

Week Two Assignment (for June 13/14)

Read 1 Peter 1:13-25

1. **Between verses 13 and 17, Peter describes what happens when we set our hope fully on the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. What are some of these things that you notice in these verses?**

2. In 1:18-21, Peter returns to a celebration of the work that God has done on our behalf, namely, Jesus' life, death and resurrection. Throughout this letter, Peter points forward in hope to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, when redemption and judgment will be fully realized. The "salvation ready to be **revealed in the last time**" (1 Pet.1:5), the genuineness of our faith which "results in the glory and praise and honor **at the revelation of Jesus Christ**" (1:7), and, "the grace that will be brought to you **at the revelation of Jesus Christ**" (1:13) are phrases referring to the return, or Second Coming of Jesus Christ. Peter will later refer to the "**day of visitation**," (2:12) which is also referring to the Second Coming, but emphasizing judgment. Peter is suggesting that the promised return of Jesus is a motivation to remain steadfast in faith now. Since, as Paul wrote, "we know that our labor is not in vain" (1 Cor. 15:50-58). **Does Jesus coming again encourage you or motivate you toward faithful obedience? Why or why not?**

3. In the final section of Chapter 1 (22-25), Peter commands us to "love one another earnestly from a pure heart" (v. 23) because we have been purified through our obedience to the truth. Here, as in other places in Scripture, "the truth" refers to the Gospel message.¹ Peter is reminding us that it is the Gospel that empowers us to love one another in this fashion. **What are the consequences of not loving one another? To put it another way, what happens when we fail to love earnestly? Why do you think loving one another is so hard to do?**

¹ If you are interested in exploring this, see these Scripture references: Eph. 1:13; Col. 1:5b-6; James 1:18.

