

STANDING STRONG IN OUR LIVING HOPE | 1 PETER

1 PETER 1:3-9

We have just begun a series exploring First Peter. Peter wrote this letter to Christians spread out in first century regions which are in what we know today as modern-day Turkey. These followers of Jesus are in a battle. They have trusted Jesus Christ and went from being part of the culture to being persecuted outcasts. But God chose Peter, the fighter, for such a time, to encourage the believers to trust in God, experience His blessings, and suffer well. In his intro, Peter explained: *God sent me to you. I knew Jesus, and better yet He knows me, and chose me. I walked with Him. I let Him down and denied Him. I was forgiven and reinstated by Him. I love Jesus. I preach Jesus. I suffer for Jesus. I want you to know- You've been chosen by God, too, you've been set apart by the Holy Spirit, and you've been made clean and forgiven by the blood of Jesus Christ.* Next Peter turns to the DNA of a follower of Jesus. He explains our very nature has changed. Three characteristics describe our new nature:

1. We are children of God _____ into a living _____. (1:3)
 - a. Our inheritance is _____. (4)
 - b. Our inheritance is _____ by God. (4)
 - c. Our Inheritance is _____ to the end. (5)
2. We _____ through trials (1:6).
 - a. We grow _____ through our _____. (7)
 - b. Our _____ through trials bring _____ to God. (7)
3. We are a people who _____ Christ. (1:8)
 - a. Our love leads to inexpressible _____. (8)
 - b. Our faith leads to the _____ of our souls (9).