

THE BOOK OF FIRST PETER

1 PETER 1: 1-5 THE NEW BIRTH CHAPTER

The purpose - Chapter .5:12 - To give people assurance in times of testing.

The writer - The Apostle Peter. Luke 6:12-14 - an Apostle was one who had seen the Lord.

Matthew 16:16 - Peter's conversion - a confession of faith in Jesus as personal Savior.

The Apostle Peter is one of the most prominent of Bible characters. He was very impulsive and daring: He was unwavering in the truth of Redemption. Luke 22:31-34 - NOTE - be careful about feeling you will never backslide.

VS. 1-3 THREE STEPS IN A SINNER'S SALVATION:

1. Chosen by God the Father - Deut.7.6; Mt.20:16; Many called few chosen.
1 Cor.1:26-29 - be careful about worldly wisdom.
2. Set apart by the Spirit of God - 2 Thess.2:13 - when sinners believe the truth.
3. Cleansed by the precious blood of Christ - 1 Pet.1:18-19; 1 Jn.1:7; Lev.17:11.

VS. 2 THE RESULTS OF SALVATION:

1. Isaiah 57:20-21 - The wicked have no peace.
2. The Grace of God *always* precedes peace.

VS. 3-5 THE SAINT'S INHERITANCE:

1. What were you before you got saved ? Eph.2:1 = dead in trespasses and sin.
2. Made possible by the *MERCY* of God. Mercy is God acting in kindness and favor on the part of undeserving sinners. Eph.2:8,9.
3. A '*living hope*' - a hope that is alive - by the work of the Savior - Jn.11:25,26.

VS. 4 A PERFECT, ETERNAL HOME:

1. 2 Cor.5:1 - available at death for the *born again*. Heb.4:9 - a place of perfect rest.
2. Rev.7:15-17 - a place of no pain, sickness, sorrow, suffering, aging, parting, etc.
3. Rom.8:17 - Our guarantee - we are Heirs of God, Joint Heirs with Jesus Christ.
Jn.14:1-4
4. Our reservation - Jn.17:24.

VS. 5 OUR PRESERVATION:

1. It is sad that so many who profess to believe God's Word do not accept it as such.
2. "...we are *KEPT* by the *power of God*. Not our abilities or works.
THINK - - If He can't KEEP, He couldn't SAVE.
Jn.5:24 ; Jn.10:27-31; Rom.8:1; The believer is secure in Christ.

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1 PETER 1: 6-25 - THE RESULTS OF OUR SALVATION

Vs. 6-7 - Our Rejoicing:

1. In tribulation and temptations.
 - A. Both are more precious than gold.
 - B. Praise, honor, and glory of God at His appearing - vs.7
 - C. Purpose of - 2 Cor.12:7; Heb.12:6-11
2. In Jesus Christ.
 - A. have not seen - Heb.11:6
 - B. Yet believing - Heb.11:13
 - C. Ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory - vs.8
 - D. Ye love - vs.8; Jn.14:21
 - E. Results of rejoicing in Christ Jesus.
 - 1) Inquired by the prophets - Gen.49:10; Dan.2:44-45
 - 2) Diligently searched for - Zech.6:12-13
 - 3) Angels desired to look into this salvation - vs.12
 - 4) They (the prophets) moved by the Spirit of Christ when foretelling the suffering of Christ and the glory to follow - Isa.53

Vs. 13-17 Our Responsibility:

1. Gird up the loins of your mind - vs.13; Acts 17:11-12.
2. Be sober (morally alert) - vs.13.
3. Watch for the fulfillment of your hope - vs.13; Acts 1:10-11.
4. Be obedient children - vs.14; 1 Sam.15:22.
5. Be changed - vs.14; Rom.12:1-2.
6. Fear God - vs.17.

Vs. 18-25 Our Redemption:

1. NOT redeemed with corruptible -
 - A. be it gold or silver; works; morality; traditions; creeds; etc.
2. BUT by the precious blood of Christ -
 - A. As an innocent lamb - Jn.1:29.
 - B. Without spot or blemish - Heb.9:14; Lev.1:3.
 - Example: Pilate said, "I find no fault in Him."
 - Pilate's wife - "Have nothing to do with *this just man*"
 - Judas - "I have betrayed *innocent* blood."
 - Soldier - "truly this is *the Son of God*."
 - Thief on cross - " He hath done *nothing* amiss."
3. God's plan - Foreordained - from the beginning - vs.20
 - A. We must believe God (rely on -trust -) by Christ -vs.21

THE BOOK OF FIRST PETER

1 Peter 2: 1-8

A NEW PEOPLE WITH A NEW LIFE

1 Peter 5:12 - Key Verse - The purpose for the book.

2 Cor.5:17 - The New Birth produces a new nature. Now you have two.

LAY ASIDE: Malice - a disposition to injure another.

Guile - an act of deceiving.

Hypocrisies - false profession, pretending to be something you are not.

Envy - cherishing ill will toward another because of their success.

Evil speaking - spiteful, critical, untrue, hurtful speech.

VS. 2 - NEW FOOD FOR THE NEW PERSON TO STRENGTHEN THE NEW LIFE:

A. 1 Cor.5:7,8 - Food for old man no good for new life.

B. 2 Cor: 2:16 - Food to make one grow into conformity of Christ.

VS. 4 - 'LIVING STONE' IS CHRIST HIMSELF: Mt.16:18 - Church is built upon.

A. Ex.17:6 - Moses smiting the stone typifies Christ smitten on Calvary, that the Spirit of Life may flow from Him to all who would drink - Isa.53:5 ; Jn.4:3,14; Jn.7:37-39.

B. Vs.4 - Christ disallowed by men (rejected), chosen of God.

A perpetual attitude of men toward Him - Isa.53:3 - "HE IS"

VS. 5 - NEW LIVING STONES: A Spiritual house - 1 Cor.6:19-20.

A. Rom.12:1-3 - To offer living sacrifices to God's service.

B. Israel of old had three special groups. (1) Priesthood (2) Levites (3) Warriors.

C. In the Church - All the saved are priest, to serve their fellow believers with Holy things. All are soldiers to fight the good fight of faith.

VS. 6-8 - CHRIST IS A BLESSING OR A CURSE:

A. For the believer - no judgment - Jn.5:24; Rom.8:1

B. Vs.7 - to the believer He is a PRECIOUS SAVIOR.

Chpt.1:7 - because of *precious faith* given, with trials - 2 Pet.1:1

Chpt.2:6,7 - because of *Precious Stone Foundation* on which to build.

C. Vs.8 - TO THE UNBELIEVING - those disrespectful and disobedient to His Word - He is - *A STONE OF STUMBLING* - A Rock of judgment - Jn.3:18 & 36.

CONCLUSION: Rev.1:5,6 - Loved by Christ, loosed from our sins by His precious blood, to live for God and for the good of others on this earth. Remember 1 Peter 5:12.

THE BOOK OF FIRST PETER
1 Peter 2: 9-25
A Chosen Generation --- A New Nation

When one is born of God and made conscious of a new life, with new interest, new desires, and new sympathies, they are often troubled by the difficulty of fitting their new self to the old associations and environment. They are confronted with having to live around the associations in family circumstances, business associates, under the same government and social conditions.

The new believer must find how to fit their new life into them in such a way as to be a testimony and encouragement to them, and yet not have them hinder the new life.

The early Christians were keenly watched by the heathens. They had to be very careful not to offend them and thus bring the Christian name into disrepute.

KEEP IN MIND THE THOUGHT....."Fitting the new life into old relations."

VS. 9 - THE NEW GENERATION - THE NEW NATION:

- A. A Chosen Generation, 1 Pet.1:2,3 - Divine calling. Jn.15:16 - Christian's Privilege.
- B. A Royal Priesthood - Christian's dignity. See Scofield's note @ bottom of page.
- C. A Holy Nation - Christian's quality. Lev.20:7. In likeness of God.
- D. A Peculiar People. Not meaning odd, but with something the world does not have.
Jn.14:27 A people separated unto God.
Vs. 21-23, Reveal the characteristics of Christ Himself.

VS. 10 - THE PAST AND PRESENT TENSE OF THE NEW PEOPLE:

- A. The past - *not a people*. Eph.2:2,3 - how they walked and talked. No Mercy.
- B. The present - now a people *redeemed and recognized by God*. Recipients of mercy - 2 Cor.1:10

VS. 11 - STRANGERS AND PILGRIMS: Instructions for self management - keep clean.

VS. 12 - BE HONEST IN WORD AND DEED: In midst of false accusations, maintain your testimony.

VS. 13-15 - SUBJECTION TO CIVIL LAW:

- A. Rom.13:1-7 - Law was ordained of God to suppress evil.

VS. 16-20 - BE SUBMISSIVE TO THOSE OVER YOU:

A. Believers are free from penalty of sin and spiritual death, but not free from responsibility of living right and honoring God before men. 1 Cor.8:9

VS. 24,25 - FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE 'NEW LIFE' GIVER:

- His pure life, sacrificial death are examples.
- Vs.25 - Owing Christ's authority and under His care.

THE BOOK OF FIRST PETER

THE CHRISTIAN GENTLEMAN

1 PETER 3: 8-17

The word 'Gentleman' means a well bred and honorable man; a respectable and well behaved man.

VS. 8-11 - HOW TO BE A CHRISTIAN GENTLEMAN:

A. The first principle which must be maintained is UNITY. Unity is a Bible doctrine taught from Genesis to Revelation.

- 1.) Psm. 133:1 - It is a blessed thing.
- 2.) Acts 2:1-14 - It produces power in the church. There is strength in unity.
- 3.) Phil.1:27 - Purpose of maintaining unity = "*...for the faith of the gospel...*"

SOME EXAMPLES OF BROKEN UNITY:

Numbers 12: 1-13 - Jealousy of God's servant, Moses.
Vs.10 - Penalty of disunity.

Numbers 16:1-14 - False accusations toward the man of God, Moses.
Most disunity stems around people's jealousy or dislike of the preacher. Very seldom a doctrinal issue.

1 Cor. 3:1-3 - Disunity a sign of carnality. Being ruled by the flesh and not the Spirit.
Making too much of men and not enough of Christ.

Acts 20:28-30 - God instructs preachers to watch for those who might break unity in the church. A wolf won't spare the flock. He tries to get some of the flock someone else has raised and tended. NATURALLY - a wolf doesn't have his own flock.

Heb.13:7&13 - Remember your leader. Follow him and submit yourself to his leadership as long as it is Scriptural. He must give a report of you at the judgment seat of Christ.

VS. 12 - GOD IS A WITNESS TO ALL OUR ACTIONS AND PRAYERS.

VS. 13-17 - CHRISTIANS GAIN THROUGH SUFFERING FOR WELL DOING.

VS. 15 - SUFFERING A RESULT OF SANCTIFICATION. Maintain your testimony in midst of suffering.

VS. 17 - SUFFERING FOR CHRIST IS THE BEST LIFE , IF IT IS GOD'S WILL.

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THE BOOK OF FIRST PETER
GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION AND BAPTISM
1 PETER 3:18-22

The doctrine of Salvation is the main theme of the Bible. Winning people to Christ, Baptizing them Scripturally and teaching them to reach others is the GREAT COMMISSION given to the church by Christ Himself.

The Epistles are letters written to Christians and churches, those who had been born again, BUT - they are filled with the plan of salvation as a reminder of how God worked out that plan in their lives. REMEMBER 1 Peter 5:12 !

VS. 18 - CHRIST 'ONCE' SUFFERED FOR SINS:

Heb. 10:10-14 - Other sacrifices were offered to *cover sins*, but could not take away sins.

Heb 10:10 - Jesus offered Himself **ONCE** for all men - Rom.3:23

Heb.10:12 - Jesus offered Himself **ONCE** for all sin.

Heb.10:14 - Jesus offered Himself **ONCE** for all time and eternity. - Heb.9:12

The sacrifice that Jesus made **ONCE** will bring us to God - Jn.14:6 Acts 4:12

EVERY UNSAVED SOUL IS IN SATAN'S BONDAGE:

2 Cor.4:4 ; Col.1:13; Eph.2:1-3; 2 Tim.2:24-26

GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION PREDICTED AND PREACHED IN TYPE AND SYMBOL BY O.T. PROPHETS:

1.) Noah - was a preacher of righteousness - 2 Peter 2:5

2.) The ark was a 'type' of Christ - Eight souls were saved **BY** the 'ARK' **FROM** the water of judgment. **Noah and his family did not get into the water to be saved, but into the ark ,** which was a 'type' of Christ !

ALL who were not in the ark perished in the water.

The ark had ONE door, one entrance, one window for light - Jesus is the door - Jn.10:9, and Jesus is the light - Jn.9:5

3.) Gal.3:8 - The Gospel was preached by Abraham in type in Genesis 22:1-14.

1 pet.1:18-20 - Christ, as the eternal Lamb, redeemed His people.

1 Pet.1:3 & 23 - the shed blood of Jesus Christ is the basis of Salvation, not water.

VS. 21 - BAPTISM IS ONLY A SYMBOL, A PICTURE, OF THAT WHICH SAVES:

It pictures our participation in the death, burial and resurrection of Christ by faith -

Rom.6:4. It produces a good conscious toward God because of obedience.

NOAH AND HIS FAMILY BELIEVED THREE THINGS ABOUT THE ARK:

1.) Sin and disobedience brings the judgment of God - Gen. 6:5-7

2.) The ark, *DIVINELY APPOINTED AND DIRECTED BY GOD, WAS THE 'ONLY' SAFE PLACE OF REFUGE* to escape judgment.

3.) That those not in ark would perish - Jn.8:21,24

THE BOOK OF FIRST PETER

THE NEW LIFE CONTRASTED WITH THE OLD

1 Peter 4:1

Conversion to God, "The New Birth" involves an inward *and* an outward change. 2 Cor.5:17 - when one is 'born again' they receive a new nature with new desires and new ambitions. The whole behavior is changed from selfish worldliness to devoted follower of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The importance of this is emphasized in the opening verses of chapter 4. Everything Jesus taught condemns this present world system, and leads ungodly men to hate Him and His people. The Lord's church is to be IN the world, but NOT OF the world, or even like it, witnessing against it's evil, and offering pardon through the cross.

VS. 1-11 - CONVERSION INVOLVES AN INWARD AND OUTWARD CHANGE:

Vs. 1 - Suffering in the flesh sometimes keeps us from indulging in sin - Heb.12:6

Vs. 2-4 - The change of the New Birth is to cause us to walk in the Spirit and will cause the new life to be a mystery to the old friends.

Vs. 5 - Jesus will be the judge of the saved and the unsaved - Jn.5:20,21 & 29

Rom.6:9-11 - Death of Christ an encouragement to holy living.

Vs. 7-11 - The end of all things is to be kept in mind by the Christian and is to govern their actions.

An appeal for unity of the believers.

VS. 11-19 - CONVERSION INVOLVES AN OUTWARD CHANGE:

One of these changes is the willingness, if necessary, and ability to suffer for the Lord.

Vs. 12-14 - Fiery trials and reproaches are but partaking of Christ's sufferings, as long as they are for His sake and His glory.

Vs. 15 - If we suffer as a busybody in other's matters we should be ashamed. Wrong doings are not of Christ neither glorify Him. They will be punished.

Vs. 17 - God does not 'pass over' the failures of His people. His eyes are open - He disciplines them in order that they may be careful to walk in obedience to His Word.

Vs. 18 - Where the sinners will appear:

Rev. 21:17 - NOT in Heaven - because they are unclean.

Psm.1:5 - NOT in the congregation of the righteous in judgment.

Mt.25:34 - NOT At the right hand of Christ.

Mt.25:41 - BUT - at the left hand of Christ.

FINALLY - at the Great White Throne of Judgment, and in the lake of fire

THE BOOK OF FIRST PETER

SUNSHINE AND SHADOW

1 Peter 4:12-19

There are several things about suffering that need to be brought out; LIKE - Christians are not exempt. Christians should never have to suffer because of their own sins - vs.15. Person who suffer for Christ's sake may commit the keeping of their soul unto God.

Learn these lessons about suffering:

1. The benefits of suffering - 1 Pet.1:7
Many of God's choicest blessings are found in the valleys of suffering. I.E., the Disciples in the lake when Jesus came walking on the water; Christ on the cross; Paul's sufferings.
2. Many times God reveals His will through sufferings - Gen.26:24 (Vs.19)
A. Many times God reveals Himself in the darkest part of trials. It was in the death of a dear friend that God revealed Himself to Isaiah - Isa.6 ; Gen.28 - God revealed Himself to Jacob who was fearful of Esau's pursuit.
B. As long as the glitter and glare of the world fills our eyes, it will keep us from seeing God's revelation of His will.
3. Some of the greatest victories are won through testings. 2 Cor.4:17 James 1:2
A. Our trials work in our behalf to make us richer Believers.
4. We should learn to sing amidst the trials and suffering. 2 Cor.6:10
Remember Paul and Silas in the Philippian jail ?
A. A Christian must become the master over his circumstances and not the servant of them.
B. We should learn to take pleasure in our persecutions - 2 Cor.12:10.
5. Our example for or in suffering is Christ. 1 Peter 2:21 Vs.16
A. Taking our cross, we are to follow CLOSE behind Him.
6. Our sufferings (for Christ) will bring glory then. Rom.8:18 Vs.13
A. "Weeping endureth for a night, but rejoicing cometh in the morning." Psm. 0:5
7. PLEASURE NOW - for the Christ rejecter, but eternal judgment later - Vs.17-18

THE BOOK OF FIRST PETER
CHRISTIAN SERVICE IN VIEW OF THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST:
1 PETER 5:1-14

The theme of 1 Peter is Christian suffering. The exhortation of the entire book is to teach believers how to conduct themselves even in the midst of severe trials and testings, which have a tendency to cause some to be moved from steadfastness.

Vs. 1-4 - The Pastoral Office: Duties and manner in which he is perform them:

Vs.1 - The Pastor is to live among the flock. To reside in same field as the flock. This eliminates 'the radio pastor of the air' or the T.V. Pastor who is never there.

NOTE: Peter's witness of the sufferings of Christ - Mt.26:37, and also the Glory of Christ -

Mt.17:1-4

Vs.2 - The Pastor is to feed the flock. Jn.21:15-17, that is his first, paramount responsibility.

Acts 20:28 - the flock is the Lord's and not the Pastor's.

1 Pet.2:2 - The food for the flock is the Word of God.

2 Tim.3:16 - The Food has all the ingredients to make a healthy flock.

Vs. 2 - Pastor is to have the oversight of the flock. Acts 20:28, given by the Holy Spirit. He is to be the *under shepherd* of the **Good Shepherd**, but "over shepherd" of the flock. Therefore, no board or party has the authority of this office.

Acts 20:29 - flock is subject to grievous wolves. Vs.30, danger of camouflaged wolves.

Vs.2 - Pastor is to do his work willingly, not as an hireling, but as a servant of God.

1 Cor.9:16,17 - a judgment upon him if he does not.

Heb.14:17 - Pastor has to give account for the flock, as well as himself.

Vs. 3 - Pastor is not a Lord but a Leader. Not to be haughty or overbearing in attitude.

BUT - he is given the orders to command - 1 Tim.4:11,12. 1 Tim. 4:1-2.

1 Thess. 5:12-13 - The flock's responsibility to the Pastor: For work's sake.

Vs. 4 - Pastor's work to be rewarded after the second coming of Christ - Rev.22:12

Vs. 5 - The duty of all the congregation to Pastor, and to themselves.

Vs. 8,9 - Warning of an enemy more dangerous, cruel and restless than the worst of men.

A lion has strength and can overcome others. Satan has power and by his temptations he can overcome all who do not depend on the power of the Holy Spirit.

Vs.9 - Satan's main target is the believer's faith. We all have the same battles, especially during trials. Mt. Capt. 4 & Lk. Capt. 4 - we can overcome by knowing the Word.

Vs.10 - Peter's prayer and doxology. He did not pray that they would be delivered from sufferings, but that they would be stabilized, strengthened, and settled by them, and exhorted that this is

THE TRUE GRACE OF GOD WHEREIN THEY STOOD.