

<sup>13</sup> Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. <sup>14</sup> As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. <sup>15</sup> But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; <sup>16</sup> for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.”

<sup>17</sup> Since you call on a Father who judges each person’s work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear. <sup>18</sup> For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. <sup>20</sup> He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. <sup>21</sup> Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

<sup>22</sup> Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart. <sup>23</sup> For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. <sup>24</sup> For,

“All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field;  
the grass withers and the flowers fall, <sup>25</sup> but the word of the Lord endures forever.”

And this is the word that was preached to you.

### Review the context.

- What is the “therefore” assuming that we understand from the previous passage?

### Understand it.

- What is the relationship between sobriety (clarity of mind) and suffering?
  - Why might we be tempted in the midst of suffering?  
(with the next urgent need or idea...or with distractions or substances)
- In what context did God call Israel to “be holy”? (see Leviticus 11:44,45; 19:2)
  - How does Peter’s audience identify with the people God was speaking to in the Old Testament?
- How can the concept of “reverent fear” (v.17) be understood (or misunderstood)?
  - How do vs.18-19 provide the rationale we need understand such “fear”?
- What is the “empty way of life” that we have been redeemed from? (v.18)
- What does it mean that Christ was “chosen before the creation of the world” and why does this matter in our understanding of God? (v.20)
- In verse 21, Peter claims that our belief is “through” the resurrected and glorified person of Christ. How does the resurrection establish our hope?

### Apply it.

- Confess with a trusted believer the ways that you might be experiencing temptation to avoid suffering.
- Where can you find strength to endure what is happening and what is to come?
- How can you choose today to walk in a life characterized as “holy” (v.15) and “reverent fear” (v.17)?
- How does the enduring word of God give you a basis for sincere love for others?