



"And in their deaths, they were also made the subject of sport. For they were covered with the hides of wild beasts and mauled to death by dogs, or nailed to crosses, or set fire to and when day declined burned to serve as nocturnal lights." - Tacitus, Roman historian

Question: What is the greatest defect among American Christians?

Response: "They have an inadequate view of suffering." – Helmut Thielicke

1 Peter 1:1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,

To God's elect, exiles scattered throughout the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, <sup>2</sup> who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with his blood:

Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

<sup>3</sup> Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, 5 who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup> In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials.

### We have a Living Hope

<sup>3</sup> In his great mercy he has given us new birth into <u>a living</u> hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

- 13 ... set your <u>hope</u> on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming.
- <sup>21</sup> Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

#### We have a permanent inheritance

<sup>4</sup> an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you,

### We have divine protection

<sup>5</sup> (We) ... are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

<sup>1:6</sup> So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. (NLT)