

You've Been Born Again To A Living Hope

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➤ Intro:

- Peter tells us **we've been born again to a living hope (1 Pet. 1:3) – embrace**
- **this lesson: explore this living hope** we have, that keeps us striving to please God in everything we do

➤ When you obeyed Jesus, you were **sprinkled with Him blood!** – washed – embrace

- **1 Pet. 1:2** obeyed Jesus, **sprinkled with His blood**

- - **1 Pet. 1:18-19** **redeemed** (bought back) with the precious **blood of the lamb**
 - **Heb. 12:24** **sprinkled** with the **blood of Christ**, not blood of animals
- - **Rev. 12:11** therefore you are **empowered to overcome Satan and sin**, through **blood**
- - **Rev. 19:11-13** **victory** through **Christ's blood, Word**
- - **Rev. 7:14** **washed** in the **blood of the Lamb**, eternal life in heaven

- - **1 Pet. 1:22a** you obeyed Jesus **by obeying the truth**
- - **1 Pet. 1:14a illus.:** **as obedient children – Jesus, be converted and become like children**
- **Jn. 17:17** the **truth is the word of God**

- - **Matt. 26:28** **made possible** by Jesus' **sacrifice** on the cross – **shed blood, for remission of sins**
- - **Heb. 9:11-12, 14** Jesus **offered Himself to God**, obtained **eternal redemption**, blood of Christ **cleanses your conscience** from dead works to serve the living God
- - **1 Pet. 3:21** occurs when **baptized, appeal to God for clean conscience**, resurrection of Christ
- **Rev. 7:14** **washed in the blood** of the lamb
- **illus.:** #289, **When I See The Blood, I will pass over you**
- - **1 Cor. 11:23-26** **Lord's Supper reminder** of all these things

➤ When you were **baptized**, you were **born again to a living hope!** – two chapters in the Bible have the phrase “born again” – Jn. 3; 1

Pet 1

- **1 Pet. 1:2-3a, 23** born again, living hope, when obey Jesus, sprinkled with His blood – **embrace**
- - **Jn. 1:12** born of God, became a Christian, because receive (authority) Jesus
- - **Jn. 3:3, 5** born of water and Spirit – **Acts 2:38** – **baptized** – **1 Pet. 3:21**
- 3 - **PP - 2 Cor. 5:17** (new creation); **Rom. 6:3-4** (bap., newness of life); **Col. 2:12-13** (bap., made alive together with Christ)
 - **illus.: Prodigal Son**, repented and confessed, father said, “for this son of mine **was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found**” – born again – **Rom. 6; Col. 2**
 - **born again: obey Jesus, baptized, sprinkled with His blood, redeemed from sin, come to life**

- - **1 Pet. 1:3b** through the resurrection of Jesus Christ
- 2 - **PP - 1 Pet. 1:3 / 1 Pet. 3:21** analyze “through resurrection of Jesus Christ”
 - **when baptized, born again and have living hope**

- **Blessings and Result: of being born again and having a living hope** – **embrace**
 - **1 Pet. 1:4-5** blessings you have as a Christian – **this is your living hope** – living because Jesus lives and you live
 - **vs. 4 inheritance:** imperishable, undefiled, not fade away
 - **vs. 5 protected by the power of God:** through faith, for salvation

- - **1 Pet. 1:6, 8, 9** result: you rejoice because of the outcome of your faith – **salvation** – **living hope**
 - **vs. 6** rejoice: even when **experiencing trials**
 - **vs. 8** **inexpressible joy:** because **love** Jesus and **believe** in Him
 - **vs. 9** because of **salvation**

➤ **Are you embracing your life – your “living hope”?** – embrace

- **illus. NBA basketball: – not embraced and failed**

- **last Sunday night (2-10-08), the Cleveland Cavaliers lost to the Denver Nuggets** for the 5th straight time

- **after the game, Mike Brown, Cavaliers’ coach said:**

- “The tough part about it is, I thought we could have at least played harder or fought back. If they hit threes, great. If they score, great. But I’m going to knock somebody’s head off, I’m going to grab somebody, I’m going to set a hard screen and knock somebody down. **We didn’t embrace who we’re trying to be. . . .**

- **illus.: mother of daughters with muscular dystrophy – embraced life and succeeded**

- Beverly Beckham, 2/3/08, Boston Globe, wrote story about **Louise Nolan who died at 88**

- **Louise** was in her **60's** with **two wheelchair bound twin daughters in their 40's**, when Beverly met her

- living with husband in **house that was too small, with 2 wheelchairs** in it – **smiling and happy**

- Beverly tells the story of their **life, full of tragedy**, as Louise took care of her sick husband before he died, with help from the twin girls in wheelchairs – all happy

- **Beverly makes this observation about Louise:**

- “**She didn’t say I wish I had a bigger house. I wish we had money. I wish the girls could do this. I wish for that. She embraced her life and was grateful for all the good people in it.**”

- **application:**

- **Are you embracing your life, grateful for it, and for the people in it** – God, Jesus, brethren, family?

- **Are you embracing your living hope?** – salvation, inheritance, protection by God’s power through faith

- **Are you succeeding as a Christian, because you’re embracing your life** – born again, living hope?

➤ **Inv.**

- **if you’re not a faithful Christian. . . . – embrace a new life, born again, living hope, inheritance, protected by the power of God**