

1Peter Secure

A Divine Protection

¹Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,
 To those who reside as aliens,
 scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia,
 and Bithynia,
 who are chosen ²according to the foreknowledge of God the Father,
 by the sanctifying work of the Spirit,
 to obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with His blood:
 May grace and peace be yours in fullest measure.
³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
 who according to His great mercy
 has caused us to born again to a living hope
 through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
⁴to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled
 and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,
⁵who are protected by the power of God through faith
 for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.
(1Peter 1:1-5)

This Scripture ...

Describes our salvation as something God has initiated.

The Father chose us for salvation

The Spirit sanctified us, that is He implemented salvation in us

The Son was the means which accomplished salvation for us

Today we will look into our protected salvation

1. Our Hope is Protected

Born again to a living hope.

Because of Christ's resurrection our salvation is protected – it is called a living hope

Elpiso is a description of a certain hope,

Because Christ is alive so our hope is alive.

We were born again to a living hope!

2. Our Inheritance is protected.

⁴to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled
and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

This verse describes our inheritance as eternal and reserved in heaven.
Our eternal inheritance is guarded in heaven for us.

It is “vaulted – kept in a safe - until our arrival.”

No one can get past God’s security system - GSS

Reserved Inheritance for Preserved Saints

3. All Saints are Protected

– believers are kept in this life for their ultimate salvation.

A Divine Protection – We will arrive safely in heaven.

“...reserved in heaven for you,

⁵who are **protected** by the power of God through faith
for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Three parts to this verse:

- The promised inheritance is kept safe for the heirs in heaven;
- The heirs are kept safe until they arrive in heaven to claim their inheritance;
- The time is coming when inheritance, heirs and salvation is to be revealed.

New Living Translation:

⁵And through your faith, God is protecting you by his power until you
receive this salvation, which is ready to be revealed on the last day
for all to see.

The hymn writer says,

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come.

‘Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

John Newton

God’s Power and Our Protection

The NIV translates this as “**shielded by God’s power**”.

We can only imagine shields from Sy-Fy shows.

Imagine a powerful shield surrounding believers as they go through life on their way to heaven. No matter what someone goes through on earth they can be secure in their relationship with Christ. They are protected by the power of God.

Wuest writes,

“While our inheritance is being kept guarded in heaven under the watchful eye of God, we are being garrisoned about by God’s protecting care for it. The guard is never changed. It is on duty twenty-four hours a day, year in and year out until we arrive safe in heaven.”¹

John says,

“...but He [Jesus] who was born of God keeps him,
and the evil one does not touch him.” (1 John 5:18).

Paul wrote,

“I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.” (Phil. 1:6).

Paul confidently affirms in Roman’s 8:38-39, that...

“**Nothing** can separate us from the love of God found in Jesus our Lord.”

This chapter begins with “**no condemnation**”

and ends with “**no separation**”.

In-between there is **no defeat** for those in-Christ,

who are “**more than conquerors**” (hyper-niki), (v. 37)

One of my more argumentative friends always attacks my belief in God’s keeping power. One time I asked him if he raised his children to fear being kicked out of the family every time they did something wrong. Not good psychology...

God’s Power and Our Faith

⁵who are protected by the power of God **through faith**

When we put our faith in Christ we received justification.

¹ Kenneth S. Wuest, *Wuest’s Word Studies in the Greek New Testament, Vol. Two*, (1 Peter in the Greek New Testament), (Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1966), p. 22.

We are receiving our sanctification – victory over sin and spiritual growth.
 We will receive our ultimate salvation waiting for us in Glory.
 We are being protected by our faith along the way.

Faith Relationship

Wuest clarifies this concept,

“Our faith lays hold of this power, and this power strengthens our faith, and thus we are preserved.”²

When a baby is born into a family the parents provide what the baby needs on the way to adulthood. Protection is a part of that provision.

Our protection is God’s response to our faith.

When Christ returns we will experience the fullness of our salvation.

4. Salvation’s Fullness Experienced.

Wuest’s Lit translation:

“...inheritance has been laid up and is now kept guarded in safe deposit in heaven for you, who are constantly being kept guarded by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time”

When Christ returns past saints will be resurrected and meet the Lord in the air.

Then living saints will be caught up and join them.

At that time our bodies will be changed; they will be glorified.

While we are in this life our experience is continual danger – spiritually, physically, in every way. By faith we look for and long for Christ’s return.

Vs 13 says:

“...fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”

Peter’s again makes reference to this ultimate salvation:

“...to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation.” (4:13)

² Wuest, op sit.

My friend Ken received two knee replacements this last year. Growing older is one of the unavoidable aspects of this life. You can run. You can hide and even deny it, but it won't matter. Age with all its maladies always wins. Like gravity. No matter who challenges it, gravity always keeps the first place trophy. So age comes slowly, progressively, and without fail. Aging is here and has always been, but not forever.

Security is knowing that God will never leave us nor forsake us and the whatever we give to Him will become an eternal treasure.

Gk amerimnos – “freedom from anxiety and care”

David Brainerd said,
“As long as I see any thing to be done for God, life is worth having; but O how vain and unworthy it is to live for any lower end.”

Insecurity is the result of expecting from people or things what only God can give.

Security is building our life around that which can never be destroyed or taken away. On this basis, only God, His Word, and eternal things qualify.

“Now to Him who I able to keep you from stumbling and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion and authority, be fore all time and now and forever. Amen.” (Jude 24-25)