



# *Epistle of 1 Peter*

## *1 Peter 1:22-25 - A New Life of Love*

- *1 Peter 1:22– “Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart,”*
  - *Since you have purified your souls* is a perfect active participle (verb mood of –ing) – you’ve done it but look at the qualifications!
    - What is the *soul*, and which do you like best (Blue Letter Bible)?
      - ‘The seat of the feelings, desires, affections, aversions (our heart, etc.).’
      - ‘The (human) soul in so far as it is constituted that by the right use of the aids offered it by God it can attain its highest end and secure eternal blessedness, the soul regarded as a moral being designed for everlasting life.’
      - ‘The soul as an essence which differs from the body and is not dissolved by death (distinguished from other parts of the body).’



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- What kind of *purity* is this?
  - 1 John 3:3 - *And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.*
- What *truth* had they obeyed?
  - What is truth?
    - » John 14:6, John 17:17-19
- What was their source?
  - John 16:13 - *“However, when He, the **Spirit of truth**, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.”*
  - 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:*
- What kind of *love* was this?
  - *philadelphia* – typically used as *love* for the brethren
    - » Wuest – ‘the love of liking’.
  - *unfeigned* or *sincere* – of interest the root word is *anypokritos* (opposite of hypocrite).



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- » Perhaps a reflection of the different grades of society that existed in the early Church, and sinful ways of the world that continued to be manifest?
- » *Rom 12:9 - Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good.*
- Going beyond this who are the others to be *loved fervently with a pure heart*?
  - And this *love* is *agapao*, an imperative – as believers we’re called to higher capacity and unconditional *love*, that of the Lord Jesus Christ.
    - » *1 Peter 4:8 - And above all things have fervent love for one another, for “love will cover a multitude of sins.”*
    - » *Phil 1:21 – For me to live is Christ.....*

***•1 Peter 1:23– “having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides,”***

- *having been born* – present passive participle
  - What do make of the verb tense here?
- Why is the contrast between *corruptible* and *incorruptible* so very important?



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- What is the *seed*?
  - *Luke 8: 11 - “Now the parable is this: The **seed** is the word of God.*
- *Corruptible is each one of us!*
  - *Rom 1:22,23 - Professing to be wise, they (we) became fools, and changed the glory of the **incorruptible** God into an image made like **corruptible** man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.*
- But we have a promissory note
  - *1 Cor 15:53,54 - For this **corruptible** must put on **incorruption**, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this **corruptible** has put on **incorruption**, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory.”*
- *the word of God which lives and abides – present active participle*
  - Is this the written *logos* and/or the living *logos*?
    - *James 1:18 - Of His own will He brought us forth by the **word of truth**, that we might be a kind of first fruits of His creatures.*

• *1 Peter 1:24,25– “because “All flesh is as grass, And*



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*all its glory as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away, but the word of the Lord endures forever.” (Isaiah 40:6-8)*

- Isn’t this a soft pillow for a tired head
  - One of several OT equivalents
    - *Psalms 92:7 - When the **wicked spring up like grass**, And when all the workers of iniquity flourish, It is that they may be **destroyed forever**.*
  - Some NT reminders:
    - *James 1:9-11 - Let the lowly brother glory in his exaltation, but the rich in his humiliation, because as a **flower of the field he will pass away**. For no sooner has the sun risen with a burning heat than it **withers the grass**; its **flower falls**, and its beautiful appearance perishes. So the rich man also will fade away in his pursuits.*
    - *James 4:14 - whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even **a vapor** that appears for a little time and then **vanishes** away.*
    - *John 3:6 - “That which is born of the **flesh is flesh**, and that which is born of the **Spirit is spirit**.*



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In Adam we are *withered grass* and a *fallen flower* but, in the *word (rhēma)* we *live forever!*

- Why *rhema* , not *logos*?
  - Here *rhēma* presumably refers to the verbal communication the gospel.
    - » *Acts 2:14 - 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**.*
    - » *Acts 10:44 - While Peter was still speaking these **words**, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word (logos).*
    - » *Rom 10:17 - So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the **word** of God.*
    - » *Heb 11:3 - By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the **word** of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.*