

What are we afraid of?

Intro:

1 pet 4:12-5:11

Why are we so surprised?

Nothing strange is happening to us when we suffer - we are called to rejoice...but how?

Problem:

1 pet 1:3-9

Peter wrote this to a people under intense persecution reminding them of a guarantee more certain than death...

Main Idea:

This fact

Is our assurance in the face of persecution

Is our conviction in the midst of compromise

Implication:

2 pet 3

His resume is perfect

Application:

1 thess 4:9-5:11

What are we afraid of?

Articles for further study:

<https://www.gotquestions.org/living-hope.html>

<https://www.cru.org/content/dam/cru/legacy/2012/04/wadepersécutionintheearlychurch.pdf>

What are we afraid of?

Text:

This fact

1Corinthians 15:20 ¶ But **in fact** Christ has been raised from the dead, the **firstfruits** of those who have fallen asleep.

1Corinthians 15:21 For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.

1Corinthians 15:22 For as in Adam all die, **so also in Christ** shall all be made **alive**.

1Corinthians 15:23 But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.

1Corinthians 15:24 Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power.

1Corinthians 15:25 For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.

1Corinthians 15:26 The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

1Corinthians 15:27 For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet." But when it says, "all things are put in subjection," it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him.

1Corinthians 15:28 When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that **God may be all in all**.

dan 12:1-2 (everyone raised...everlasting life or everlasting contempt)

rev 20:1-21:8 (all things - a new future (firstfruits a preview of harvest) but that's not all...)

rom 5:12-21 (death no longer reigns...over us)

gen 5 - (death is a certainty - new certainty)

(death ruins everything He has delivered us through a new certainty - a new present)

(jn 11:17-27 - we have a better certainty - He is the res and the life)

(jn 2:1-11 - all things in subjection to Him - this is how we rejoice - two certainties death and resurrection)

Is our assurance in the face of persecution

1Corinthians 15:29 ¶ **Otherwise**, what do people mean by being baptized on behalf of (**because of**) the dead? (**A description not a prescription**) If the dead are not raised at all, **why** are people baptized on their behalf?

1Corinthians 15:30 **Why** are we in danger every hour?

1Corinthians 15:31 I protest, brothers, by my pride in you, which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, **I die every day!**

1Corinthians 15:32 **What do I gain** if, humanly speaking, I fought with beasts at Ephesus? If the dead are not raised, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die."

job 19:23-27 (our assurance in the face of death)

lk 12:4-7 (the power of persecution comes from fear of death- we are free of this power)

heb 2:10-15 (but now we have nothing to fear)

heb 11:1-3, 11-12:2 (this fact is our assurance in the face of death and persecution)

rom 8:11-39 (who cares if big tech is gassing us, if governments are against us etc...one with God is a majority)

Is our conviction in the midst of compromise

1Corinthians 15:33 **Do not be deceived: "Bad company** ruins good morals."

1Corinthians 15:34 **Wake up** from your drunken stupor, as is right, and **do not go on sinning**. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame.

2 Tim 3:1-4:8 (where did we get the idea things were going to get better and better? We have trade truth for therapy, the living Word for life coaches...we need this certainty to fulfill this mission and not another)

2 Pet 3 (and His resume is flawless)

1 thess 4:9-5:11 (what are we afraid of)