

A person wearing a dark hoodie stands in the lower-left foreground of a dense forest. Sunlight filters through the tall, thin trees, creating a bright, hazy atmosphere. The text 'CALLED INTO HIS WONDERFUL fight' is overlaid on the scene. 'CALLED INTO HIS' is in white, 'WONDERFUL' is in yellow, and 'fight' is in a large, white, elegant script font.

CALLED INTO HIS
WONDERFUL *fight*

A person wearing a dark hoodie is seen from behind, standing in a dense forest. The sun is shining brightly through the tall, thin trees, creating a hazy, golden light that filters through the canopy. The overall mood is contemplative and hopeful.

CALLED INTO HIS
WONDERFUL *fight*

Looking Forward to a Gracious Salvation

1 Peter 2:9

...for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

CALLLED INTO HIS
WONDERFUL *Light*

1 Peter 1:3-6a, 13

³ All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by his great mercy that we have been born again, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Now we live with great expectation,⁴ and we have a priceless inheritance-- an inheritance that is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay.⁵ And through your faith, God is protecting you by his power until you receive this salvation, which is ready to be revealed on the last day for all to see.⁶ So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, . . .

¹³ So think clearly and exercise self-control. Look forward to the gracious salvation that will come to you when Jesus Christ is revealed to the world.

What Does Our Future Look Like?

CALLED INTO HIS
WONDERFUL *Fight*

What Our Future Looks Like

⁵³ For our dying bodies must be transformed into bodies that will never die; our mortal bodies must be transformed into immortal bodies. ⁵⁴ Then, when our dying bodies have been transformed into bodies that will never die, this Scripture will be fulfilled: "Death is swallowed up in victory...."

(1 Corinthians 15:53-54)

What Our Future Looks Like

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³ I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, "Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. ⁴ He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever."

CALLED INTO HIS
WONDERFUL *Light*

What Our Future Looks Like

⁵ And the one sitting on the throne said, "Look, I am making everything new!" And then he said to me, "Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy and true." ⁶ And he also said, "It is finished! I am the Alpha and the Omega-- the Beginning and the End. To all who are thirsty I will give freely from the springs of the water of life." ⁷ All who are victorious will inherit all these blessings, and I will be their God, and they will be my children.

(Revelation 21:1-7)

CALLED INTO HIS
WONDERFUL *Light*

What Our Future Looks Like

"No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him."

(1 Corinthians 2:9b)

CALLLED INTO HIS
WONDERFUL *Light*

What Our Future Looks Like

Spectacularly good!

CALLLED INTO HIS
WONDERFUL *fight*

How Will We Live in the
Light of This
Spectacularly Good
Future?

CALLED INTO HIS
WONDERFUL *Light*

How Will We Live in the Light of This Spectacularly Good Future?

- Carrying God's presence in ourselves and sharing it with others
- Holy, set apart for God's purposes, and pure
- Fearlessly loving
- Grateful, happy, humble
- Alert to the devil's temptations

Enduring Suffering

Dear friends, don't be surprised at the fiery trials you are going through, as if something strange were happening to you. ¹³ Instead, be very glad-- for these trials make you partners with Christ in his suffering, so that you will have the wonderful joy of seeing his glory when it is revealed to all the world.

1 Peter 4:12-13

CALLED INTO HIS
WONDERFUL *fight*

Peter's Suffering

“In their very deaths they were made the subjects of sport: for they were covered with the hides of wild beasts, and worried to death by dogs, or nailed to crosses, or set fire to, and when the day waned, burned to serve for the evening lights.”

Tacitus, *Annals*

CALLLED INTO HIS
WONDERFUL *Light*

Our Suffering

CALLED INTO HIS
WONDERFUL *Fight*

Partners in Christ's Suffering

Instead, be very glad-- for these trials make you partners with Christ in his suffering, so that you will have the wonderful joy of seeing his glory when it is revealed to all the world.

1 Peter 4:13

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Continue to Trust God while Suffering

So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you have to endure many trials for a little while. ⁷ These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold-- though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world. ⁸ You love him even though you have never seen him. Though you do not see him now, you trust him; and you rejoice with a glorious, inexpressible joy. ⁹ The reward for trusting him will be the salvation of your souls.

(1 Peter 1:6-9) CALLED INTO HIS
WONDERFUL *Light*

Surprising Promise

So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.

(1 Peter 1:7)

CALLLED INTO HIS
WONDERFUL *Light*

Hopeful

And if someone asks about your Christian hope, always be ready to explain it. ¹⁶ But do this in a gentle and respectful way. . . .

(1 Peter 3:15b-16a)

Challenge

1. Meditate on the future God has in store for us. Note how that future makes you feel.
2. Notice ways in which your trust in Jesus causes you to live differently than those around you.
3. Think about what you would say if someone asked you why you are so hopeful.

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Looking Forward to a Gracious Salvation