



# *Epistle of 1 Peter*

## *1 Peter 1:1,2 - Introduction and The Triune God*

### • **Let's begin with some background of *1 Peter*.**

- Author is Peter (Jew with a Greek name), the disciple/apostle, written in ~64 A.D.
  - *Greek – Petros, large stone fragment or man of rock.*
    - *Aramaic - Cephus*
- The epistle focuses on basic, not overly scholarly applied doctrine with an eschatological (end times) theme which often refers to OT prophecy.
- Written to mostly Gentiles but also Jews scattered throughout Asia Minor.
  - Constable – *‘Peter stated his reason for writing, namely, to encourage his readers, who were facing persecution for their faith, to stand firm (5:12)’.*
    - Persecution was mostly Roman via Nero.

### • ***1 Peter 1:1 - “Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,***



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***To the pilgrims of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia,***”

- Peter is writing to *pilgrims* (*parepidamos*, *strangers*), indicating people residing where they are not citizens.
  - Could *pilgrims* or *strangers* also refer to their heavenly home?
- *Dispersion* is bettered translated as *scattered* throughout Asia Minor.

- Being scattered is of God!
  - Lev 26:33 Deut 4:27 28:64 32:26 Est 3:8 Psalms 44:11 Ezek 6:8 John 7:35,11:52 Acts 8:4 James 1:1
- So where are these places?
  - Asia Minor was mostly throughout what we know as Turkey today





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***•1 Peter 1:2 -“elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace be multiplied.”***

- What does it mean to be *elect according to the foreknowledge (prognosis) of God the Father*?
  - Is this a position that *God the Father* determined or is it something He knew would occur?
    - In Medicine, *prognosis* means likely or expected development of a disease.
- What does it mean to be *in sanctification (being set apart) of the Spirit*?
  - *Set apart* for what kind of *obedience and* also what is this *sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ* all about?
    - Is this *obedience* to works or to the faith?
      - » *Acts 6:7 - Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples*



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multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were **obedient to the faith**.

1 Peter 1:22 - Seeing ye have purified your souls in **obeying the truth through the Spirit** unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

- What about *sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ* for the believer?
  - »Heb 9:19,20 - For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water, scarlet wool, and hyssop, **and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people**, saying, “This is the blood of the covenant which God has commanded you.” (Ex 24:8).
  - »Heb 9:13,14 – For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, **sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ**, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?
  - »1 John 2:2 - And **He Himself is the propitiation** for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.
- Notice that all three members of the trinity are in this verse!
- *Grace to you and peace be multiplied.*
  - This is like many of Paul’s salutations.



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- *Wuest – ‘The Greek word "grace" is so rich in its meaning that the reader is referred to the author's other books for a study of its classical and New Testament meanings, where it is fully treated. Here the word refers to the enabling grace for daily Christian living which is given to the saint yielded to and dependent upon the Holy Spirit.’*
  - What kind of *peace (eirēnē)* is this?
    - *Thayer – ‘the tranquil state of a soul assured of its salvation through Christ, and so fearing nothing from God and content with its earthly lot, of whatsoever sort that is’*
      - » *Rom 5:1 - Therefore **being justified by faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:*

• It's what God has done in Peter that makes these two epistles very special – let's see what scripture reveals.

- Simon, was a native of Bethsaida on the Sea of Galilee (*John 1:44*), a fisherman and married to Perpetua.
  - *Matt 4:18,19 - And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, **Simon called Peter**, and Andrew his brother, casting a net*



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*into the sea: for they were fishers. And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you **fishers of men**.*

•*Matt 14:28-30 - And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, **he walked on the water**, to go to Jesus. But when he saw the **wind boisterous**, he was afraid; and **beginning to sink**, he cried, saying, **Lord, save me**.*

•*Matt 16:15,16 - He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And **Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ**, the Son of the living God..*

•*Matt 16:21,22 - From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer.....Then **Peter took him, and began to rebuke him**, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee.*

•*Matt 26:33-35 - Peter answered and said to Him, “Even if all are made to stumble because of You, I will never be made to stumble.” Jesus said to him, “Assuredly, I say to you that this night, before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.” **Peter said to Him, “Even if I have to***





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*die with You, I will not deny You!” And so said all the disciples.*

*•John 21:17 - He said to him the third time, “Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?” Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, “Do you love Me?” And he said to Him, “Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You.” Jesus said to him, “Feed My sheep.*

- All these examples reveal Peter’s character as fervent and passionately devoted to the Lord, but at the same time impulsively emotional, hasty to judge, overly self-confident and he was excessively impacted and influenced by the world’s view around him. But a magnificent transition was created in him after his fall, through the grace of the risen Lord Jesus Christ.

*•Acts 2: 14,37,38 - But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words. Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Men and brethren, what shall we do?” Then Peter said to them,*



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*“Repent and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

• *Acts 3:6 - Then Peter said, “Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: **In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.**”*

• *Acts 4:13, 15 - Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus. But Peter and John answered and said to them, “**Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge.**”*

• *Acts 9:34- And Peter said to him, “**Aeneas, Jesus the Christ heals you. Arise and make your bed.**” Then he arose immediately.*

• *Acts 9:40 - But Peter put them all out, and knelt down and prayed. And turning to the body he said, “**Tabitha, arise.**” And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up.*

• *Acts 12:11 - And when Peter had come to himself, he said, “Now I know for certain that **the Lord has sent His angel, and has delivered***





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*me from the hand of Herod and from all the expectation of the Jewish people.”*

• *Acts 15:7 - And when there had been much dispute, **Peter rose up and said to them:** “Men and brethren, you know that a good while ago God chose among us, that **by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe.***

- Peter’s passion became sanctified with a new Spirit-led humility. His love to/in the Lord was transformed and manifested in proclaiming and living the Gospel and suffering for His name. This is the new Peter by whom the Lord will teach us much!