

# Weighed Down

What are some things that weigh us down?

*Conversation starter...*

“Filled with joy” even when there is trouble

1



**Filled with Joy**  
1 Peter 1:3-12  
[bib.ly/1Pet1.NIV](https://bib.ly/1Pet1.NIV)



2

## **1 Peter 1**

Written to “scattered exiles”

**God is to be praised! Why??**

3

## **The Big Idea**

**Even in all kinds of troubles,  
we are living in the best possible journey in Christ**

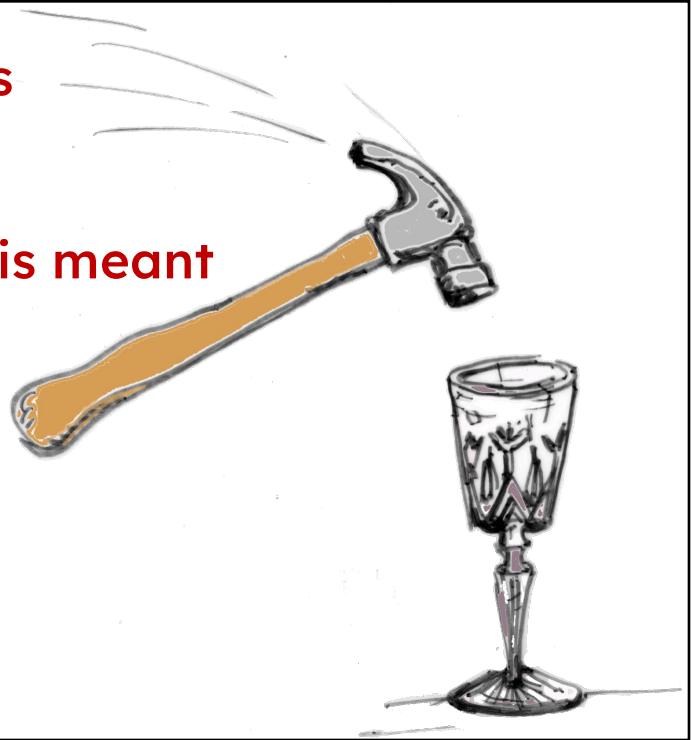
- Living hope in a living Savior
- Guarded by God for an inheritance He’s guarding
- He brings good through every circumstance
- Trust in Him when in trouble proves our faith
- Prophets & angels wish they had what we have!

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## This is how Satan works

### Goals:

- Steal, kill, destroy
- Trouble in his hands is meant to ruin us and others



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## This is how God works

### Goals:

- Turn our junk into pure gold



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“And we know that **in all things God works for the good** of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be **conformed to the image of his Son**, that he might be the firstborn **among many brothers and sisters**. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.”

Romans 8:28-30

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This is how God works

Goals:

- Turn our junk into pure gold
- Using **every** circumstance
- For our good and joy!



8

“And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, **will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast**. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.”

1 Peter 5:10-11

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- We **all** experience trouble!
- For those who are “in Christ”...
  - God Himself guards us and our inheritance so we can’t miss any of it!
  - In God’s hands, trials bring good growth
  - In God’s hands, trials prove our faith
  - We know and experience His love personally, especially in trials

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## The Big Idea

Even in all kinds of troubles,  
we are living in the best possible journey in Christ

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## Application

- Re-see our lives by faith **IN GOD**
  - Guarded **BY GOD** Himself
  - Shaped **BY GOD** Himself through troubles
  - Loving God when facing troubles proves the reality of our faith **IN GOD**
- We live what prophets and angels long for:  
The Holy Spirit's powerful presence  
of the superabounding love of God for us

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“But all at once I realized that it was not my success God had used to enable me to help those in this prison, or in hundreds of others just like it. My life of success was not what made this morning so glorious – all my achievements meant nothing in God’s economy.

“No, **the real legacy of my life was my biggest failure** – that I was an ex-convict. My greatest humiliation – being sent to prison – was the beginning of God’s greatest use of my life; He chose the one thing in which I could not glory for His glory.”

Charles Colson

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## Application

- Re-see life by faith
- Rejoice with the joy of tomorrow
  - Inexpressible and filled with glory
  - **As our faith grows through trials, our present experience of future joy grows**
    - “For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”  
Hebrews 12:2

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## Application

- Re-see life by faith
- Rejoice with the joy of tomorrow
- Praise God!
  - **God Himself** is using troubles in our lives to bring us the joy of our future glory in Christ
  - And bring us the inexpressible and glorious joy that will be ours with Him forever!

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## The Big Idea

Even in all kinds of troubles,  
we are living in the best possible journey in Christ

- The mystery of the journey of Jesus
  - Prophets tried to make sense of what we see
  - Jesus had a guaranteed inheritance as God
  - Yet he suffered grief in all kinds of trials
  - Which proved His faith, and equipped Him for today's ministry of love and compassion for us
- And **He walks with us** as we walk the same road

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## The Big Idea

Even in all kinds of troubles,  
we are living in the best possible journey in Christ

• **As our faith grows through trials,  
our present experience of future joy grows**

“Though you have not seen him, you love him;  
and even though you do not see him now, you  
believe in him and are filled with an  
inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are  
receiving the end result of your faith, the  
salvation of your souls.” *1 Peter 1:8-9*