

# **Dr. David Bauer, Inductive Bible Study, Session 30, 1 Peter 1:3-12 Resources from NotebookLM**

1) Abstract, 2) Audio podcast, 3) Briefing Document, 4) Study Guide, and 5) FAQs

## **1. Abstract of Bauer, Inductive Bible Study, Session 30, 1 Peter 1:3-12, Biblicalelearning.org, BeL**

Dr. David Bauer's lecture on Inductive Bible Study analyzes 1 Peter 1:3-12, **identifying key structural elements** and thematic connections within the passage. He **divides the text into units and subunits**, exploring the concepts of **God's blessedness**, the **Christian experience of rebirth and hope**, and the **superior status of Christians compared to prophets and angels**. Bauer **highlights the significance of themes** such as **rejoicing amidst suffering**, the **future orientation of Christian hope**, and the **relationship between Old and New Testament revelation**. The lecture ultimately aims to illuminate how this passage forms the foundation for the rest of 1 Peter's exhortations.

**2. 17 - minute Audio Podcast Created on the basis of Dr. Bauer, Inductive Bible Study, Session 30 – Double click icon to play in Windows media player or go to the Biblicalelearning.org [BeL] Site and click the audio podcast link there (Introduction & Languages → Introductory Series → Inductive Bible Study).**



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### 3. Briefing Document: Bauer, Inductive Bible Study, Session 30, 1 Peter 1:3-12

Okay, here is a detailed briefing document summarizing the key themes and ideas from the provided lecture by Dr. David Bauer on 1 Peter 1:3-12:

#### Briefing Document: 1 Peter 1:3-12 - Dr. David Bauer

##### I. Introduction

- This lecture analyzes 1 Peter 1:3-12, a foundational passage for the rest of the book, according to Dr. Bauer. It's structured around a declaration of God's blessedness (1:3a) and the substantiation of this declaration (1:3b-12).
- The substantiation is divided into two main units: the Christian's experience (1:3b-9) and the Christian's advantage over previous messengers (1:10-12).

##### II. Overall Structure & Key Themes

- **Blessed be God:** The passage begins by declaring, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ" (1:3a). This is the effect, and the rest of the passage explains the cause or reasons why God should be blessed.
- **Christian Experience (1:3b-9):** This is further broken into two parts:
- **Rebirth to Hope and Inheritance (1:3b-5):** Christians have been "born anew" to a "living hope" through the resurrection of Jesus, and to an imperishable inheritance.
- **Positive Response Amidst Trials (1:6-9):** Despite present trials, Christians can rejoice because their faith is being tested, and they have a future salvation.
- **Christian Advantage (1:10-12):** Also, divided in two parts:
- **Privileged over Prophets (1:10-12a):** Christians experience the salvation that prophets only foretold and serve to declare.
- **Privileged over Angels (1:12b):** Angels also serve and declare to Christians the mysteries of salvation, which they themselves long to look into.
- **Comparison with Christ:** A key theme is the comparison between the experiences of Christians and Christ. Both face suffering but are destined for future glory. This is not mere parallel but connected because Christ has already experienced the suffering and glory.

- **Contrast:** The passage emphasizes a contrast between the present "trials and sufferings" and the "future glory and salvation" awaiting believers.
- **Causation:** Faith amidst trials is a cause for salvation. Salvation is understood as both present rejoicing and future praise, honor, and glory.
- **Recurrence:** There's a recurring theme of comparison and contrast. Christians are contrasted with prophets and angels: Christians experience salvation while prophets and angels declare and serve this salvation.

### III. Detailed Analysis

- **Blessing God (1:3a):** Blessing God is a form of worshipful adoration, recognizing God as the source of all good.
- "Our blessing of God comes in response to God's blessing of us."
- A key purpose of the Christian community is to praise and glorify God, as seen in 2:12, "that they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation."
- **God, Father of Jesus Christ (1:3a):** We fully know God only through what He has done in Christ.
- "It is only through Christ that we know God as God, and as Father."
- Our sonship and new birth are linked to Christ's resurrection.
- Only those who know Jesus as Lord can genuinely worship God in this way.
- **New Birth (1:3b-5):** New birth, *anagenao*, means being "born again" and comes "by His great mercy."
- It is entirely an act of God, not of human merit.
- "By God's great mercy, we have been born anew... No human power or merit is involved."
- New birth is a new type of existence shaped by God's work in Christ, especially the resurrection.
- It involves a shift from a view of reality focused on the world to one centered on God.
- The goal of new birth is twofold:

- **Living Hope:** A firm anticipation of future deliverance at Christ's return, involving trust, optimism, and patient waiting.
- "Hope is the basic characteristic of Christian existence in 1 Peter."
- Salvation in 1 Peter is primarily future, related to Christ's second coming. This differs slightly from Paul's emphasis on salvation at the cross but mirrors Paul's view in 1 Thessalonians.
- **Inheritance:** An imperishable, undefiled, and unfading reward kept in heaven.
- This inheritance is different from the land of Canaan, and it is "kept in heaven for you."
- The perfect tense of "kept" in the Greek indicates that the inheritance already exists.
- The preservation is both divine ("by the power of God") and human ("through faith").
- **Rejoicing Amidst Trials (1:6-9):** Christians are called to "rejoice" even amidst trials. This is a result of their new birth and hope.
- Trials are probationary and preparatory for future glory.
- They are relational, connecting believers to Christ's sufferings.
- They are eschatological, connecting Christians with the Messianic woes of Judaism.
- The testing of faith is necessary because of its preciousness.
- Rejoicing comes from believing in Christ even without seeing him.
- "Without having seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with unutterable and exalted joy."
- This "invisible" faith and love, which are future-oriented, are more blessed than believing only when seeing.
- **Christian Privilege over Prophets and Angels (1:10-12):** Prophets diligently sought to understand the salvation that Christians now experience.
- "The prophets who prophesied of the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired about this salvation...They inquired what person or time was indicated by the Spirit of Christ within them."

- Angels also long to look into these mysteries.
- The prophetic message was ultimately about Christ.
- The Holy Spirit was the means of both prophetic and Christian proclamation.
- Christians have a greater advantage than prophets and angels, a significant point of the passage.
- Prophetic proclamation exists for the sake of Christian existence.
- The Old Testament points to Christ, and Christian should read and understand it that way.
- Salvation is primarily future but is also experienced as a present fulfillment.

#### **IV. Key Quotations**

- "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ." (1:3a)
- "Our blessing of God comes in response to God's blessing of us."
- "It is only through Christ that we know God as God, and as Father."
- "By God's great mercy, we have been born anew... No human power or merit is involved."
- "Hope is the basic characteristic of Christian existence in 1 Peter."
- "Without having seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with unutterable and exalted joy."
- "The prophets who prophesied of the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired about this salvation...They inquired what person or time was indicated by the Spirit of Christ within them."

## **V. Conclusion**

This passage establishes foundational truths about Christian identity, experience, and hope. It highlights the transformative power of the resurrection of Jesus, the certainty of future salvation, and the importance of responding with faith and joy, even amid trials. Christians possess a unique advantage in salvation history, and thus should remain steadfast in their beliefs and practices. This provides the bedrock for Peter's subsequent exhortations in the letter.

This briefing document captures the essence of Dr. Bauer's analysis. Let me know if you'd like anything clarified or expanded upon!

## 4. Study Guide: Bauer, Inductive Bible Study, Session 30, 1 Peter 1:3-12

### Inductive Bible Study of 1 Peter 1:3-12

#### Quiz

Answer the following questions in 2-3 sentences each.

1. According to Bauer, what is the primary declaration in 1 Peter 1:3a, and how does the rest of the passage relate to it?
2. What are the two main divisions of the substantiation in 1 Peter 1:3b-12 according to Bauer?
3. How does Bauer describe the structural relationship between 1:3a and 1:3b-12?
4. How does the comparison of Christians and Christ function in this passage according to Bauer?
5. According to Bauer, how does Peter use the concept of "blessedness" in relation to God?
6. According to Bauer, what is the relationship between new birth and inheritance in 1 Peter 1?
7. What does Bauer state is the source of the new birth as described in 1 Peter 1:3b?
8. According to Bauer, what is the role of "hope" in 1 Peter, and how does it differ from Paul's emphasis on faith in salvation?
9. What are the three characteristics of the inheritance that Christians receive, according to Bauer?
10. According to Bauer, what is significant about the prophets' inquiry into salvation, and what is the Christian advantage in this context?

#### Answer Key

1. The primary declaration is "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ." The rest of the passage (1:3b-12) substantiates this declaration by giving reasons why God is to be blessed.

2. The two main divisions are the Christian experience of God's mercies (1:3b-9) and the Christian surpassing privileges and status over against the prophets and angels (1:10-12).
3. Bauer describes the structural relationship as cause and effect. Verse 3a is the effect (God is blessed), and 3b-12 is the cause or reasons for that blessing.
4. The comparison functions to show that both Christians and Christ experience present trials and sufferings but look forward to future glory and salvation. Christ's experience provides a basis of hope for the Christian's experience.
5. Peter uses "blessedness" to describe worshipful adoration of God in recognition of the fact that God alone possesses and gives all good things. It is the Christians' appropriate response to God's blessings.
6. New birth implies sonship, and inheritance belongs to sonship. By virtue of being born of God, Christians become inheritors of God, receiving the inheritance that is promised.
7. The new birth, according to Bauer, is sourced from God's great mercy. It is the result of merciful help provided by God.
8. Hope, in 1 Peter, is a firm anticipation of future deliverance that comes at the second coming of Christ. Unlike Paul's emphasis on salvation primarily at the cross, 1 Peter focuses on salvation as primarily future. Hope is the main source of assurance.
9. The inheritance is described as imperishable (free of corruption), undefiled (free from moral defilement), and unfading (will not lose its appeal).
10. The prophets diligently inquired about the salvation that Christians now experience but did not experience themselves. The Christian advantage is that they experience salvation and its associated blessings in the present, whereas the prophets could only predict it.

## Essay Questions

1. Analyze the structure of 1 Peter 1:3-12, explaining how the different sections relate to each other and contribute to the overall message of the passage.
2. Discuss the concept of "new birth" in 1 Peter 1, comparing and contrasting its understanding with similar concepts in other New Testament books.



3. Explain the significance of both present trials and future glory in 1 Peter 1:3-12, and how the author presents the relationship between the two.
4. Compare and contrast the roles of faith and hope in 1 Peter 1, examining how they function in relation to salvation and Christian identity.
5. Discuss the significance of the Christian advantage over prophets and angels, according to 1 Peter 1:10-12, and how this affects the author's audience.

## Glossary

**Anagenao (ἀναγεννάω):** The Greek word translated as "born anew" or "born again," emphasizing a new type of existence that is shaped by God and His work in Christ.

**Blessedness:** A state of worshipful adoration of God, recognizing that He is the source of all good things. In 1 Peter, it's the appropriate response to God's blessings.

**Eschatological:** Relating to the end of the world or the last things; in 1 Peter, this refers to the end-time salvation and glory to be revealed at the second coming of Christ.

**Faith:** A means by which Christians persevere. It is a vehicle by which God's power becomes operative in the Christian's life.

**Hesed:** The Old Testament concept of merciful help or active, merciful help toward those in need, reflected in the New Testament notion of mercy.

**Hope:** In 1 Peter, it is a firm anticipation of the future deliverance by God. It involves trust, optimism, and waiting; more emphasized than faith by the author in this passage.

**Inheritance:** Refers to the promise of God, especially eternal salvation and glory. In 1 Peter it is characterized as imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, and is kept in heaven.

**Living Hope:** A hope that is certain and vital because it is grounded in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is active and has the power to shape the Christian life.

**Mercy:** God's merciful help, especially for those in need. In 1 Peter, it is the basis of the new birth and the community of believers.

**Parousia:** The second coming of Christ, a key concept in 1 Peter where the fullness of salvation will be revealed.

**Synergism:** The concept that God's power and human effort work together in the Christian life. In 1 Peter, it involves both divine power and faith.

**Theocentric:** God-centered; a concept that highlights the radical focus on God's initiative and action, especially in the new birth.

**Trials:** In 1 Peter, primarily refers to sufferings experienced by Christians due to persecution because of their faith.

## 5. FAQs on Bauer, Inductive Bible Study, Session 30, 1 Peter 1:3-12, Biblicalelearning.org (BeL)

### Frequently Asked Questions About 1 Peter 1:3-12

1. **Why does 1 Peter 1:3-12 begin by blessing God?** The passage begins by declaring, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ," to highlight that God is the source of all good and worthy of worship and adoration. This blessing serves as the foundation upon which the rest of the passage is built. It establishes that Christians' purpose is to praise God and be the means by which the world ultimately glorifies God. The specific phrasing "God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ" emphasizes that we know God fully through Christ.
2. **How is the Christian experience structured within 1 Peter 1:3-9?** The Christian experience is presented in two movements within this section. First, it emphasizes the *rebirth to hope and inheritance* (verses 3-5) through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. This rebirth implies a new sonship with God and a sharing in His inheritance of imperishable, undefiled, and unfading qualities. Secondly, it highlights the *positive response amid difficult circumstances* (verses 6-9). Christians are able to rejoice despite trials because of the living hope and the secure inheritance they have in Christ.
3. **What is meant by "being born anew" in 1 Peter 1:3?** Being "born anew" (or "born from above") is a radical, theocentric act of God, enabled by His great mercy. It signifies a new type of existence shaped by the reality of God and Christ's resurrection, as opposed to a life defined by worldly concerns. This new birth is not a result of human effort or merit; it's entirely God's doing, leading to gratitude, faith, and humility. It also provides help and deliverance from destructive forces, uniting believers into the people of God.
4. **How is Christian hope described in 1 Peter 1:3-5?** Hope in 1 Peter involves a firm anticipation of future deliverance in the second coming of Christ, and this leads to trust, informed optimism, and patient waiting. It is future-oriented but impacts the present. This hope is described as *living*, connected to the resurrection of Jesus, making it both certain and dynamic. This living hope leads Christians to view their current lives in light of this ultimate reality, leading them to freedom from anxiety and worry.

5. **What is the significance of the "inheritance" mentioned in 1 Peter 1:4?** The "inheritance" refers to the promise of eternal salvation and glory, a concept drawing from the Old Testament idea of the promised land. However, unlike earthly inheritances, this is described with three negatives: it is *imperishable*, *undefiled*, and *unfading*. These qualities show that this is a new order of reality that transcends the temporary things of the world. It is kept in heaven for believers, emphasizing its surety and security through both divine power and human faith.
6. **How does 1 Peter 1:6-9 relate trials and suffering to rejoicing?** This section focuses on the possibility of *rejoicing amidst trials*. The trials are presented as temporary (for "a little while"), and the testing of faith is a good thing because it refines faith like a precious metal and proves it genuine. The passage teaches that present suffering is related to Christ's experience, as Christians share in His sufferings as a sign of their unity with Him. Ultimately, present trials will lead to praise, glory, and honor when Christ is revealed. The reader is also encouraged to rejoice in *invisible realities*, particularly the love for and faith in Jesus, despite not seeing Him, because faith will lead to salvation.
7. **What "Christian advantage" is discussed in 1 Peter 1:10-12?** This section emphasizes the Christians' superior status and privilege compared to prophets and angels. Prophets diligently sought to understand the salvation that Christians now experience. Prophets and angels did not experience the salvation, but they served as messengers regarding it. Through the Holy Spirit, Christian preaching reveals this salvation. The idea here is that Christians are currently experiencing the fulfillment of what prophets longed to understand and angels longed to see.
8. **What does 1 Peter 1:10-12 suggest about the Old Testament?** The Old Testament prophetic messages are linked to the Christian experience. The passage suggests that the prophets spoke about the sufferings of Christ and His subsequent glory, which is now being realized in the Christian experience. This emphasizes the continuity of God's plan of salvation, while also highlighting the advantage Christians now have as recipients of that salvation. The Old Testament is to be read carefully to determine its original meaning, but then viewed in light of its fulfillment in Christ.