

## Sermon Discussion Questions: 1 Peter 1:10-12

February 10, 2019

1. What in the sermon encouraged you, comforted you, challenged you, or informed you?
2. It is a common misconception that the Old Testament (OT) preached a message of works where humans earned God's acceptance by moral effort and that the New Testament (NT) preached a message of grace where humans receive God's acceptance by the work of Jesus and the promise of God to save by Jesus' perfect life, sacrificial death, and victorious resurrection. But Peter says that OT Prophets prophesied about the grace to come. More than that, the message of the OT was centered on God's promise, God's mighty deeds of deliverance, and people trusting His promise and deliverance by faith. Referring back to God's gracious promise to Abraham, how does Paul argue that the message in the OT and the NT rest on God's gracious promise/work and our trusting faith in Romans 4:13-25?
3. 1 Peter 1:11 says that the *Spirit of Christ* in the prophets was clarifying details about the grace Christ would bring through his salvation work. In what way was the Holy Spirit involved in the writing of Scripture and our understanding of scripture? How does this give us confidence in the Word of God? See 2 Peter 1:20-21 and 1 Corinthians 2:9-12.

“Profane men think that religion rests only on opinion, and, therefore, that they may not believe foolishly, or on slight grounds, desire and insist to have it proved by reason that Moses and the prophets were divinely inspired. But I answer, that the testimony of the Spirit is superior to reason. For as God alone can properly bear witness to his own words, so these words will not obtain full credit in the hearts of men, until they are sealed by the inward testimony of the Spirit. The same Spirit, therefore, who spoke by the mouth of the prophets, must penetrate our hearts, in order to convince us that they faithfully delivered the message with which they were divinely entrusted.”

John Calvin, Book 1, chapter 8.4

4. Probably one of the greatest prophecies of the sufferings of Christ and His following glories is Isaiah 53 (written around 700 BC). Read through these verses and identify all the references to Christ's sufferings and glorious effects.