

1 Peter

I'm excited about starting this series on 1 Peter. I think we feel a common bond with Peter because he is so human. He makes mistakes, corrects them, and then makes mistakes again—he basically told Jesus that he didn't know how to fish and then when they caught all the fish He fell at his knees and told him to get away from him because he was such a sinner. He asked Jesus to walk on the water, and then he loses focus and sinks so Jesus rescues him. He told Jesus he would never deny him and then he denies him three times but Jesus rescues him again around the fire after the resurrection. I know I am worse but Peter gives me hope for a better relationship with our Lord. I pray He rescues me from my stupid mistakes.

We see in Peter's life that God does not call us because we have our act together. God loves us, chooses us and call us into a relationship.

Peter's name is mentioned in the gospels 2nd only to Jesus. Jesus was often talking to Jesus.

Peter was passionate. Peter was the first to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah. But he also rebuked Jesus. Peter said where are we going to go? Only you have the words of life. Peter ran with John to the tomb. Peter dove in the water when Jesus appeared by the Sea of Galilee.

Peter's letters are not directed to a specific church, individual (s) or one specific sin. The primary message is "just trust the Lord and obey him every day...even the little things in your life."

Those who are elect. Elect according to the foreknowledge of God. God chose us beforehand because God knew we were going to come to Him. God is minus time. We have been chosen by God, but we have also chosen God ourselves.

Peter the apostle. Apostles mean one who is sent out. Do we still have apostles today? Well, we have missionaries. We also have preachers who prophesy and have revelation. The Bible is a closed Book.

Opening Salutation (1:1–2)

The Identity of the People of God (1:3–2:10)

A. God's Great Mercy and the Salvation of his People (1:3–12)

1. The Hope and Joy of God's Elect (1:3–9)

2. The Unique Privileges of God's Elect (1:10–12)

B. The Call to Holiness as a Way of Life (1:13–2:3)

1. Be Holy as God is Holy (1:13–16)
2. Living in the Fear of God (1:17–21)
3. Loving One Another from a Pure Heart (1:22–25)
4. Strengthened and Nourished by the Word (2:1–3)

1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,

To God's elect, exiles scattered throughout the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia,

² who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with his blood:

Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

Praise to God for a Living Hope—Tim Keller

1. Why do we need living hope—We tend to focus on things on earth; we cannot have hope on anything but Christ; *The foundation of your character is your hope!*

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.

This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

2. How does the hope function—we can have hope in Christ and have joy even though we are suffering—*the sorrow actually increases your faith and joy! —it makes you wiser.*

⁶ In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. ⁷ These (the grief) have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed (when Jesus returns)

this mean Jesus will heap praise, glory and honor on us! In John 17—"Father I want you to love them even as you love me." Jesus took what we deserve so we can take what Jesus deserved!

3. How do we get it; how does it activate our living hope; we believe in the gospel. *Note: Difference between Religion and Gospel—Religion is I give God a righteous record and he owes me; Gospel is God give me a righteous record and I live free for him. It is critical to believe this to be born again!*
4. How do we make sure it operates—you look at Jesus and love Him for all he has done. Jesus' living hope is us—Isaiah 53

⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

5. Peter teaches how the prophets searched for evidence of the Messiah, of God's plan. He speaks of the Spirit of Christ—the Holy Spirit. They were saved without fully understanding God's plan. They experience grace through faith. He also says the angels were curious. They can't relate to some of the things we experience.

¹⁰ Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, ¹¹ trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of the Messiah and the glories that would follow. ¹² It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things.

Be Holy

6. Peter said “prepare your minds!! Be clear thinking, e.g., what is the first thing we think about when we wake up; during the day, when we go to bed? The Holy Spirit sanctifies us—it means it sets us apart as a child of God (positional) but it also guides us to be Holy. We tend to relate our holiness as only something God has. Holy means “to be different” through sanctification. The process of sanctification happens all our life. Don't live the life you had before you were born again. Be holy.

¹³ Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. ¹⁴ As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. ¹⁵ But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; ¹⁶ for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.”

7. What is “reverent fear” We are very blessed in that we have the gospel and a clear declaration of God's plan. Peter and Paul teach us how to conduct our lives to be holy through the gospel.

¹⁷ Since you call on a Father who judges each person's work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear. ¹⁸ For you know that it was not with perishable

things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed (ransomed, purchased) from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors,¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.²⁰ He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake.²¹ Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

8. Love one another!

²² Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart.^[b]²³ For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.²⁴ For,

“All people are like grass,
and all their glory is like the flowers of the field;
the grass withers and the flowers fall,
²⁵ but the word of the Lord endures forever.”^[c]

9. Jesus says obey my commandments, but this changed when we believed. The New Covenant as opposed to the Mosaic Covenant. The New Covenant will place the law on our hearts. The lawgiver is our very heart and God speaks personally to us. We are led by the Spirit. The law has become personal through the Holy Spirit—God expects personal obedience...and for sprinkling with His blood for when we run astray. I John 1:7. ...the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin.

And this is the Word (is the Good News) that was preached to you.