

1 PETER 1:10-12 “PRIVILEGED CHARACTERS”

¹⁰ Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, ¹¹ trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. ¹² It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things.

Ever since the Fall all creation has been looking forward eagerly for salvation (Romans 8:22-23). For 2 millennia God raised up and prepared a people for his mighty work. All of Scripture has the theme of salvation – God redeeming his people. One theologian wrote that deep in the eternal heart of God is a hill outside Jerusalem with a cross on it.

The mighty prophets were inspired by the Spirit to speak of these future things, but were not privileged to see them. Even the angels, God’s messengers, have not had the privilege of being indwelt by the Holy Spirit. We are the ones for whom that eternal cross was prepared – not for our condemnation, but for our salvation. Because of the cross of Christ we are justified before God and privileged to become temples of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19-20). The Good News of salvation is both that Christ died for us (justification) and that God’s Spirit dwells in us (sanctification). Wow...we are the objects of the righteous envy of angels and prophets! Perhaps, given such a great privilege, I should act a bit more grateful to God.

Holy Father, thank you for the reminder of your awesome love and grace that has made me a recipient of your salvation. In the face of prophets who were bolder and angels who are holier, I am humbled by the privilege of living at this time. Through your Spirit, help me to use this privilege in service to others and to your glory. Amen.