



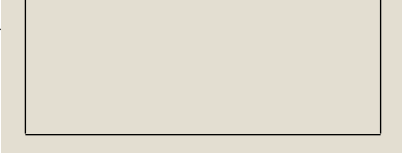
**“WHO IS THERE TO
HARM YOU?”**

1Pe 3:13 *Who is going to harm you if
you are eager to do good?*

1Pe 3:14 But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened."

- David was fleeing for his life from King Saul.
 - Saul wasn't just his king, but his father-in-law.
 - He served his king with dignity and with integrity.
 - Innocent, David flees as an exile and a traitor.
- In desperation, he flees into the hands of another enemy.
- In a moment of humiliation, terror, and uncertainty, David fails.

David's Background on Psalm 34:



How does Psalm 34 shape
Peter's vision of '*blessing*' in
the face of unjust suffering?

Learning
to Live
Out
Psalm 34
with
Peter

1. *"I Will Bless the Lord at All Times":*
The Posture of the Righteous (vs. 1–7)
2. *"Taste and See":*
The Formation of the Righteous (vs. 8–14)
3. *"The Lord Is Near to the Brokenhearted":*
The Deliverance of the Righteous (vs. 15–22)



“I Will Bless the Lord at All Times”

The Posture of the Righteous
(vs.1–7)

- 1** *Of David. When he pretended to be insane before Abimelek, who drove him away, and he left.* I will extol the LORD at all times; his praise will always be on my lips.
- 2** I will glory in the LORD; let the afflicted hear and rejoice.
- 3** Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together.
- 4** I sought the LORD, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears.
- 5** Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame.
- 6** This poor man called, and the LORD heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles.
- 7** The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them.

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Peter's Use of Psalm 34

The Posture of the Righteous

HONOR
vs.
SHAME

REVERENT FEAR
vs.
TERROR

1Pe 1:17 Since you call on a Father who judges each person's work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear.

1Pe 3:14,15 But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened." *15* But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have...

Peter's Use of Psalm 34

The Posture of the Righteous

COVENANTAL
BELONGING

HONOR-BASED
SANCTIFICATION

*1Pe 2:4,5 As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— **5** you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.*

1Pe 2:9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

Learning to Live Out Psalm 34 with Peter

The Posture of the Righteous

Peter's encouragement is that Christian endurance flows from a secure identity in God:

- Exiles are encouraged to recognize and reject shame-based fear that isolates and silences.
- They are to embrace their honored status before God, which empowers bold praise and testimony even amid suffering.
- This new posture prepares the “*delivered*” to a greater purpose in hostile contexts.



“Taste and See”

The Formation of the Righteous

(vs. 8–14)

- 8** Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.
- 9** Fear the LORD, you his holy people, for those who fear him lack nothing.
- 10** The lions may grow weak and hungry, but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.
- 11** Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.
- 12** Whoever of you loves life and desires to see many good days,
- 13** keep your tongue from evil and your lips from telling lies.
- 14** Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

Peter's Use of Psalm 34

The Formation of the Righteous

PROCESS-BASED
HOLINESS

FORMATION IN
REPENTANCE

1Pe 2:1-3 Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. 2 Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, 3 now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

- Repentance is not merely a “**step**” in the journey toward rebirth; rather, it serves as a continuous and steady practice we employ to dismantle our past identities while striving for a holiness that reflects the image and nature of chief cornerstone.

Peter's Use of Psalm 34

The Formation of the Righteous

PROCESS-BASED
HOLINESS

FORMATION IN
OBEDIENCE

1Pe 3:8,9 Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. 9 Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.

- Obedience to God's word allows our identity to be formed and shape into the pattern (*blueprint*) of the chief cornerstone through the process of refinement.
- Surrender → Obedience → Suffering → Glory

Learning to Live Out Psalm 34 with Peter

The Formation of the Righteous

Peter's letter unfolds sanctification as a process of spiritual formation:

- Believers are called to “*rid themselves*” of malice, deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander (1 Peter 2:1).
- They are urged to crave pure spiritual milk “*to grow*” in salvation (1 Peter 2:2-3).
- Reverence for God “*shapes*” their conduct, especially in relationships (1 Peter 1:17; 3:1-7).
- *Submission in relationships is a form of priestly service that “testifies” to God’s kingdom (1 Peter 2:13-3:7).*



What about the moments
when doing good still leads to
pain?



*“The Lord Is Near to the
Brokenhearted”*

The Deliverance of the Righteous
(vs. 5–22)

- 15** The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and his ears are attentive to their cry;
- 16** but the face of the LORD is against those who do evil, to blot out their name from the earth.
- 17** The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles.
- 18** The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.
- 19** The righteous person may have many troubles, but the LORD delivers him from them all;
- 20** he protects all his bones, not one of them will be broken.
- 21** Evil will slay the wicked; the foes of the righteous will be condemned.
- 22** The LORD will rescue his servants; no one who takes refuge in him will be condemned.

Psalm 34

THE RIGHTEOUS WILL SUFFER

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- 20 he protects all his bones, not one of them will be broken.
- 21 Evil will slay the wicked; the foes of the righteous will be condemned.
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THE RIGHTEOUS WILL SUFFER

GOD'S COVENANT FAITHFULNESS

- 15** The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and his ears are attentive to their cry;
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THE RIGHTEOUS WILL SUFFER

GOD'S COVENANT FAITHFULNESS

GOD'S JUSTICE ON THE WICKED

- 15** The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and his ears are attentive to their cry;
- 16** but the face of the LORD is against those who do evil, to blot out their name from the earth.
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Peter's Use of Psalm 34

The Deliverance of the Righteous

CHRIST AS OUR
EXAMPLE

ENTRUSTING
OURSELVES TO
A FAITHFUL
CREATOR

1Pe 2:21-23 To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. 22 "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." 23 When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.

Peter's Use of Psalm 34

The Deliverance of the Righteous

CHRIST AS OUR
EXAMPLE

ENTRUSTING
OURSELVES TO
A FAITHFUL
CREATOR

1Pe 4:17-19 For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? **18** And “If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?” **19** Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

Learning to Live Out Psalm 34 with Peter

The Deliverance of the Righteous

Peter's teaching on suffering is deeply Christological and hopeful:

- Christ suffered unjustly, entrusting Himself to God's justice and divine purpose (1 Peter 2:21-24).
- Baptism saves, paralleling Noah's deliverance from evil through water (1 Peter 3:18-22).
- Believers are called to arm themselves with Christ's attitude with a commitment to holiness in the face of unjust treatment (1 Peter 4:1-6).
- Suffering serves a vital role in refining faith, leading to ultimate restoration and glory (1 Peter 1:6-7; 5:10).

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