

PRECIOUS THINGS

INTRODUCTION:

- A. When we want to express something of great VALUE or something dear to our hearts, we use the word precious.
- B. Peter used this word to describe some things within the Christian system that should be precious to us.
 - C. When something is precious we should cherish it, possess it, and never let it go.
 - D. In this lesson, let's notice six things that the apostle Peter described to be precious.

I. Precious Christ

I Peter 2:7

7

Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, Ps 118:22 Matt 21:42 Mark 12:10 Luke 20:17 Acts 4:11 Eph 2:20

A. World is filled with men, only one Savior.

B. Only precious to those who believe in Him

I Peter 2:7

7

Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, Ps 118:22 Matt 21:42 Mark 12:10 Luke 20:17 Acts 4:11 Eph 2:20

C. Why is He so precious?

1. He is always with the faithful

Matthew 28:20

20

Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

2. He is our daily strength

Philippians 4:13

13

I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

3. He is our creator and sustainer

Colossians 1:15-17

15

Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:

16

For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

17

And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

4. He is our High Priest

Hebrews 2:17

17

Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.

5. He is our avenue to help in a time of need

Hebrews 4:16

16

Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

6. He is our Exodus leader

Hebrews 3

1

Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus;

2

Who was faithful to him that appointed him, as also Moses was faithful in all his house.

3

For this man was counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as he who hath builded the house hath more honour than the house.

4

For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God.

5

And Moses verily was faithful in all his house, as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken after;

6

But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the

rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.

7

Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, [To day if ye will hear his voice](#), Psa 95:7

8

Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness: [Psa 95:8](#)

9

When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years. [Psa 95:9](#)

10

Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in their heart; and they have not known my ways. [Psa 95:10](#)

11

So I sware in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest.) [Psa 95:11](#)

12

Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.

13

But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

14

For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end;

15

While it is said, [To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation](#). Psa 95:7,8

16

For some, when they had heard, did provoke: howbeit not all that came out of Egypt by Moses.

17

But with whom was he grieved forty years? was it not with them that had sinned, whose carcasses fell in the wilderness?

18

And to whom sware he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that believed not?

19

So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.

a. Freed us from the bondage of sin.

[John 8:32](#)

32

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

7. He is our commander and chief

Matthew 28:18-20

18

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

19

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

20

Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

D. Unless Christ is precious to you, you cannot expect to be saved.

II. Precious Blood

I Peter 1:18,19

18

Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;

19

But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

A. Blood that redeemed - bought back:

1. Ephesians 1:7 - "In whom we have our redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespassing according to the riches of his grace."
2. We sold ourselves to sin, Jesus bought us back

I Corinthians 6:19,20

19

What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

20

For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

B. Jesus was the better sacrifice

Hebrews 10:1-14

1

For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect.

2

For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins.

3

But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year.

4

For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.

5

Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me: Psa 40:6

6

In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure. Psa 40:6

7

Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God. Psa 40:7

8

Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law; Psa 40:6

9

Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second. Psa 40:7

10

By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

11

And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins:

12

But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

13

From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool.

14

For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.

C. Revelation 1:5 - "Unto him who loveth us, and loosed us from our sins by his blood."

5

And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,

III. Precious Stone

I Peter 2:4

4

To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious,

A. Jews held much stock in stones.

1. Notice the symbolism to describe the Church

Revelation 21:19,20

19

And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, a chalcedony; the fourth, an emerald;

20

The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, a topaz; the tenth, a chrysoprasus; the eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst.

B. The prophecy of Isaiah 28:16

16

Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste. Rom 9:33 Isa 8:14 Rom 10:11 1 Pet 2:6

1 Peter 2:6

6

Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. Isa 28:16 Rom 9:33

1. Remember the little stone cut out without hands

Daniel 2:34, 45

34

Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces.

35

Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.

36

This is the dream; and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the king.

37

Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory.

38

And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he

given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou art this head of gold.

39

And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee, and another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth.

40

And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things: and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise.

41

And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay.

42

And as the toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken.

43

And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay.

44

And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

45

Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

C. Christ is a living stone, Christians are living stones built upon Him.

[1 Peter 2:4,5](#)

4

To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious,

5

Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

1. House growing up in Christ:

a. [Ephesians 2:19-22](#)

19

Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;

20

And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; [Ps 118:22](#) [Matt 21:42](#) [Mark 12:10](#) [Luke 20:17](#) [Acts 4:11](#) [1 Pet 2:7](#)

21

In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord:

22

In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

b. [Ephesians 4:15,16](#)

15

But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

16

From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

D. No other foundation can be laid

[I Corinthians 3:11](#)

11

For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

IV. Precious Faith

[II Peter 1:1](#)

1

Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:

A. Precious because it is essential to salvation

[Hebrews 11:6](#)

6

But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

B. Precious because obtained through the Word

[Romans 10:17](#)

17

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

C. Precious because it gives life another dimension - The "Eye of faith" sees other realms.

V. Precious Trials of Your Faith

I Peter 1:6,7

6

Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:

7

That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

A. Trials are to make your faith strong

James 1:2-4

2

My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;

3

Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

4

But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

B. We must be mature people - God has something greater in store for us.

C. Those who understand this do not "fall away" when troubles arise, but grow stronger.

VI. Precious Promises

II Peter 1:4

4

Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

A. Exceeding great - Not silver, streets of gold, huge mansions.

B. Our promises:

1. I Peter 1:3-5

6

Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:

7

That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

a. Living hope - resurrection.

b. Inheritance - joint-heirs

Romans 8:17

17

And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

c. Non-materialistic - "fades not away".

d. Guarded by Power of God.

e. Assurance of Salvation - Salvation ready.

C. The Lord will give what he promised:

1. II Peter 3:9 - not slack.

9

The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

2. Hebrews 10:23 - "let us hold fast the confession of our hope that it waver not; for he is faithful that promised."

23

Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

CONCLUSION:

A. Precious things are precious only to those who love them most.

B. Think about "precious memories".