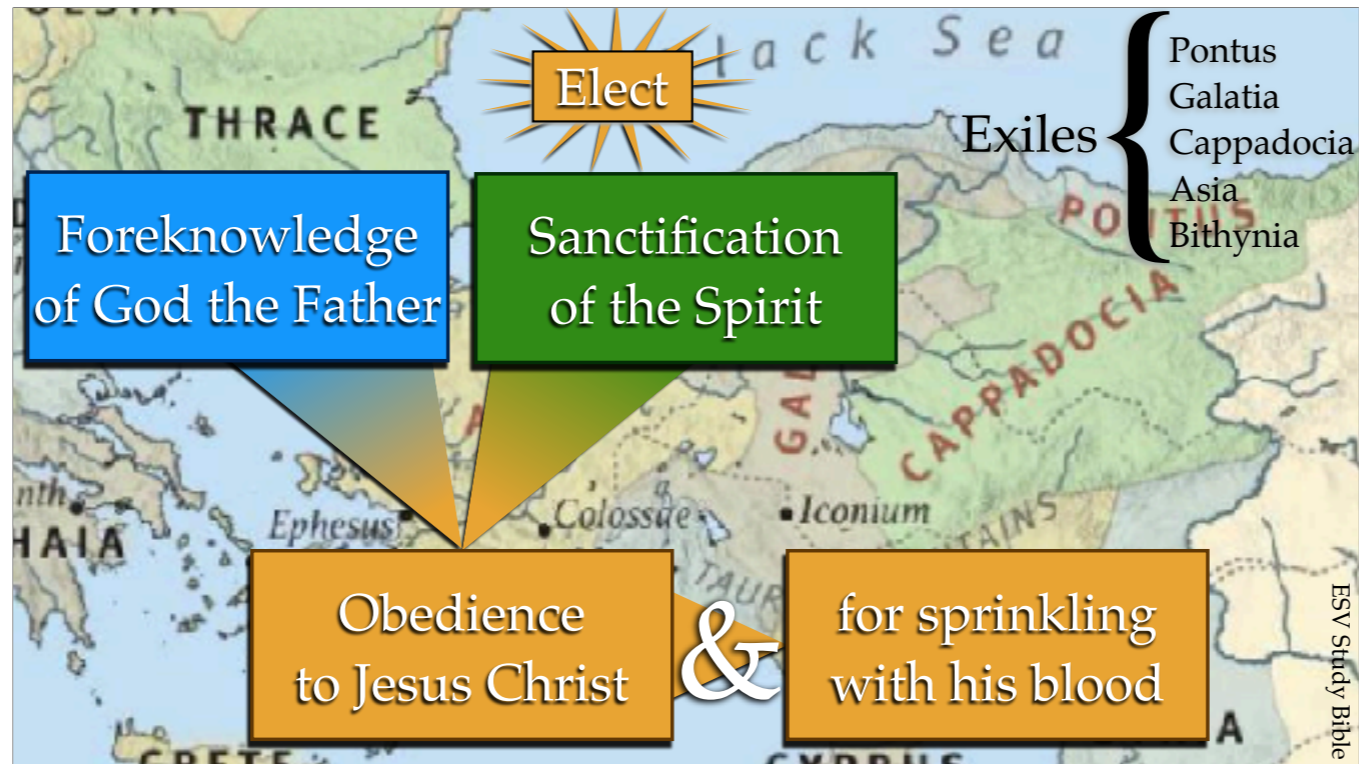
- in the sanctification of the Spirit,
- that we are made holy (no longer common or unclean)
 - Sin has been dealt with.



- for obedience to Jesus Christ
 - obedience is seen as a positive result. Something we should desire and be proud of.
 - Because we have obeyed him in believing in him and choosing to follow him.
 - And we live in submission to him.



- for obedience to Jesus Christ
 - and for sprinkling with his blood:
- This brings this passage full circle ...
 - Jesus' sacrifice on the cross; planned by God so that we could be saved
 - Hebrews 12:24 and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.



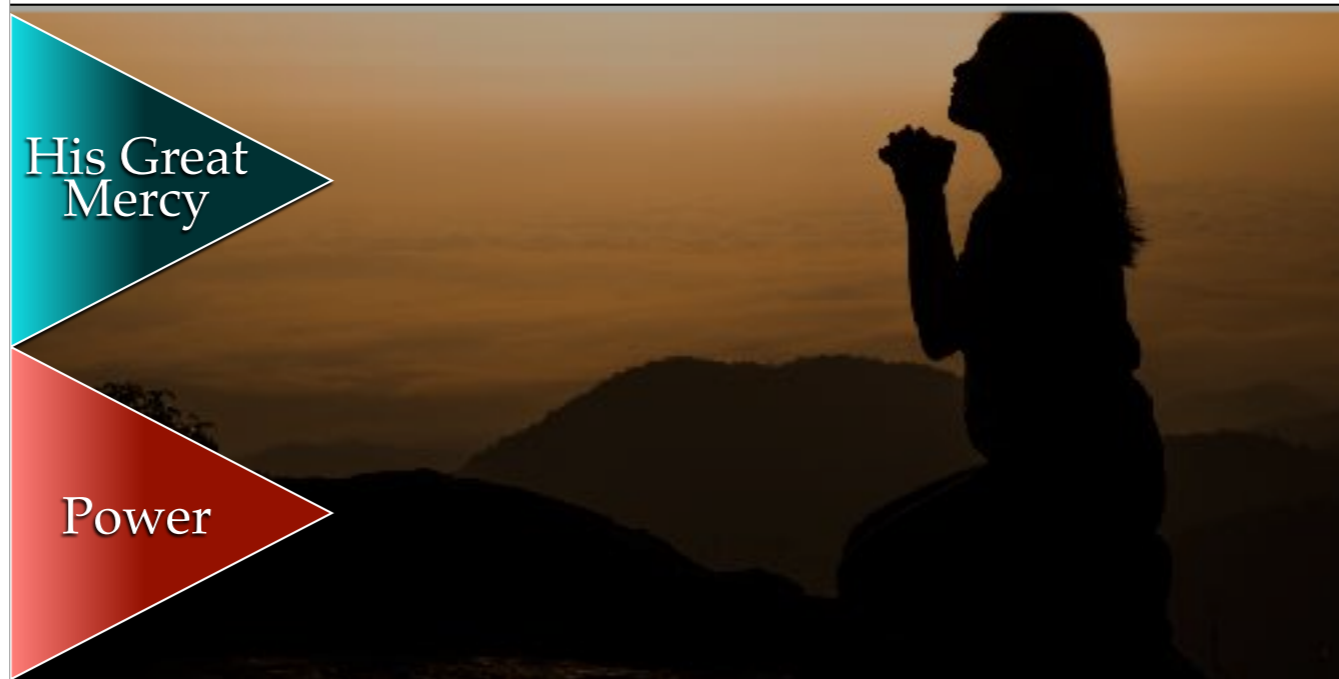
- We can choose to see ourselves as exiles or ELECT
 - Exiles because we are strangers living in a strange land
 - Okay, both,
- ELECT
 - but Peter helps us understand how special it is that we are God's Elect!
 - All the Godhead are involved in bringing us to him.
- This is why we praise our God
 - we know what he has done for us and
 - who we are because of him: his chosen and saved

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!



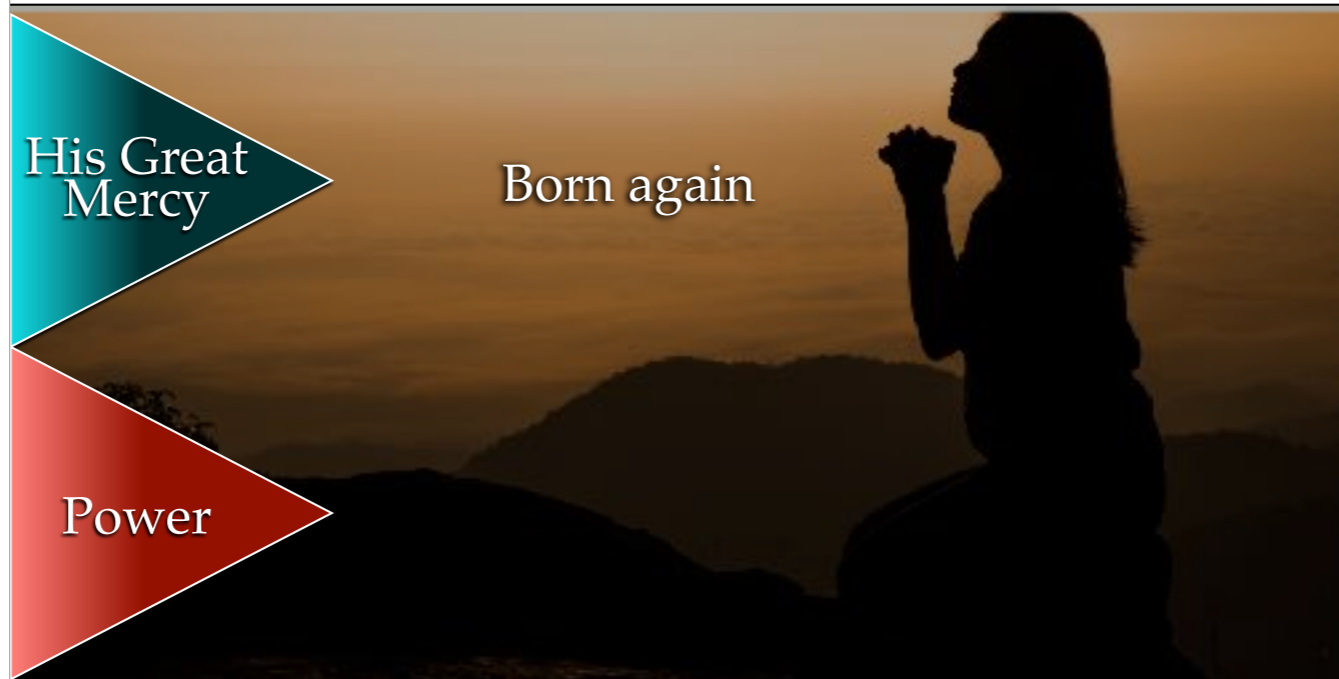
- Blessed, praise
 - CWSB: inherently blessed, well spoken of, worthy of praise
- What are the reasons that we can speak well of our God?

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!



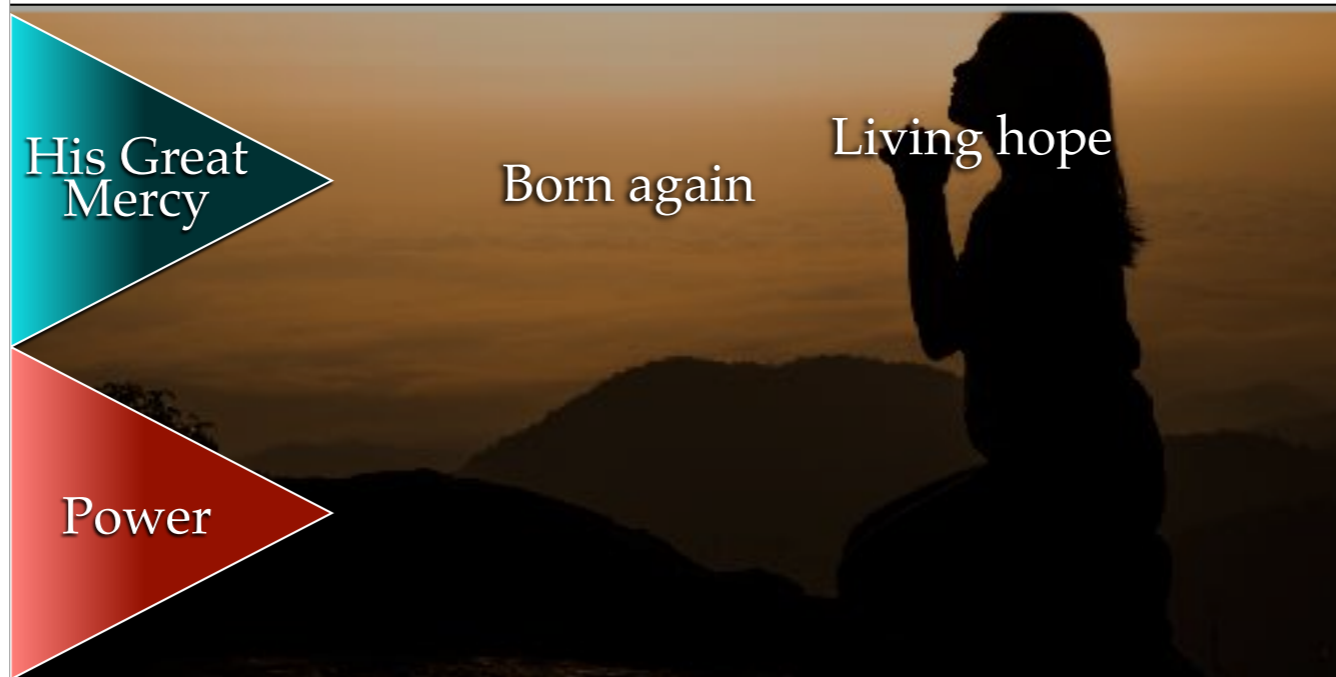
- Peter points out two reasons that we can speak well of our God.
 - His Great Mercy: compassion for us in our time of need
 - Power: ability to accomplish his will
- Interestingly, they are not just about what He has done, but also what he is doing and what he will do.
- It focus' on the most important things about our lives, but doesn't dismiss the current struggles we are facing.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!



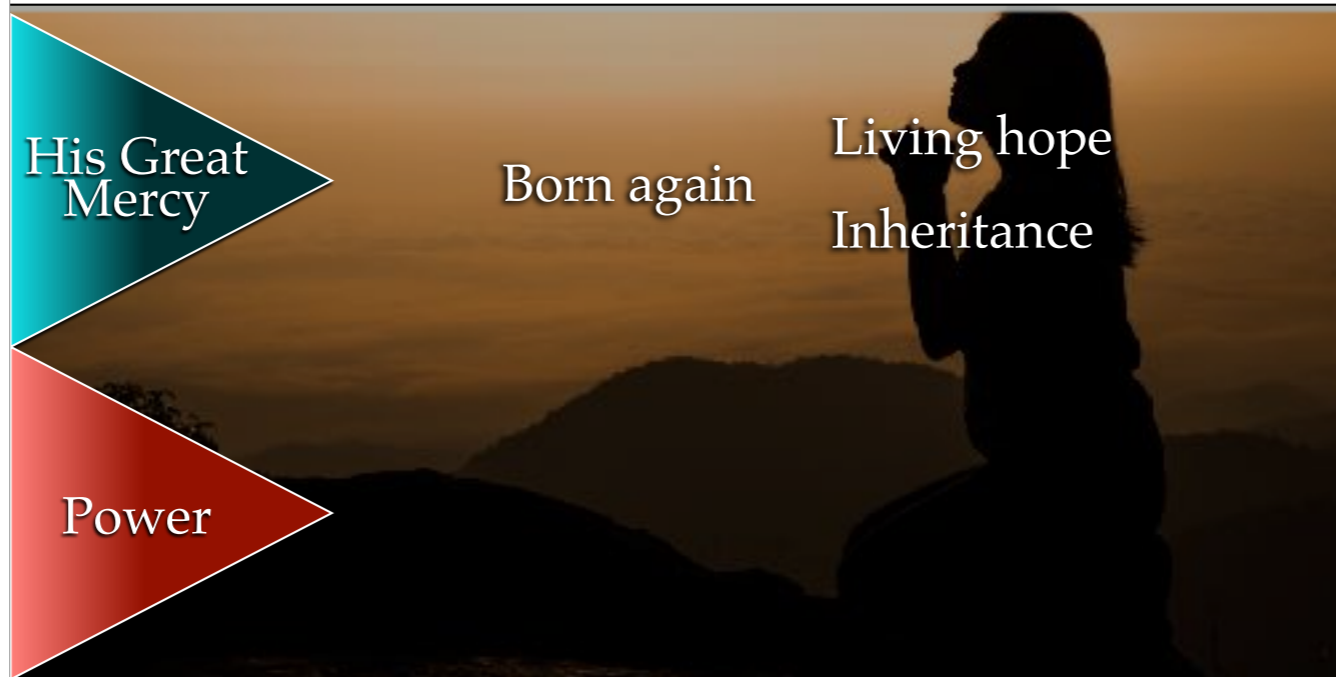
- 1 Peter 1:3-4 (ESV) According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again
 - A chance to start over ...
 - Nicodemus (John 3)
 - born of water and the spirit (5)
 - see and enter the kingdom of God (3, 5)
 - spirit (6)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!



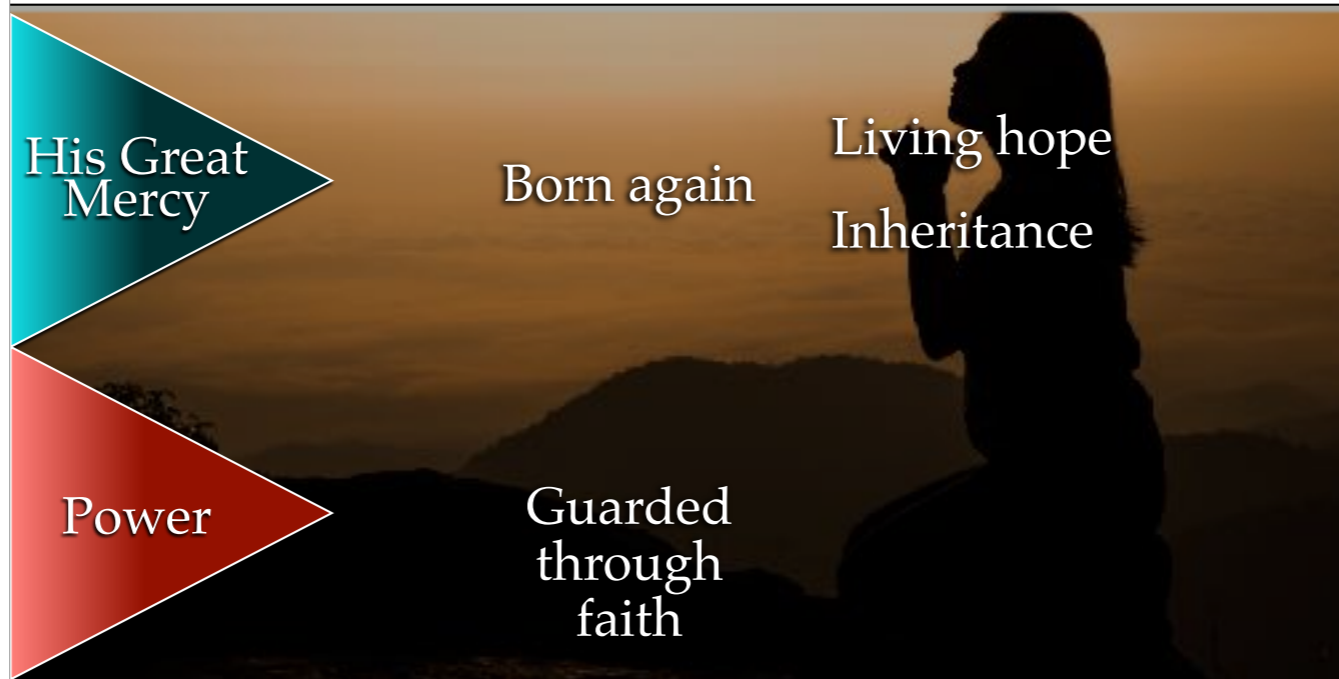
- to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead
 - Twice Paul speaks of those who have no hope ... those who are not believers
 - They know death ... but beyond that is all questions
 - But Jesus was raised from the dead
 - Power of God to raise the dead
 - Jesus spoke of God as the God of the Living not the Dead (Matthew 22)
 - Those who trust in him know that death is not the end

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!



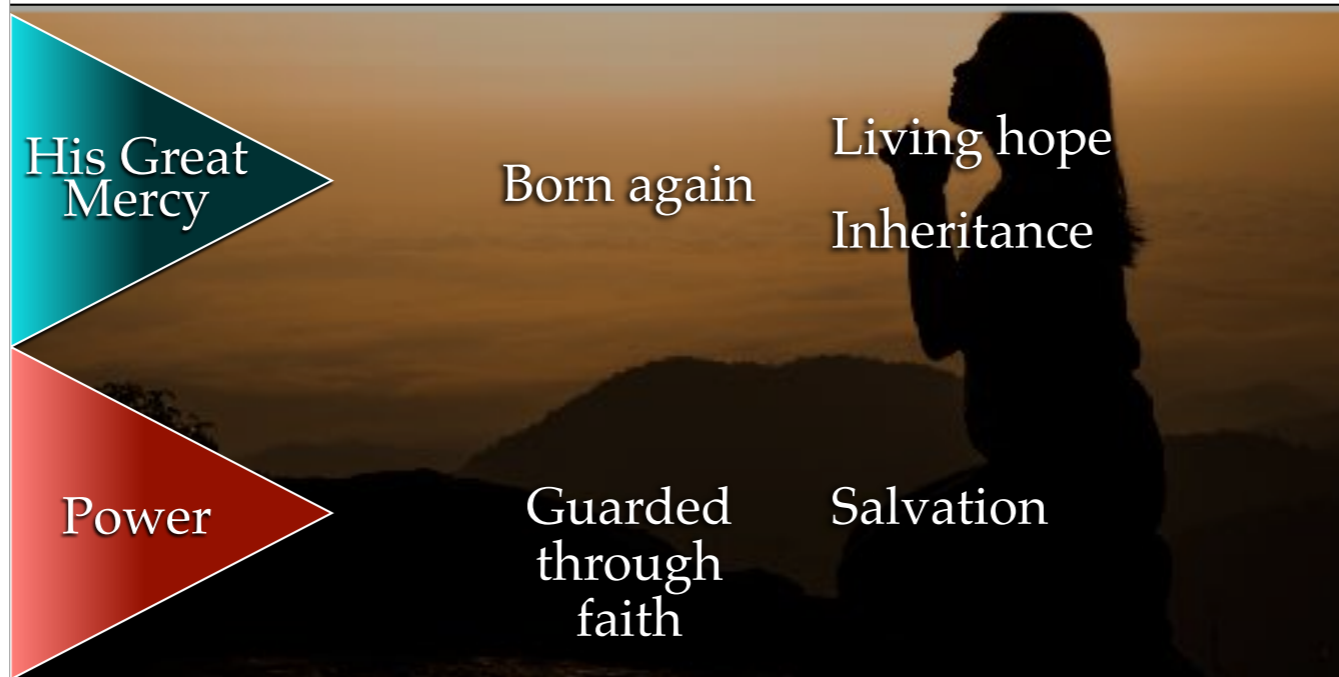
- 4 to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you,
 - Peter also reminds us that is hope is really beyond our understanding, better than we imagine
 - (Harps on clouds, nope)
 - Kept (reserved) — there's a place for you
- Can you praise God for the mercy he shows you and wants to show you?
 - not just that he saved you from your self and your sins
 - but that he has given you hope and assurance.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!



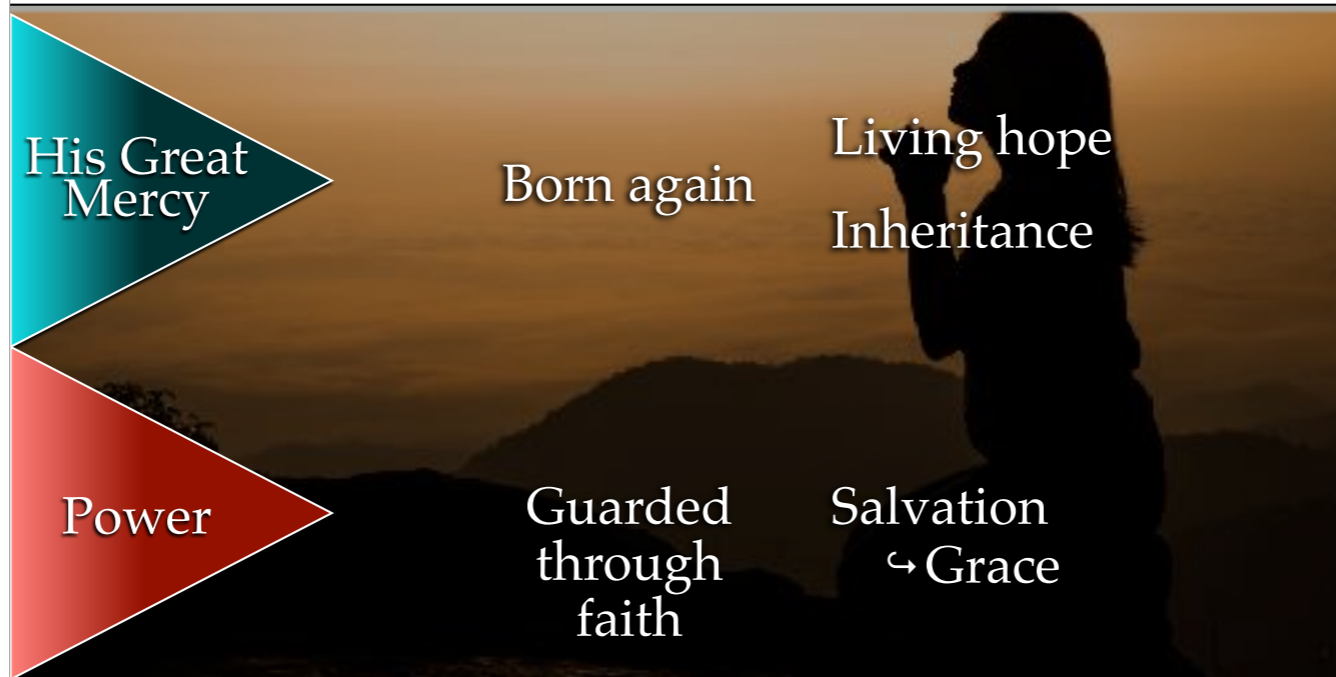
- Power
- 1 Peter 1:5 (ESV) 5 who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.
 - God uses his power for us now.
- We are being guarded.
 - This doesn't mean that we don't have trials (6), nor that we won't die physically.
 - Rather that our salvation is guarded
 - we've put our trust in him
 - he's going to come through with salvation — the living hope and inheritance

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

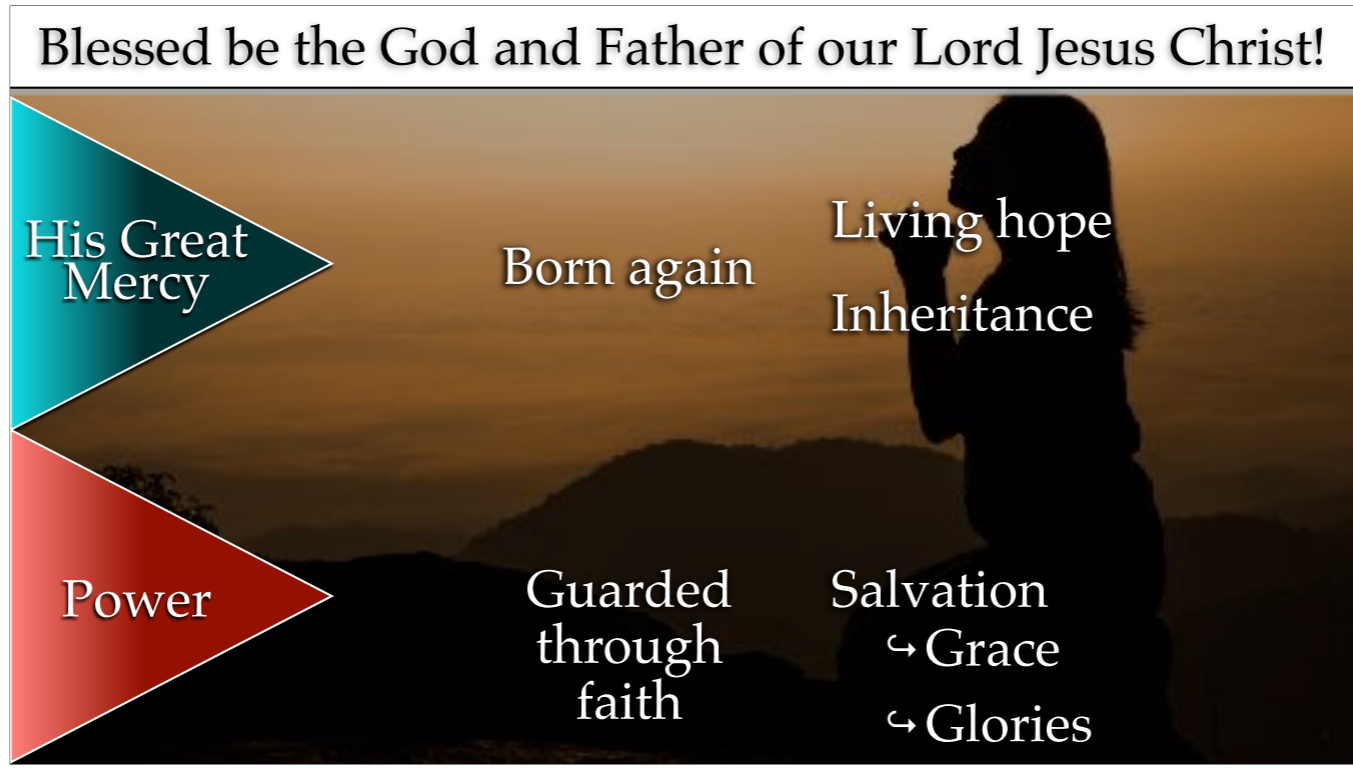


- Our Salvation
 - 5) ready to be revealed in the last time
 - 9) salvation of your souls
- 10-12) Concerning this salvation
 - Paul often speaks of it as a mystery — hasn't been revealed
 - Angels and Prophets wanted to know and understand ...
 - Someone is coming - Messiah - blessed

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!



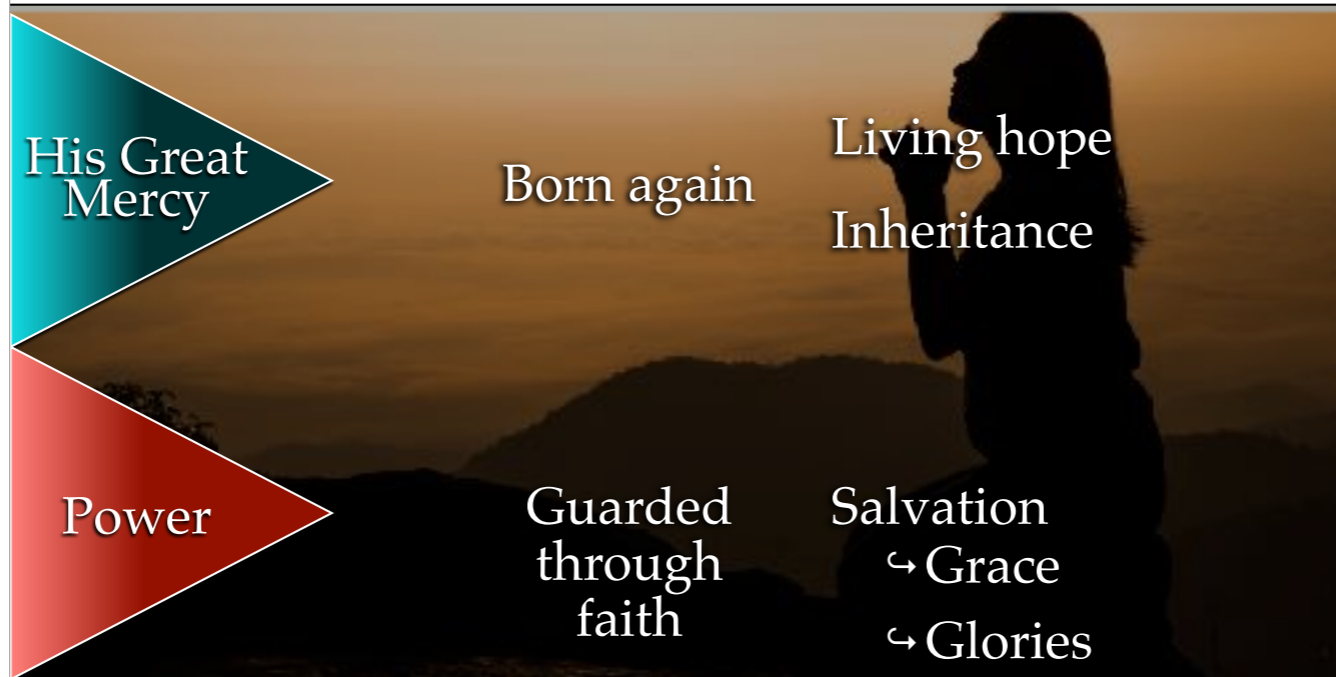
- 10) Grace that was to be yours
 - It's not that God's grace wasn't on constant display for the people of Israel
 - But his grace is now about about more than a land
 - Kingdom of God
 - Forgiveness, Ransomed
 - Relationship



• And glories

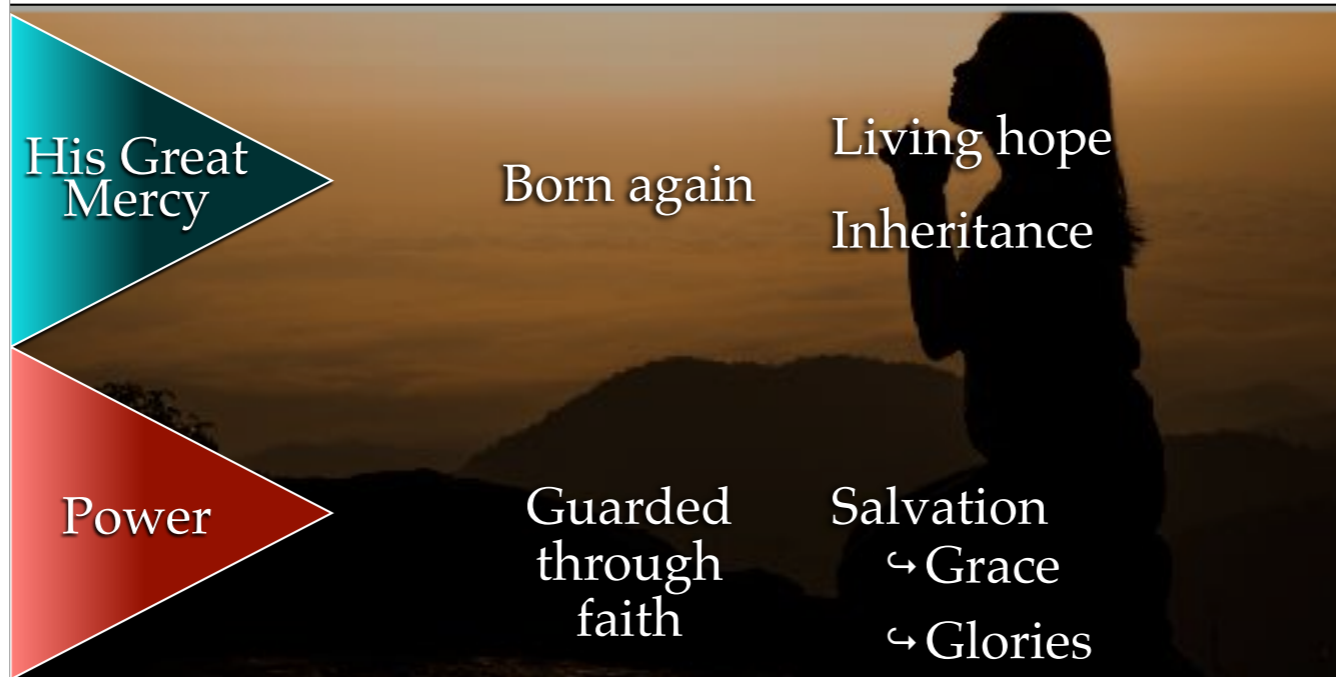
- Our salvation is not just about this life, but about what is to come
- Just as Jesus was glorified by the Father — transfiguration and resurrection
- Our Father plans for us to be glorious also
 - 8) “filled with glory”
 - 2 Corinthians 3:18 And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

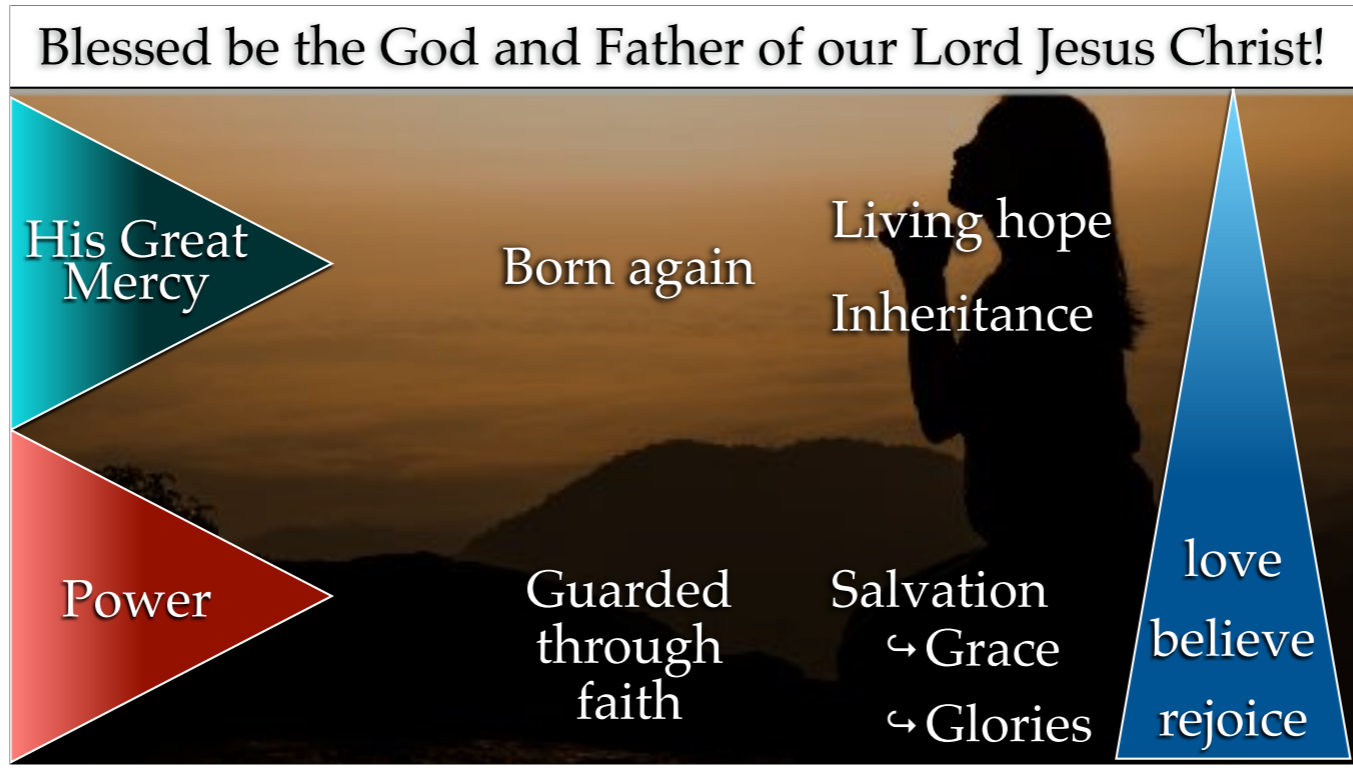


- Through Faith (trust, confidence)
 - 7) tested genuineness of your faith
 - results in praise, glory and honor (from God! for me!)
 - 8) do not now see him — believe in him
 - 9) outcome of your faith: salvation
- Outcome is interesting because we don't often think about faith as having an outcome.
 - Maybe because we often think about faith as “what” I believe.
 - But this is about “who” is believe in — the one who keeps promises
 - Abraham's faith was counted as righteousness (Genesis 15; Romans 5)

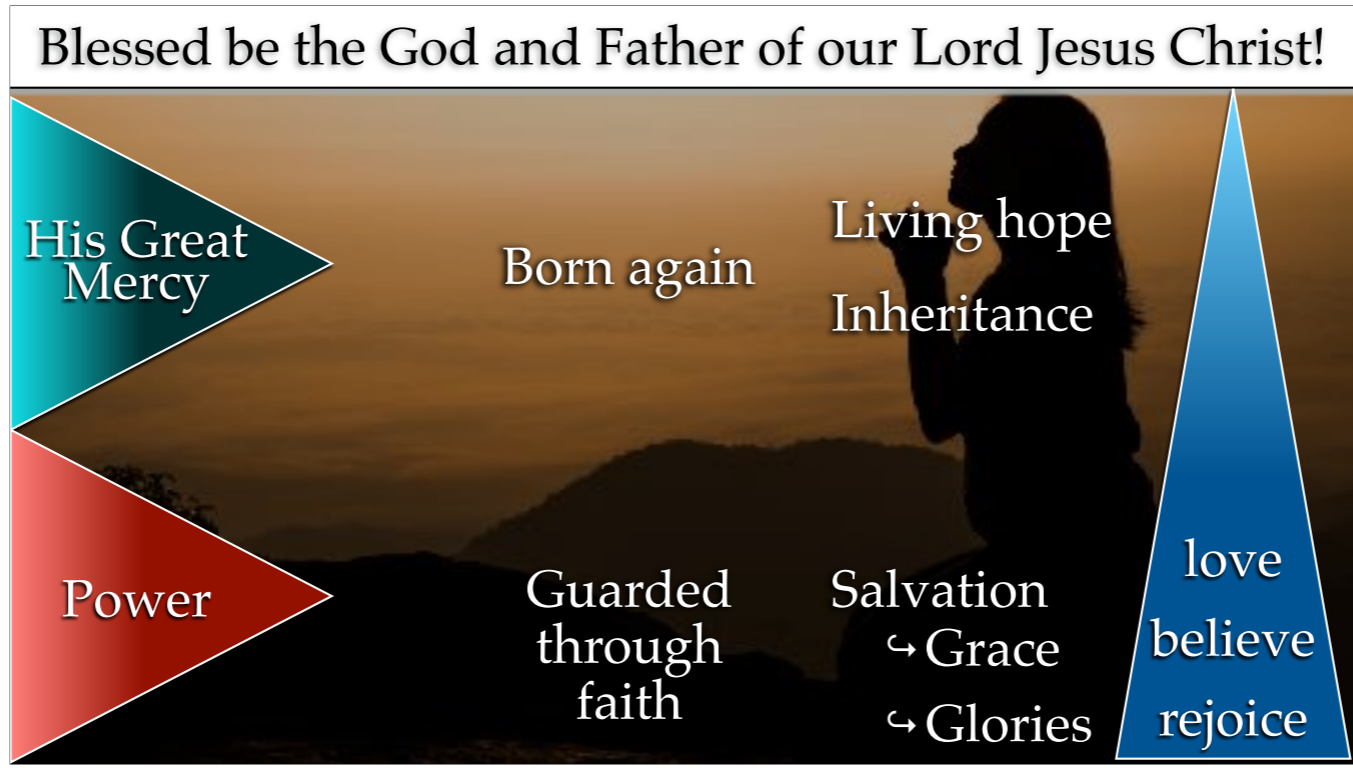
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!



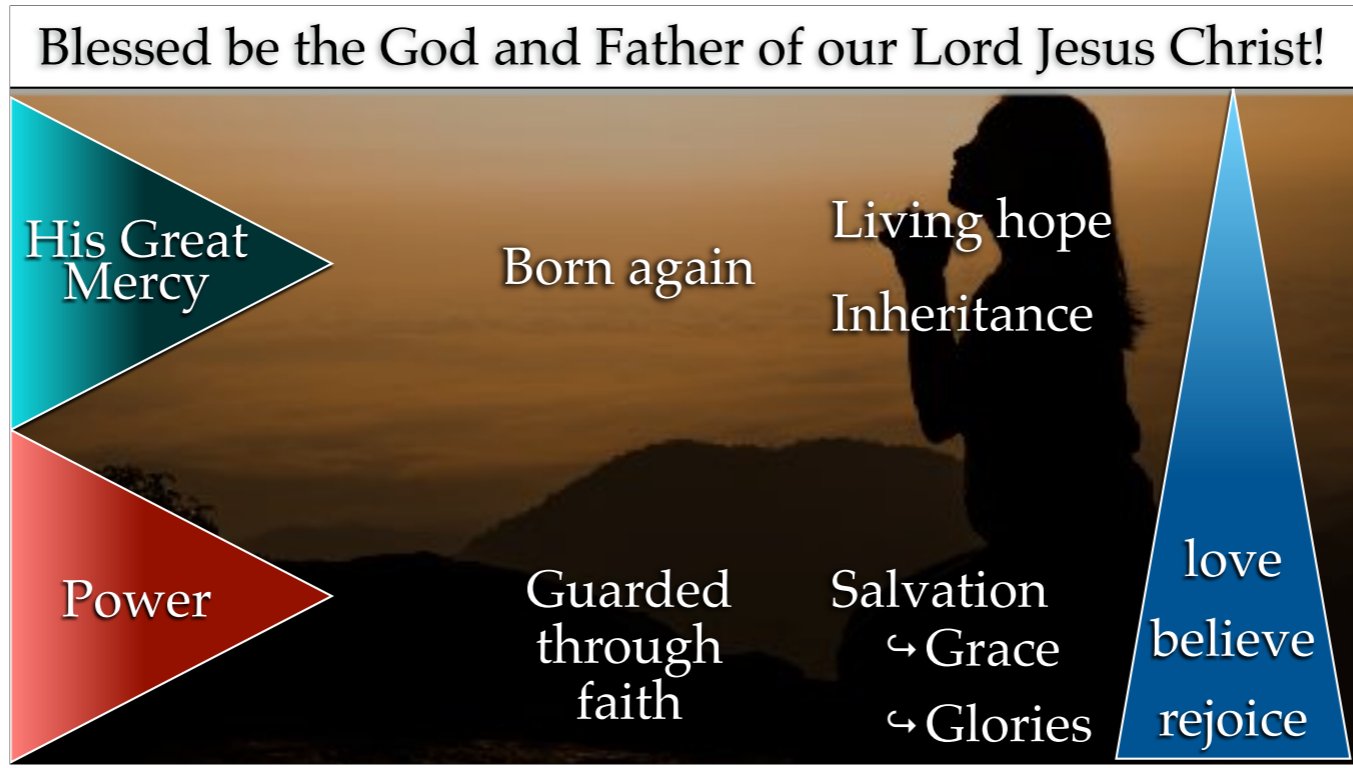
- So God is gracious and merciful.
- Can you speak well of what God's power has done for you?
 - Luke 1:37 For nothing will be impossible with God.
- Perhaps you think that you can't be saved, don't deserve to be forgiven.
 - God has abundant grace for you ... because he asks that you trust him with your soul
 - (It's not about earning your salvation)
 - God has glory planned for you
 - no matter what you have been
 - or you are
 - our God has the power to make you glorious.



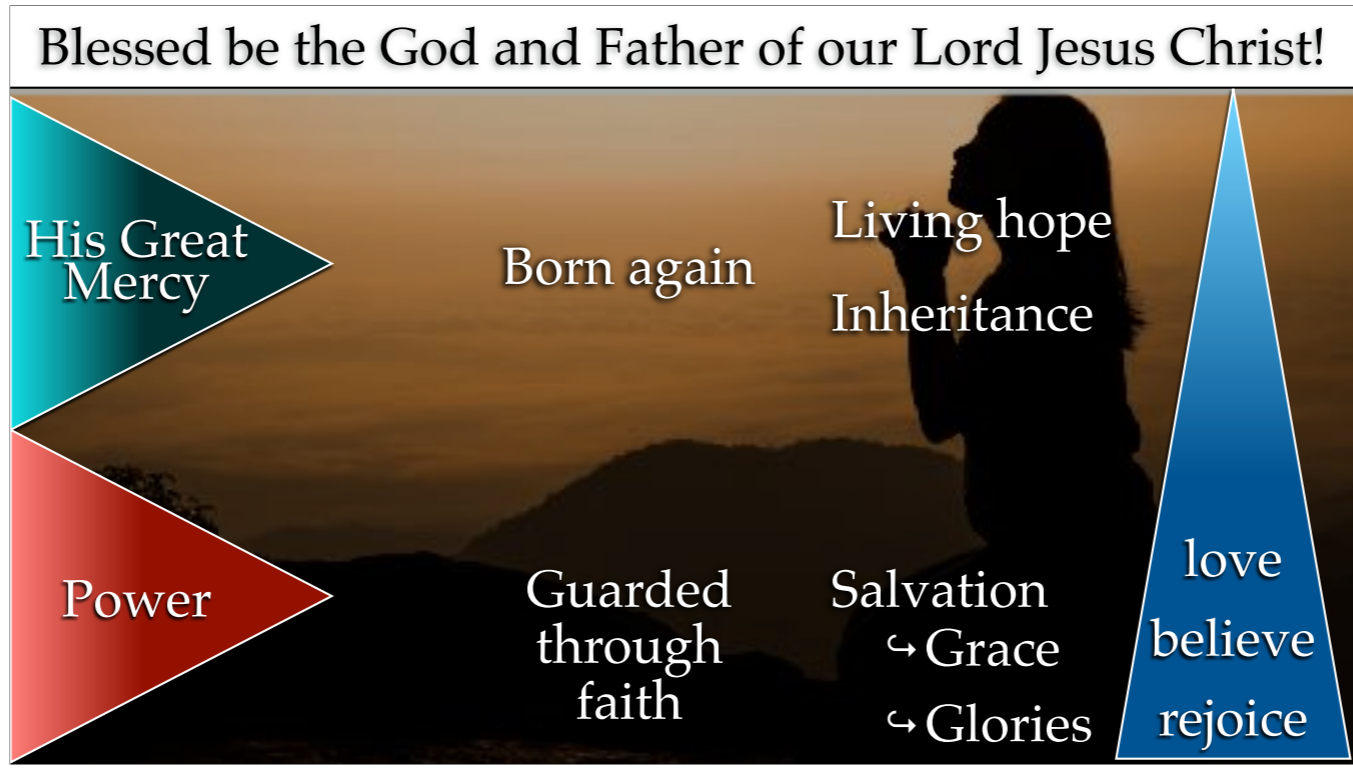
- 1 Peter 1:8
 - Though you have not seen him, you love him.
 - Though you do not now see him, you believe in him
 - and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory,



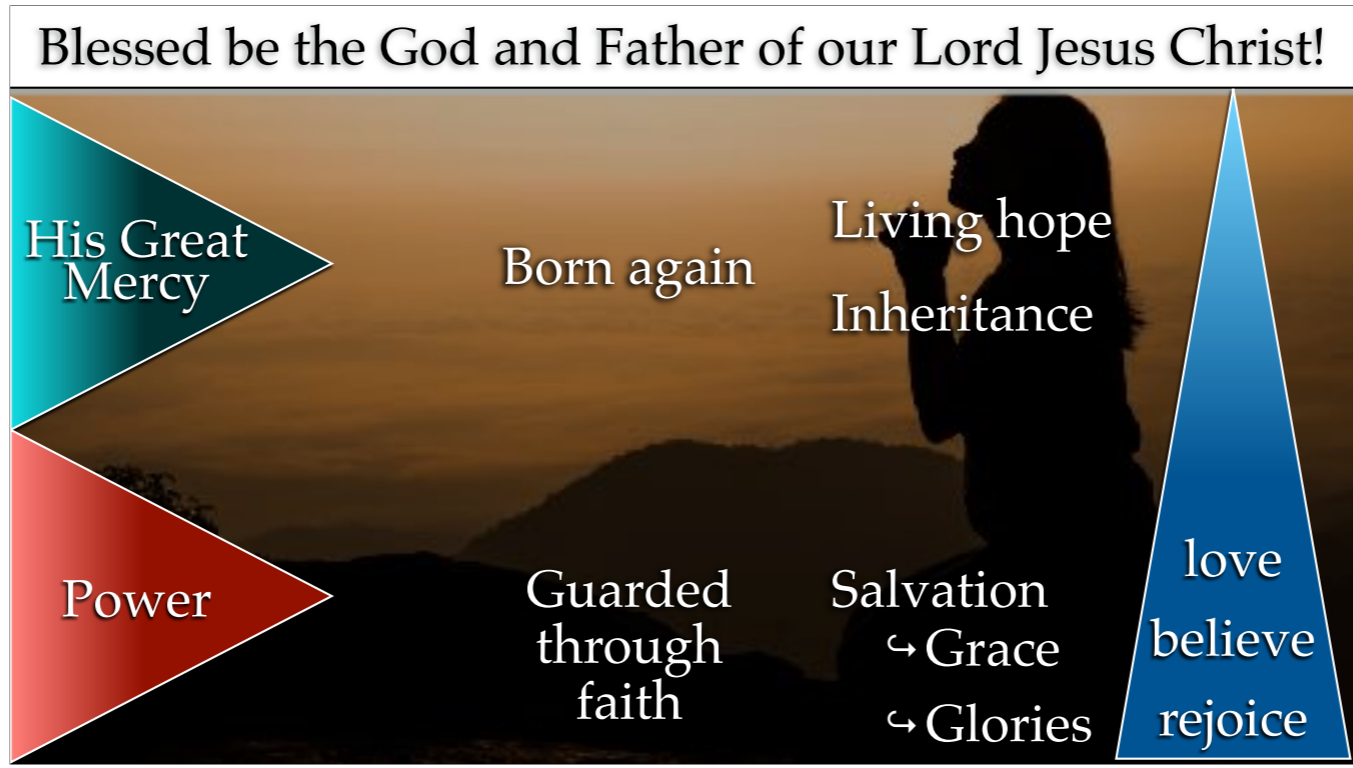
- Love Him
 - 1 John 4:19 (ESV) 19 We love because he first loved us.
 - 9 In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.
 - 1 John 4:20 If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.



- Believe in Him
 - Power of the Scriptures is that they tell the story of our God who wants to have a relationship with us
 - He makes promises and is faithful: over and over we can have confidence in him: what is best for us spiritually.



- Rejoice (6, 8)
 - Peter doesn't act as if we will always be happy, go lucky, never facing hardship
 - We know that we face trials
 - 6) grieved by various trials
 - grieved: made sorrowful, sadness, grief
 - Jesus faced this sorrow in the Garden of Gethsemene
 - We rejoice in our salvation — there's joy and glory for us
 - Can we still praise God when we are sorrowful?
 - We need to ... it reminds us to think bigger than the momentary



- We may be exiles ... but we are elect, chosen exiles who have received the great mercy and power of God.
- So this week, let's work on praising our God
 - His Great Mercy and Power
 - Salvation
 - Living Hope
 - Guarded
 - Love
 - Faith
 - Rejoicing

We implore you
on behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.

2 Corinthians 5:20

Photo Credits:

All photos from istockphoto.com, crestock.com, bigstock.com, dreamtime.com, thinkstock.com, and shutterstock.com are copyright protected. They are used by permission. Please do not reuse without permission.)

123rf.com: 53278619;

True Grace

#01

Compiled and Presented by:
Dave Stewart
2024 January 7
www.1corinthians1614.com

Blessed Be the God and Father

1 Peter 1:1-12

Synopsis: Peter gives the elect exiles reasons to praise God, based on his mercy and power. It is an expression of his grace toward us and the glory he has planned for us. So that we love him, believe in him and rejoice in our salvation in him.

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

“Let all that you do be done with love.”