1 Peter – 1:10-1:16 June 3, 2025

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Lutheran Study Bible

# 1 Peter 1:10-12 – This gift is nothing new

* The importance of the OT.
	+ We must go back to the Old Testament and learn to prove the New Testament from the Old. There we shall see the promise concerning Christ, as Christ Himself declares in John 5:39: “You search the Scriptures … and it is they that bear witness to Me[[1]](#footnote-1)
		- Matthew 13:17
	+ the former pointed to Christ, while the New Testament now gives us what was promised and prefigured in the Old Testament.[[2]](#footnote-2)
		- Romans 16:25-26
		- Matthew 11:5
			* Isaiah 35:5-6
		- Psalm 119:2
			* These people of God were blessed with a desire to literally look to the Scriptures for the promised Messiah.
	+ Revealed to them through the Holy Spirit
		- “The Spirit is and remains Christ’s and the Father’s own Spirit to all eternity, not separated from God’s Son… the entire fulness of the Spirit has been communicated by the personal union to Christ according to the flesh, which is personally united with God’s Son.”[[3]](#footnote-3)
		- The Law and prophets point to Jesus.
* Is it all about you?
	+ We desperately need to be saved in and by Christ alone…
		- But is that great salvation to stay only with you?
	+ The OT prophets were given by the same Spirit the hope of Who and what was to come.
		- Hebrews 11:13
		- A hope to be shared and proclaimed.
			* Matthew 13:17
* “Things which angels long to look.”
	+ “The greatest, holiest mystery of all time – the incarnation and work of Christ – was revealed among humans. Though we may neglect this great treasure, all heaven worships the God of our salvation.”[[4]](#footnote-4)
	+ “What seems to be implied is that this angelic desire points to the greatness of what Christians now hear announced to them, and further underlines one of the author’s main purposes for writing the letter: the readers live in a time firmly under God’s control when history is about to reach its climax. They therefore have reason rather to rejoice than to despair.”[[5]](#footnote-5)
	+ Through the Holy Spirit, who descended on them from heaven, the apostles proclaimed to us great things of the kind the angels like to see.[[6]](#footnote-6)
		- What does this all mean?
			* The amazing gift of faith.
				+ Angels are witnesses of the Triune Lord God and all His works!

They do not need faith.

We do!

* + - * + Because we do not see or experience, faith and Christian hope is all we have!

And it is God’s gift to us!

* + - * + We long for what we do not see…

They long for the gift we have.

* + - St. Peter orders us to close our eyes and see what the Gospel is. This will give us joy and delight. As yet we cannot see this with our physical eyes; but we must believe that we partake of and share in the righteousness, truth, blessedness, and all the good things God has. For since He gave us Christ, His only Son, the highest Good, He, through Him, also gives us all His good things, riches, and treasures, from which the angels in heaven derive all pleasure and joy. All this is offered to us in the Gospel; and if we believe, we necessarily take such joy in it. But while we are living on earth, our joy cannot be perfect like that of the angels. Through faith we are now beginning to feel some of it. In heaven, however, it is so great that no human heart can grasp it. But when we get there, we, too, shall feel it.[[7]](#footnote-7)

# 1 Peter 1:10-12 – How you are going to live

* Don’t pass on the “Therefore”
	+ What comes next grows directly from what we have learned in the previous verses.
* “Bind up the loin of your mind”
	+ Exodus 12:11
	+ Luke 12:35
	+ Isaiah 11:5
		- Why is it important to do such a thing?
			* The physical girding of the loins = chastity of the body.
				+ …one suppresses and overcomes evil lust only through faith.[[8]](#footnote-8)
			* Yet here Peter refers to a spiritual girding of your mind.
				+ Just as one is called to be sexually pure, we are also being called to be spiritually pure.
				+ … if the soul clings to the teachings of men and thus surrenders faith and Christ. St. Peter forbids this here when he tells us to gird the loins of the mind. It is as if he were saying: You have now heard the Gospel and have come to faith. Therefore see to it that you remain in faith and not be moved by false doctrine, that you do not waver and run hither and thither with works.[[9]](#footnote-9)
		- Note how Luther directs this to the temptation of *works righteousness*.
			* Like the Pharisee in Luke 18:11–12, they insist on their understanding and opinion. Mary speaks about them in the *Magnificat*, where she uses the same little word Peter employs here. She says: “He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts” (Luke 1:51), that is, in their understanding[[10]](#footnote-10)
* In addition to making the connection to sexual chastity, one is also called to have a mind in relation to sobriety.
	+ Nothing wrong with a Friday night Old Fashiond or three.
		- Not that kind of sobriety.
	+ As through faith, one becomes righteous, but is not completely rid of evil lusts and temptations, both physical and spiritual.
		- It is a journey and one the Christian is to long for where we live a life completely free from temptations and sin.
		- Therefore the spirit must busy itself daily to tame the flesh and to bring it into subjection, must wrestle with it incessantly, and must take care that it does not repel faith.[[11]](#footnote-11)
			* Physical drunkenness dulls ones ability to think clearly.
			* Satan desires you to become spiritually drunk!
				+ On the ways of the world and your own personal self-righteousness.
	+ Every Christian has their own battle and needs to be self-aware.
		- He must remain reasonable and sensible, and he must see to what extent it is necessary for him to mortify the body. It does no good at all to impose a command about this on a whole crowd or community, since we are so different from one another.[[12]](#footnote-12)
		- It is good to fast. But one fasts in the right way by not giving the body more food than is needed to keep it healthy, and by letting it work and wake, in order that the old ass may not become too reckless, go dancing on the ice, and break a leg but may be bridled and follow the spirit[[13]](#footnote-13)
* Keep your eyes on the prize: Jesus has been revealed to you!
	+ 1 Thessalonians 5:8
	+ 1 John 3:3
	+ Remember that this is a GIFT, not something you earn.
		- You can’t make Jesus come to you by any self-driven means.
	+ We need Jesus!
		- Hence no man should presume to approach Him without this Mediator, as we have heard sufficiently above. For God will listen to no one who does not bring Christ, His dear Son, with him.[[14]](#footnote-14)
			* The gift of the Gospel!
				+ Did Christ ascend to sit and twiddle His thumbs as He watches us to see how well we do on our own?

John 3:17

* + How are you to keep your eyes on Jesus?
* As obedient children…
	+ Ephesians 5:6
	+ He who hears the Gospel and God’s Word, and believes in it, is an obedient child of God. Therefore tread underfoot and care nothing about what is not God’s Word.[[15]](#footnote-15)
* … don’t go back to what you once were!
	+ Titus 3:3-5
	+ Acts 17:30
		- An erroneous belief of the ascension:
			* “Jesus is gone, and we are on our own to save ourselves!”
			* Instead, the Holy Spirit is calling you, by the Gospel, to live a life in faith and works.
	+ As obedient children, how are you to live?
* A holy life!
	+ Holy = set apart.
	+ Leviticus 11:44
		- The little word “holy” designates that which is God’s own and is due to Him alone.[[16]](#footnote-16)
	+ Therefore see to it that you do not let yourselves be led again into the worldly lusts. But let God alone reign, live, and work in you. Then you are holy, just as He is holy[[17]](#footnote-17)
		- Matthew 5:48
		- 1 Thessalonians 4:7
		- Hebrews 12:14
	+ The dangers of a lazy Christian.
		- Now when this is preached, reason comes along and says: “Ah, if this is true, then I need not do a single good work!” Thus stupid minds seize upon this and change Christian life into carnal liberty. They think they should do what they please[[18]](#footnote-18)
		- St. Peter confronts these people here, anticipates them, and teaches them that Christian liberty must be exercised solely over against God. For here nothing else is necessary than faith, that I give God His due honor and regard Him as my God, who is just, truthful, and merciful. Such faith liberates us from sin and all evil. Now when I have given God this honor, then whatever life I live, I live for my neighbor, to serve and help him. The greatest work that comes from faith is this, that I confess Christ with my mouth and, if it has to be, bear testimony with my blood and risk my life. Yet God does not need the work; but I should do it to prove and confess my faith, in order that others, too, may be brought to faith. Then other works will follow. They must all tend to serve my neighbor. All this God must bring about in us.[[19]](#footnote-19)
1. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.12&off=1149&ctx=+do+the+same+thing.+~We+must+go+back+to+t), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 18–19. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.12&off=3306&ctx=ated%2c+is+this%2c+that+~the+former+pointed+t), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 19. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Formula of Concord, Solid Declaration VIII 73, as quoted in the Lutheran Study Bible, 2149. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. LSB, 2150. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Achtemeier, 112. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.12&off=11122), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 24. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.12&off=14285&ctx=angels+like+to+see.+~St.+Peter+orders+us+), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 24–25. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.16&off=1085&ctx=is+loins.%E2%80%9D+That+is%2c+~one+suppresses+and+o), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 26. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.16&off=1549&ctx=nd+whoring%2c+that+is%2c~+if+the+soul+clings+), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 26. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.16&off=2890&ctx=ed+up+and+arrogant.+~Like+the+Pharisee+in), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 26–27. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.16&off=3557&ctx=+do+what+they+want.+~Therefore+the+spirit), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 27. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.16&off=4917&ctx=body+with+gluttony.+~He+must+remain+reaso), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 27. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.16&off=5838&ctx=ent+and+lascivious.+~It+is+good+to+fast.+), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 28. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.16&off=8399&ctx=han+through+Christ.+~Hence+no+man+should+), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 29. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.16&off=12098&ctx=ience+of+the+devil.+~He+who+hears+the+Gos), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 31. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.16&off=15102&ctx=l+says+(Gal.+3%3a27).%0a~The+little+word+%E2%80%9Chol), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 32. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.16&off=15287&ctx=+to+God+as+His+own.+~Therefore+see+to+it+), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 32. [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
18. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.16&off=15810&ctx=+of+any+help+to+us.+~Now+when+this+is+pre), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 32. [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
19. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.16&off=16053&ctx=o+what+they+please.+~St.+Peter+confronts+), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 32–33. [↑](#footnote-ref-19)