

## **1 PETER 1:9 “GOOOOOO-AL!”**

<sup>9</sup> *for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.*

Back in the 1990's, the United States was beginning to make itself noticed in the World Cup competition of the soccer world. Matches were being carried on U.S. television and ultimately our women's team won it all by defeating China. Perhaps the most lasting and universally imitated sound from America's soccer awakening was the announcer's ecstatic scream of "Goooooo-al, goooooo-al, goooooo-al!" whenever a shot found the net.

What are your goals? Which of those goals is important enough for you to react like the soccer announcer? Peter's answer would be the salvation of your soul. That is, the salvation of your body, mind, personality and spirit. "Soul" is the term for all you are and not, as we usually think, our disembodied spirit. God made us to be fully engaged with him, and since there is no part of us that is not fallen and sinful, God redeems *ALL* that we are.

Faith is the skill that enables us to score the goal. The successful soccer player attains excellence by drilling on the fundamentals of tackling, dribbling, passing and shooting. The man of faith reaches the goal of salvation through the disciplines of believing, persevering, loving and obeying. Won't it be great to enter God's presence with the angels yelling, "Goooooo-al, goooooo-al, goooooo-al!"

**Dear Lord, coach me in your ways so that I can live this life to your glory and enjoy you for ever. Amen.**