Living Hope in a Troubled World

1 Peter 1:1-12

When life is challenging…

~~If we do it right and God is good,~~
~~the Christian life should be a lot like heaven~~

"Grace and peace be yours in abundance." 1 Peter 1:2

1-2:   God controls the heavens

3-5:   God Almighty is guarding us and our incredible, glorious *inheritance*

6-9:   We currently have troubles
that are bringing us **greater glory than gold**

10-12: Trouble then glory…loke the prophets and Jesus!

The Big Idea

For all who have put their faith in Christ
God is using even our troubles
to add to the wonders
of our unending joy with Him in glory

Maybe we think…
like a spare time, faith in Christ through troubles is something we hope we never have to use
if we live well and pray well,
faith through troubles will be
an unused backup plan

Rather
The joy of the Christian journey
is the hope of the destination

Application

Rejoice in the glorious inheritance guaranteed by God Almighty
Jesus: "For the joy set before him he endured the cross" Hebrews 12:2
The best of this life wildly magnified, without any of the sorrow or wrong or decay or…

**Recognize trials as God's means
to prove and build our faith
→ increasing the glory to come**
"The bombs bursting in air gave proof…"
Don't waste your troubles!

Reflection Questions for later today or this week…

1. What excites you about the inheritance God is guarding for all Christians?

2. When we aren't very excited about our inheritance, what might that mean? How is that a problem?

3. What are some challenges that you and people you care for are encountering in life?

4. What does it look like to have faith (and to grow in faith) in God's working through these troubles to prove and grow our faith?

5. How can we grow, and help each other grow, in being filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, even when we may have to suffer grief in all kinds of trials?

Conversation starters with people in daily life, whether or not they are Christians

What brings hope when living through troubles?