

1 Peter 1:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God.

Analysis

Peter describes believers' new relationship to God through Christ. "Who by him do believe in God" (tous di' autou pistous eis theon)—Christ is the means/mediator through whom believers access faith in God. No one comes to the Father except through Christ (John 14:6). The dual description of God follows: He "raised him up from the dead" (ton egeiranta auton ek nekrōn)—God the Father resurrected Christ, vindicating His claims and accomplishing salvation. He "gave him glory" (kai doxan autō donta)—exalted Christ to supreme position (Philippians 2:9-11). The purpose clause: "that your faith and hope might be in God" (hōste tēn pistin hymōn kai elpida einai eis theon)—resurrection and exaltation provide objective foundation for believers' subjective faith and hope.

Historical Context

For first-century believers facing persecution and martyrdom, Christ's resurrection and glorification provided hope that their own suffering would end in vindication and glory. Jewish readers familiar with messianic expectations found confirmation that Jesus fulfilled prophecies. Gentile converts learned that Christianity wasn't myth (like pagan religions) but historical reality—Christ genuinely died and rose. Early creedal formulas emphasized resurrection (Romans 10:9, 1 Corinthians 15:3-4), making it Christianity's cornerstone truth.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does Christ's resurrection provide objective foundation for your faith rather than mere subjective feelings?
2. In what ways does knowing God exalted Christ encourage your hope during present trials?

Interlinear Text

τὴν δι' αὐτῷ πιστεύοντας εἰς θεόν τὴν ἐγείραντα
Who **by** **him** **do believe** **in** **God** **Who** **that raised**
G3588 G1223 G846 G4100 G1519 G2316 G3588 G1453

αὐτῷ ἐκ νεκρῶν καὶ δόξαν αὐτῷ δόντα ὥστε τὴν
him **from** **the dead** **and** **glory** **him** **gave** **that** **Who**
G846 G1537 G3498 G2532 G1391 G846 G1325 G5620 G3588

πίστιν ὑμῶν καὶ ἐλπίδα εἶναι εἰς θεόν
faith **your** **and** **hope** **might be** **in** **God**
G4102 G5216 G2532 G1680 G1511 G1519 G2316

Additional Cross-References

Acts 2:24 (Resurrection): Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.

Hebrews 2:9 (Glory): But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.

John 12:44 (Faith): Jesus cried and said, He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me.

Hebrews 7:25 (References God): Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

Ephesians 1:15 (Faith): Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints,

1 Peter 3:22 (References God): Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.

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