"Sneak Peek" at the Second Lesson Using Meditations

O risen Lord, you came to your disciples and took away their fears with your word of peace. Come to us also by your Word and sacrament and banish our fears with the comforting assurance of your abiding presence ... Amen. (Prayer of the Day for Easter 2)

I Peter 1:3-9

A Living Hope

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he gave us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ into an inheritance that is undying, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you. ⁵ Through faith you are being protected by God's power for the salvation that is ready to be revealed at the end of time.

⁶ Because of this you rejoice very much, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various kinds of trials ⁷ so that the proven character of your faith—which is more valuable than gold, which passes away even though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise, glory, and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not see him now, yet by believing in him, you are filled with a joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹ because you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

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THE QUESTION(S) OF THE DAY:

- 1) Some context. Let's talk a little bit about Peter and his "little" letters.
- 2) Hope is the word of focus for the week *Meditations*. Define hope. What comes to your mind when you compare hope in general with the "living hope" of verse 3?
- 3) There he goes again! God puts "rejoice" in the same sentence as "*grieved by …trials*!" What is it that God doesn't get? Or … what is it that I don't get?

4) To frightened, troubled, doubting, (*insert your own word*), disciples the Risen Christ gives proof and peace. They saw it, touched it heard it on Easter night. Where do we find this proof and peace?