

First Peter 1:13-21



Monday Night Meeting

Structure of 1 Peter



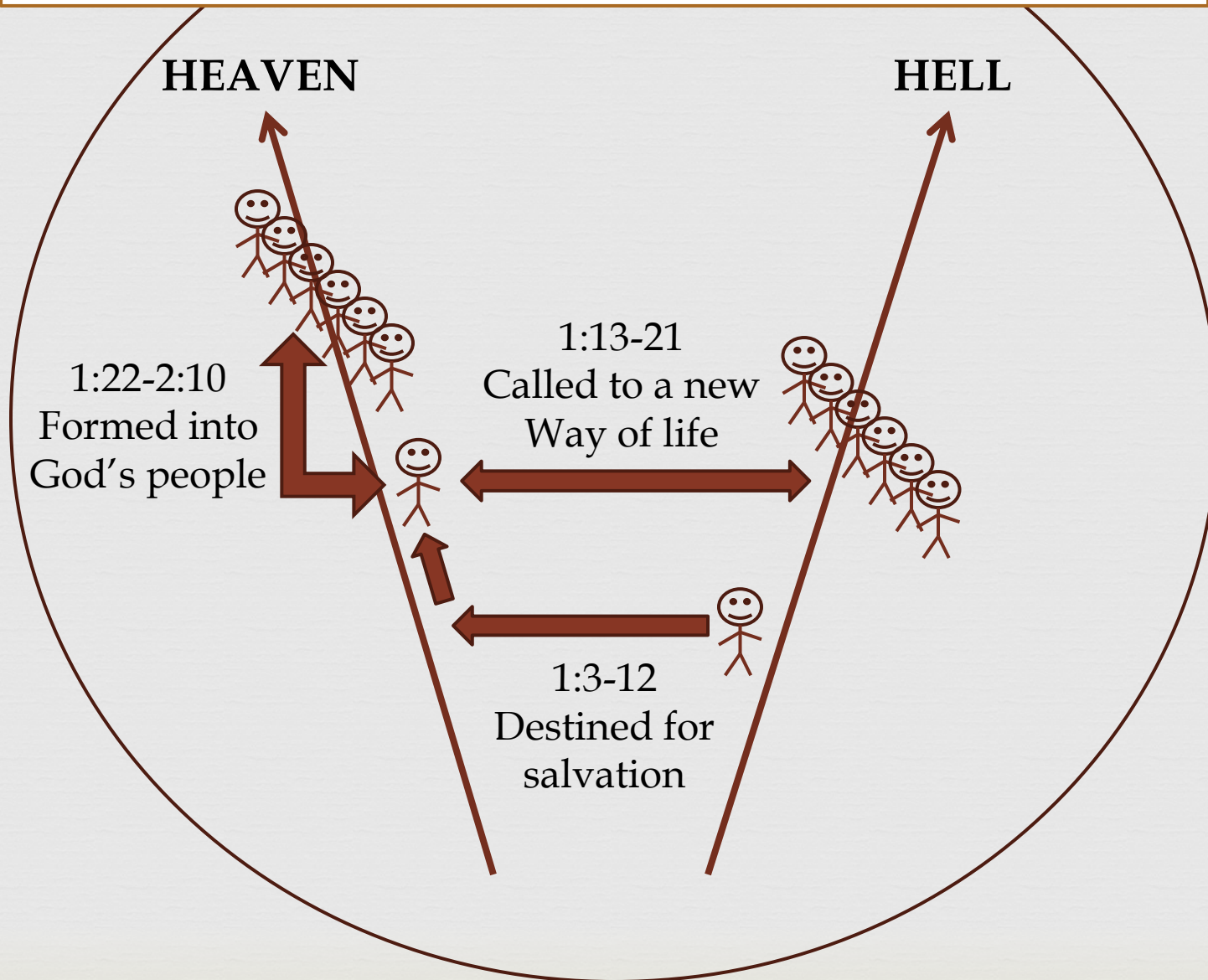
- ❧ Salutation (1:1-2)
- ❧ God's Gracious Activity in the Lives of Suffering Believers (1:3-2:10)
 - ❧ Destined for Salvation (1:2-12)
 - ❧ Called to a New Way of Life (1:13-21)
 - ❧ Formed into God's people (1:22-2:10)
- ❧ The Responsibilities of Suffering Believers (2:11-5:11)
- ❧ Final Greeting (5:12-14)

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God's Gracious Activity in the Lives of Suffering Believers



Key Themes



☞ Hope

☞ Obedience

☞ Anastrophe= conduct, way of life

☞ Fear

Two "anastrophe" (ways of life)	
Way of lust	Way of obedience
Way of ignorance	Way of holiness
Futile way of life	Way of fear and redemption

Participles & 1 Peter



- ☞ The participle is a verbal-adjective. That means it can function as an adjective, modifying a noun or it can function as an adverb modifying a verb depending on the context and grammatical construction.
- ☞ As a rule, the verbal participle is subordinate to the main finite verb to which it is connected. It modifies the main verb answering questions like *when?*, *how?*, *why?*

Participles & 1 Peter



- ❧ I attended the Monday Night Meeting and I encountered my friend.
- ❧ While attending the Monday Night Meeting, I encountered my friend

Participles & 1 Peter



- ☞ Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and **hope** to the end for the grace... (KJV)
- ☞ Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, **fix your hope** completely on the grace (NASV)
- ☞ Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; **set your hope** fully on the grace... (NIV).
- ☞ “Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, **set your hope** on the grace...” (TNIV)
- ☞ Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, **set your hope** fully on the grace...(ESV)

Main Exhortation: Hope (1:13)

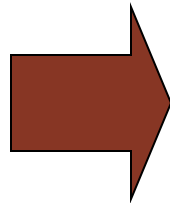


- ❧ **Fix your hope=** The Greeks believed that hope was simply man's projection of the future, a dream of the imagination which causes him to forget his present troubles. Biblical hope is a patient and trusting expectation of a promised future which gives purpose and comfort in present troubles.
- ❧ **Having prepared your minds for action=** common metaphor in the first century. Maybe a parallel today would be to say, "Roll up the sleeves of your mind". If we are going to fully hope in future salvation, it is going to take conscious mental effort.
- ❧ **and keeping sober=** "Soberness is the opposite of infatuation with the things of this world, a calm, steady state of mind which weighs and estimates things aright and thus enables us to make the right decision" (Lenski 52).

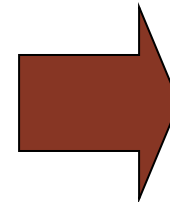
God's Plan of Transformation



TRUTH
1:3-12



MIND
1:13



LIFE
1:14-21

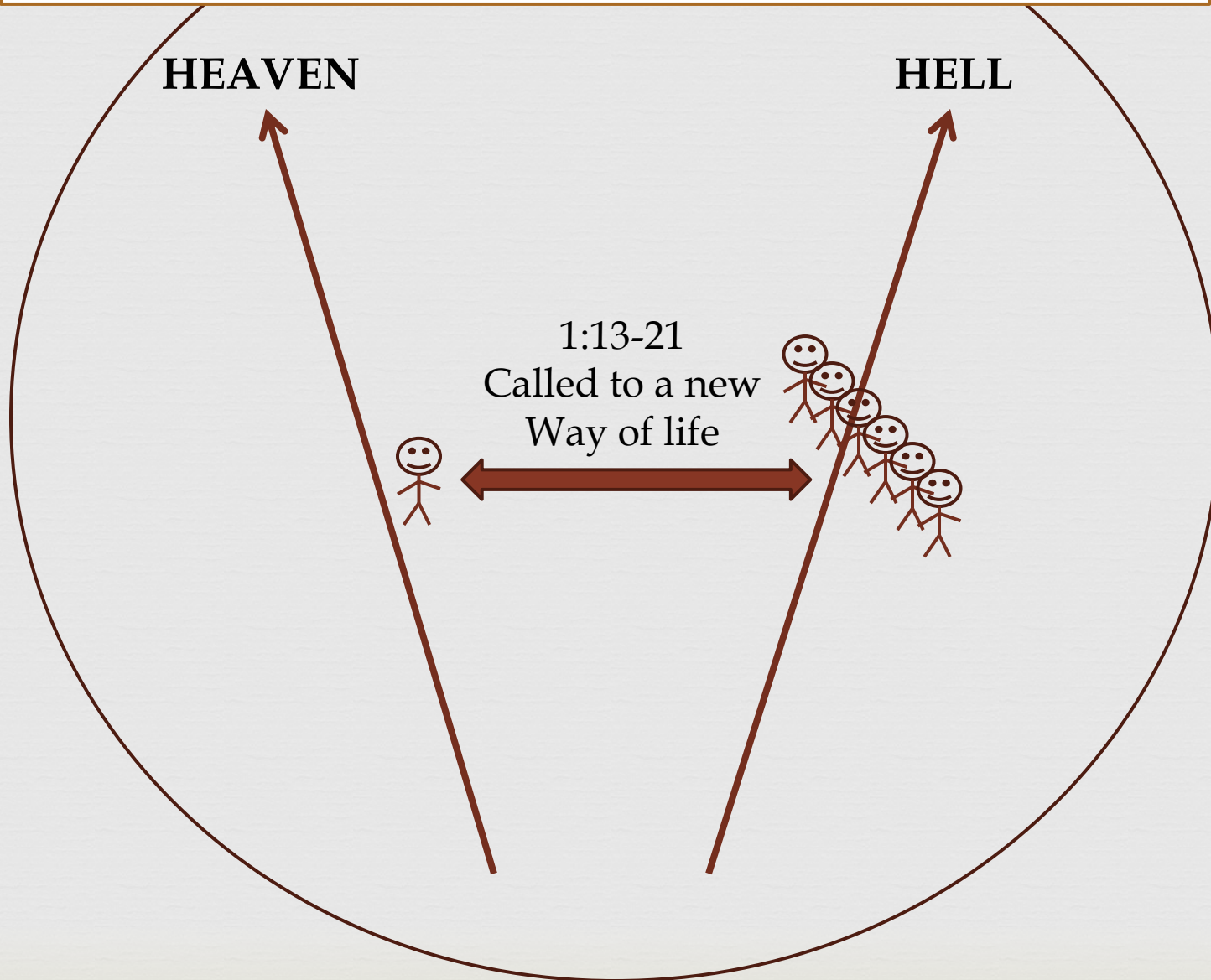


Hope expresses itself in a holy life (1:14-16)



- ☞ Trials do not give us an excuse to indulge our flesh. In the midst of suffering, we must pay attention to our conduct.
- ☞ “Don’t let your character be molded by the desires of your ignorant days.” (1 Pet. 1:14 Phillips)
- ☞ **Be holy for I am Holy** = Separated by God and for God. The standard of holiness is conformity to God’s own character.

God's Gracious Activity in the Lives of Suffering Believers



If you address as Father
the One who impartially judges
according to each one's work

**conduct yourselves in fear
during the time of your stay on earth**

knowing that you were ...redeemed
...with precious blood, as of a lamb
unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ.

Hope expresses itself in fearing God (1:17-21)



- ❧ **Future judgment:** It is the certainty of final judgment which infuses our actions in the present with meaning and importance.
- ❧ **Your stay on earth=** the state of being in a strange locality without citizenship. (BDAG) Our citizenship is in heaven (Phil 3:20)
- ❧ **Conduct yourselves in fear=** Peter did not see any contradiction between living in hope because of future salvation and living in fear because of future judgment. The Christian is a mixture of exuberant, joyful, love for God as well as obedient, sober, fear of God.

Hope expresses itself in fearing God (1:17-21)



❧ Improper Fear

- ❧ A servile fear that tries to measure up to God's standards. (Rom. 8:15)
- ❧ An unbelieving anxiety that refuses to trust God. (Josh 1:8-9)
- ❧ Terror and dread at the thought of divine wrath and punishment.
- ❧ A dread that causes one to hide and distance himself from God. (Gen. 3:10)

Hope expresses itself in fearing God (1:17-21)



☞ Proper Fear

- ☞ A fear that leads to a radical and total dependence on the saving work of Christ.
- ☞ A fear of displeasing God. A fear that hates evil (Prov. 8:13). A fear that motivates obedience.
- ☞ A fear which withholds nothing from God. (Gen 22:12)
- ☞ A fear that leads to respect of human authorities. (1 Pet. 2:17)
- ☞ A fear that rules out earthly fears. It is a courageous fear, a fearless fear. (1 Pet. 3:14)
- ☞ A fear that is humble. (Rom. 11:20)
- ☞ A fear that is filial preserving an intimate relationship with God as Father. (1 Pet. 1:17)
- ☞ A fear which compels adoration, worship, love, awe, and reverence.



Hope expresses itself in fearing God (1:17-21)



☞ **Knowing that you were ransomed:**

☞ **Heightens a proper fear:** How we live our lives demonstrates the value we place on Christ's blood. We should be afraid of thinking too little of something which is so precious in God's sight.

C.T. Studd



“I am getting desperately afraid of going to heaven for I have had the vision of the shame I shall suffer as I get my first glimpse of the Lord Jesus; His majesty, power and marvellous love for me, who treated Him so meanly and shabbily on earth, and acted as though I did Him a favour in serving Him! No wonder God shall have to wipe away the tears off all faces, for we shall be broken-hearted when we see the depth of His love and the shallowness of ours.”

Hope expresses itself in fearing God (1:17-21)



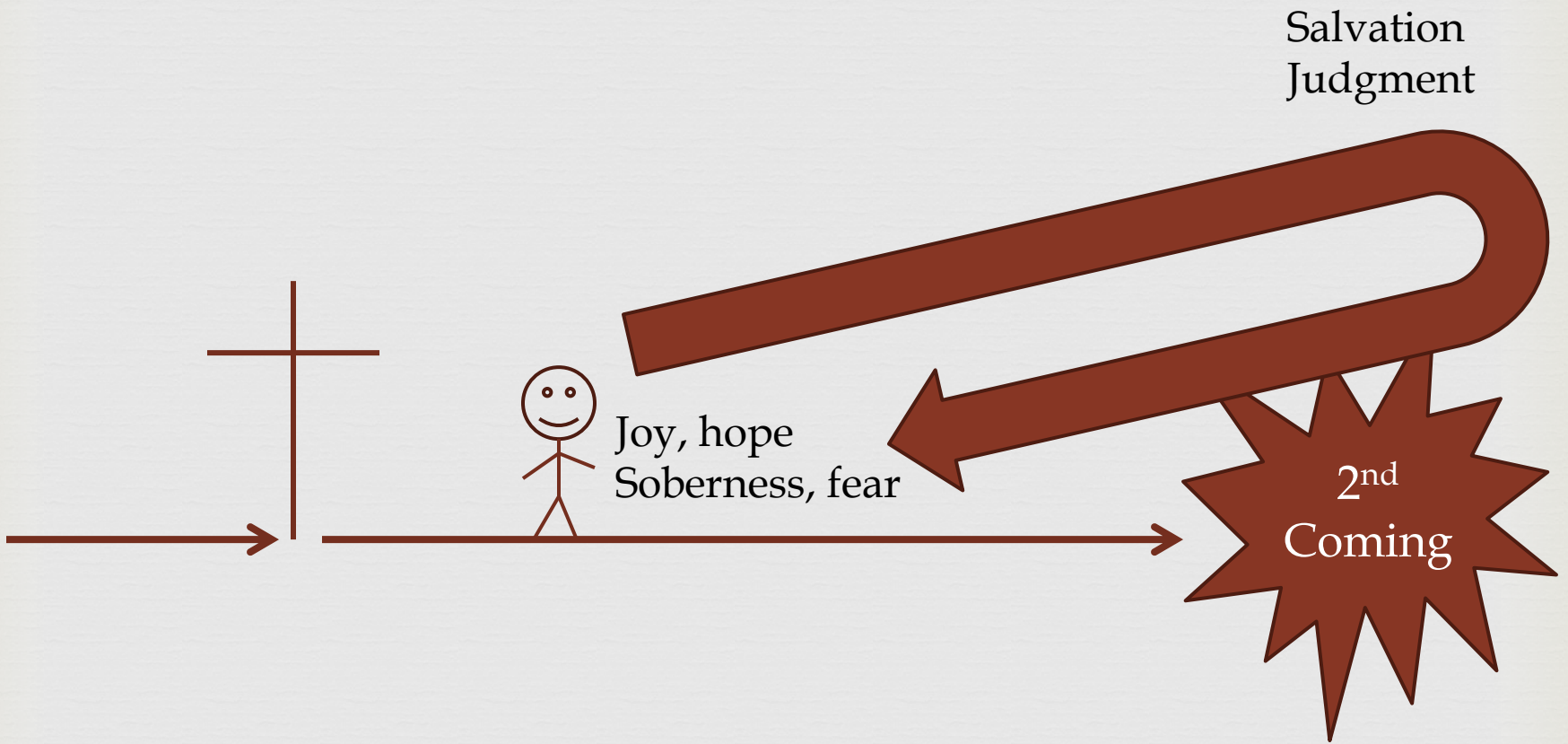
☞ **Knowing that you were ransomed:**

- ☞ **Heightens a proper fear:** How we live our lives demonstrates the value we place on Christ's blood. We should be afraid of thinking too little of something which is so precious in God's sight.
- ☞ **Removes an improper fear:** Christ's sacrifice frees us from the terror of final condemnation.



☞ Note the beauty of the language:

amnou amōmou kai aspilou christou proegnōsmenou...
lamb unblemished and spotless Christ foreknown...



Salvation
Judgment

Joy, hope
Soberness, fear

2nd
Coming

Question for July 8



- ✧ Psalm 34 is quoted twice in 1 Peter (2:3; 3:10-12). Some have suggested that Peter had Ps. 34 in its entirety in mind when writing this letter. What parallels do you discern between Psalm 34 and 1 Peter?