

1 PETER

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Authorship

1. Peter, an Apostle of Jesus Christ 1 Pet 1:1
2. He received his name from Christ Jn 1:42
He is the only "Peter" found in the Bible
3. Though Peter was "uneducated and untrained" Acts 4:13
(no Rabbinical training), he was recognized as one
who could speak with boldness.
4. Silvanus is the one who penned the Epistle. 1 Pet 5:12
 - a. Called "Silas" in Acts and "Silvanus" in the Epistles
 - b. From Jerusalem Acts 15:22 (Jerusalem Council)
 - c. Called a prophet Acts 15:32
 - d. Silas became Paul's traveling companion when John Mark
produced the split between Barnabas and Paul Acts 15:35-40
 - e. He was a Roman citizen Acts 16:37
 - f. He is also referred to as an Apostle (of the Church) 1 Thes 1:1
with 1 Thes 2:6, along with being a co-author with Paul
to the Church at Thessalonica 1 & 2 Thes 1:1
 - g. Silas and Timothy were left behind in Macedonia when
Paul traveled to Athens and later to Corinth Acts 17:14-16; 18:1
5. Jesus quoted Ps 118:22 to refer to His rejection by the Jewish leaders.
Matt 21:42
Peter incorporated this passage into his preaching ministry Acts 4:10-11
and teaching ministry 1 Pet 2:7-8. (This is how the Gospel ministry
develops!)
6. Another teaching that Peter learned from Jesus is found in both 1 Pet 5:2
and Jn 21:16 - "shepherd my sheep"
7. The author also identifies himself as an eyewitness of the sufferings of
Christ. 1 Pet 5:1

II. DATE

- A. AD 64 or early 65 (He is believed to have been martyred about AD 67).

III. THE LETTER WAS WRITTEN FROM BABYLON 1 Pet 5:13.

- A. Some think this to be a reference to Rome while others believe it to be the
literal city.

IV. DESTINATION

A. Christians scattered throughout five Roman provinces of the peninsula of Asia Minor 1 Pet 1:1.

The churches in these provinces were made up of both Jews and Gentiles.

V. PURPOSE

A. To encourage the believers to stand up under persecution

B. To help the believers link their practice with their doctrine; A theme of every Epistle.

VI. TEXT

CHAPTER 1

Vs 1

Peter, one of the twelve, to those who reside as aliens (foreign nationality and temporary residence) 1 Pet 2:11.

Citizens from heaven Phil 3:20, who live in a pagan society, displaced persons whose thoughts habitually turned towards their true Home.

Aliens scattered (sprinkled like salt)...

Note: To the Jew, those of the diaspora were those who found themselves outside Israel.

To the Christian they were those who are this side of death.

Vs 2

Who are chosen (Eph 1:4)

1. according to the foreknowledge of God the Father

God's choice is part of His predetermined plan.

God's choosing is "in accordance with" or in keeping with His foreknowledge.

Foreknowledge precedes the choosing and is not a reflection of choosing on the human's part.

The same word is used of Christ 1 Pet 1:20.

The Father did more than merely know about His Son ahead of time.

God chose all those whom He focused His attention on from Eternity past.

2. by the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit
All those chosen by the Father are "set apart"
from the world by an act of the Holy Spirit in time.
2 Thes 2:13-14; 1 Cor 12:13

3. that we may obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with His
blood Heb 10:22-23; 12:24

May grace and peace be ours in fullest measure.

Vs 3 Blessed be - The God and Father of our Lord - Jesus Christ
Jn 20:17; 2 Cor 1:3-4

1. according to (not out of) His great mercy

2. has caused us to be born again Jn 1:5-7; 1 Pet 1:23

3. to a living hope Gal 5:5

4. through (by means of) the resurrection of Jesus Christ from
the dead Rom 8:10-11

Vs 4 5. has caused us to obtain an inheritance
Gal 3:16-18; Col 1:12-13; Heb 9:15
(Israel had an inheritance, an earthly one.
We have an inheritance, a heavenly one.)
His plan for us is different. Heb 12:18-24

a. imperishable - as imperishable (indestructible) as
God's word - (same word 1 Pet 1:23) cannot be
destroyed by hostile forces.

b. undefiled - Heb 7:26; Jas 1:27 - uncorrupted by any
outside influence. Won't spoil from within.

c. will not fade away - It is the opposite of that which
happens to life's possessions. Jas 1:9-11

d. reserved in heaven for us - kept watch on by God so
that it's ultimate possession is secure.

Vs 5

**6. Both the inheritance and we are
(The inheritance is kept; the heirs are guarded)**

- a. protected by the power of God
Rom 8:31-39; 2 Tim 1:12**
- b. protected through faith
Eph 1:11-12**
- c. protected for a salvation ready to be revealed
Believers possess salvation now (present tense) but
will sense its full significance....What does our
salvation involve?**
- d. in the last time - Eph 1:14, 18; Col 3:23-24;
Rom 8:24-25**

Vs 6

**In the above we rejoice while at the same time we face various
trials Jas 1:2-8; Rom 5:1-5**

Trials cause us to be distressed! At the same time

Vs 7

1. They become a proof of our faith - a proof / faith

Jas 1:2-8, 12

**These trials refine or purify one's faith and they prove the
reality of one's faith. (How do you know what kind of
faith you have?)**

- a. more precious than gold**
- b. gold which is perishable in comparison
Jas 5:3
Gold is valueless in the marketplace of Eternity,
while faith purchases an inheritance that can
never perish.**
- c. perishable even though tested by fire**

2. A faith that will result in

- a. Praise Eph 2:10; 1 Cor 4:5

- b. Glory Jn 17:22-23; Rom 5:1-2
God is the glory of His people Jer 2:11
His people are His glory Jer 13:11

- c. Honor Rev 2:10; 3:10-11
Rev 4:4 The 24 elders represent Believers.

- d. At the Revelation of Jesus Christ 1 Pet 5:1

Vs 8 and - climax of the experiential / joy that results from faith

- 1. Though you have not seen Him - you love Him Jn 20:29

- 2. Though you still don't see Him - you believe in Him
a belief in the face of persecution!

**These trials are related to our Christianity, and not just to generic trials that affect every human.
1 Pet 4:12-19; Lk 6:32-36, 46**

Result:

- 1. You greatly rejoice
 - a. with joy inexpressible
(joy comes in the morning - nights can be long)

 - b. full of glory Acts 2: 28

- Vs 9** **Obtaining as the outcome - of your faith - The salvation of your Soul**
This is the focus of faith - looking for temporary satisfaction along the road can often distract us. We can rejoice for the goal of our faith (that which has been promised) will be ours.
- Vs 10-12** **As to this salvation (grace that came to us)**
- Vs 10** **1. The prophets did not fully understand it**
(It was so contrary to their personal experience)
- Vs 11** **2. The prophets made careful search and inquiry**
- a. What person could they be speaking of? Isa 53**
- b. What time would this happen in? Isa 11**
- c. How do the sufferings of Christ and the glories as a result of that suffering fit? Matt 13: 16-17**
- Vs 12** **3. The answer they received (from God)**
- a. They were not serving themselves**
- b. They were serving those who would make up His work during the church age.**
- c. the person and time have now been announced**
*** announced by those who preached the Gospel**
- * A Gospel that was sent from Heaven to earth, brought by the Holy Spirit**

Note: This Gospel is the answer to the questions asked by the prophets when they asked concerning the person or time they were prophesying about.

That which the prophets desired to know is being taught to us.

Even in Paul's day the answer was not complete, as it is now for us 1 Cor 13:9-12.

We in this present generation, (the last generation) because history and the prophetic word are now uniting, are in a position to experience incredible understanding.

*** The subject of God's present plan is so incredible that even the angels long to see it.
Heb 1:14**

Built upon the truth of verses 1 through 12, the following applications are obvious:

Therefore Vs 13
As Vs 14
Because Vs 16
And Vs 17
Since Vs 22
For Vs 23

Vs 13 Therefore - have hope - be holy

1. **Gird your minds for action - The Christian life (obedience) is a conscious act of the will**
2. **Keep sober in spirit - Be self-controlled**
1 Pet 4:7; 5:8; 1 Thes 5:4-11
Keep sober means to stay free of outside controls
Eph 5:18
3. **Fix your hope completely - on the yet future event**
Holy living demands determination.
This is the 4th time Peter has included the Return of Christ for us as our supreme motivation and focus. vs 5,7,9

Vs 14 As obedient children

1. **Do not be conformed Rom 12:1-2**
 - a. **to your former lusts Eph 2:3; 1 Pet 4:1-5**
 - b. **lusts you maintained in your ignorance Eph 4:17-19**

Vs 15 2. **But**

- a. **be holy like the Holy One who called you 2 Pet 1:3-4**
- b. **be holy in your behavior 1 Thes 4:3-8**

Vs 16 3. Because - our connection with God demands it!
1 Jn 2:28 - 3:3

Vs 17

And if you address the impartial judge as Father

1. knowing the impartial judge judges each (every) man's work

2. conduct yourselves in fear -knowing God as Father involves reverent fear, not familiarity.

a. during this lifetime - now is the time to fear the impartial judge

b. a day will come when fear will no longer fit - it does now

Vs 18

Knowing

a. that you have been redeemed Isa 53 the price of our Redemption

b. that our redemption did not cost perishable things
Nothing on this planet adds to the payment for our Redemption

c. that what we have been redeemed from was a futile way of life

d. our way of life reflected family values
Heb 9:22; 1 Cor 6:20

e. it took blood to redeem us Heb 9:22; 1 Cor 6:20
*precious blood

* the blood of a lamb Jn 1:29

aa. unblemished Heb 7:25-28

bb. spotless

cc. Christ's blood - required Acts 4:12

Verses 20 - 21 Information on the Christ that shed His blood

- Vs 20
1. This Christ was foreknown before the foundation of the world
This payment for sin was planned before the creation of the world Rev 13:8; 17:8
 2. This Christ appeared - (real)
 - a. His appearance came in the "last times"

 - b. His appearance was for our sake (those who make up the church)

- Vs 21
1. Through Him we are believers in God
 - a. Him who God raised from the dead

 - b. Him who God gave glory

 - c. So that
* our faith is in God

* our hope is in God

- Vs 22
- Since - assumed! We have/the only way to purify ourselves
Ps 119:9
1. in obedience to the truth

 2. purified our souls - for a sincere love of the brethren
without hypocrisy
- Do it - from the heart
A changed life should be evidenced by a changed relationship
with God's other children. 1 Cor 13

Vs 23 **Do it because you have been born again**
1. not of seed which is perishable

2. but of seed which is imperishable

a. Word of God
* living

* abiding

Vs 24 **For Life is like....**

Vs 25 **The Word of the Lord is different – abides forever**

**This is the word which was preached.
This imperishable Word is the content of Peter's teaching.
The hearer will be affected by its life-changing power.
Rom 10:13-17**

1 PETER CHAPTER 2

Vs 1 "Therefore" – refers back to 1:23 "you have been born again of seed which is imperishable...through the living, abiding Word of God." You are, therefore, do...
Peter lists Five Sins of Attitude and Speech which drives wedges between believers:

1. **MALICE** – ill will; spitefulness Eph 4:31-32
Malice characterizes the life of men under the wrath of God Rom 1:29

Believers are urged to leave it with their old life
Titus 3:3;
to clean it out of their life 1 Cor 5:7-8; Col 3:8-10

2. **GUILE (Deceit)** – cunning; treachery Rom 1:29
The devil is the arch-deceiver Rev 20:10
and his children are described as being "full of deceit"
Acts 13:10
Jesus – in contrast – is free from it 1 Pet 2:22

3. **HYPOCRISY** – In Peter's time the word meant to "play-act".
Jesus used it to describe the Pharisees! Mt 7:5
a. They were blind to God's workings Lk 12:56
b. They were blind to a true sense of values Lk 13:15
c. Placed too much value on human tradition Mk 7:6
d. Ignorant of God's demands Mt 23:13-15,25,29-31
e. they loved public display Mt 6:2,5,16

The above three sins are inner directed; the following two are directed at others.

4. **ENVY** – a grudging regard for the advantages seen to be enjoyed by others.
Envy creates sorrow that others have what we do not.
Envy was the motivation behind the religious leaders delivering up Jesus. Mt 27:18

- Envy often results in...
5. **SLANDER** –
- a. speaking against 1 Tim 3:11 "malicious gossips"
 - b. defaming Rom 3:8
 - c. is a product of an evil heart Mk 7:20-23
- Again this action comes naturally to the fallen "natural" man. Rom 1:30

Vs 2 As those referred to in 1:23 – long for spiritual food that produces growth.
Growth in respect to salvation only comes from study of the Word (1:23-25).
Ceasing to function as described in verse one only comes from functioning as described in verse two.

Vs 3 IF equals SINCE. All believers have tasted the kindness of the Lord and as a result of that should be motivated to "consume" more of the truth that changes lives. Heb 6:1-9

The Christian life is a dynamic growing life which can be wasted or thrown away if it is not nurtured. 1 Cor 3:10-15

Vs 4 And coming to Him – not the initial action as at salvation, but rather, a subsequent coming to Him.

This coming is present and encompasses fellowship between a believer and the Lord.

We come to Him as a "living" stone in the same way we come to the Bible as a "living" book 1:23 and have a "living" hope 1:3.

As a living stone He has life in Himself and also gives life to others.

A living stone:

- a. rejected by men (vs 8) Mt 27:22-25
 - b. choice in the sight of God Mt 3:16-17
 - c. precious in the sight of God 1 Pet 1:19
- a precious rejected stone!

Vs 5

you also – living stones – choice, precious in the sight of God
more and more so 1 Jn 3:2

Believers are being built up as a spiritual house (church), built on Jesus Christ the foundation stone (a commentary on the meaning of Mt 16:18).

Paul also refers to the church as a "temple". 1 Cor 3:16 &
Eph 2:19-22

Believers not only make up the church but also serve in it, ministering as a holy priesthood, offering up spiritual sacrifices that are acceptable to God (compared with Isa 1:11-20)

Five sacrifices are stated in the New Testament:

- a. Rom 12:1-2 present our bodies
- b. Eph 5:2 walk in love, as Christ did
- c. Heb 13:15 sacrifice of praise
- d. Heb 13:16 doing good
- e. Heb 13:16 sharing

These sacrifices are all said to be offered through Jesus Christ.

Vs 6

FOR – the above admonishment is built upon the following truth:

A cornerstone is the first stone laid and it determines the positioning of all the following stones.

AND – he who takes his position determined by Him will not be disappointed. This is a promise from God. It stands for Eternity!

Vs 7

There is a sharp contrast between those who believe and those who do not. Jesus quotes this verse when describing the leaders of Israel. 21:33-46

Note: The world's rejection of Jesus forms the basis for its' rejection of us. Heb 13:12-13; 2 Cor 2:14-16

To obey the gospel is to believe and to disobey the gospel is to reject it. For those who obey it becomes a life. 1 Pet 1:14

All who do not receive Christ as their Savior will one day face Him as their judge. Because of sin, all disobedient unbelievers are destined for a "stumbling", which will lead to eternal condemnation.

Vs 8

As to those who reject, they stumble because:

a. They are disobedient to the Word (free will)

Matt 23:27-38 "you were willing"

Rom 9:30-33

b. To this doom they were also appointed (Sovereignty).

Rom 9:6-29

Vs 9

But – you are

a. a chosen race (in contrast to them)

2 Tim 2:10

2 Thes 2:13-14

Acts 13:48

b. a royal priesthood (holy, vs 5) Rev 1:6

c. a holy nation – Both Israel (Ex 19:6) and the Church, are designated as such; we for this age and Israel for the age to come.

d. a people for God's own possession – 1 Jn 3:1; vs 10

that we may proclaim the excellencies of Him – 1 Cor 1:30-31

1 Cor 4:7

Him who has called you out of darkness...into His light

Col 1:13-14

a. darkness – unaware of our own condition and

Vs 10 b. not a people Eph 2:11-12
 c. not received mercy
 He saved us 2 Tim 1:9; Titus 3:5-7

2:11 – 3:7 Peter challenges his readers to manifest new behavior. How do Christians, as a people belonging to God, proclaim the excellencies of Him to the world? They proclaim them by their actions, more than by their speech. Christians are to behave differently before the world, as citizens, as slaves (employees), and as husbands and wives. Christians must look different for God to be seen.

Vs 11 The recipients of this book are:
 a. Beloved – 1 Jn 3:1-2; 4:10
 there is a sense in which God loves humanity Jn 3:16
 individuals who are in the world are not beloved,
 only believers are.

 b. aliens and strangers 1 Pet 1:1

 Are to abstain (hold oneself constantly back from).
 Christians are to resist the sinward pull of those worldly desires which wage war against their spiritual lives. Jas 4:1-4

Vs 12 Keep your behavior excellent – for the sake of others that watch you – maintain an effective testimony before the unbelievers.

 A positive Christian lifestyle is a powerful tool in convicting the world of its sin. Mt 5:16; Titus 3:8; Jas 2:18-26

 In the day of visitation – could refer to the yet future day of their salvation or the appearing of Jesus Christ.

Vs 13 – 17 A Christian's conduct as citizen

Vs 13-14 Submit to all governing authorities Rom 13:1-7

Vs 15 God has a plan that He is carrying out and our actions affect the success of that plan.

"our excellent behavior" will become the means of silencing (muzzling) the ignorant talk of foolish men.

Vs 16 We are to use our freedom as bondslaves of God.
Rom 14:1 – 15:2; 1 Cor 8:1-13; 10:23-33

Vs 17 Conclusion or summary of verses 11-16

a. Honor all men – each human has been uniquely created in God's image. 2 Cor 5:14-16 tells us to look at all men as people whom Christ has died for.

b. love the brotherhood 1 Cor 12:12-27
by application Eph 5:28-32

c. fear God – not be in terror, but awe and reverence that leads to obedience. Job 28:28

d. honor the king – again Rom 13:1-2

1 Pet 2:18 Two basic units that form the foundation for all human society. Paul adds a third in Eph 6:1-4,

Parents and children

Vs 18 – 25 Masters and slaves (application: employers and employees)

Vs 18 Servants be submissive – same word form as found in vs 13.
Who decides who is a master?
With all respect to both the good ones and bad ones
Dan 4:17, 24-25 by application)

Vs 19-20 Credit is given for one type of suffering
Note 1 Cor 7:17ff

Vs 21 Difficulty at work is the norm – handling it properly does not come easily.
He called us that we might... The example of Christ

1 Pet 4:12-19

- Vs 22** **Isaiah 53:9 is quoted – Jesus committed no sin, either before or during His suffering 1 Jn 3:5. He was innocent both in word and in deed.**
- Vs 23** **Why the extended description? Does Peter believe that our work experience will reflect similar conditions?**
1 Pet 3:8-9
- There were things that Jesus did that we are not able to follow in but this is not one of them.**
- Vs 24** **His purpose for bearing our sins is given Rom 6:4-11**
Note: Isaiah 53:5 is quoted with God's intended use of the passage given.
Physical healing is never connected with this passage, anywhere in the NT. Also note that the action of the verb is in the past tense. Our ongoing healing is not the result of continuous application of this verse.
It's in the past tense! That which God accomplished happened in the past with continuing results. Said another way,
"Christ's suffering and death accomplished the healing of salvation of every individual who trusts Him as their Savior.
- Vs 25** **Christ not only provides Salvation, He also guides and protects those who stray like sheep. Ezk 34:11-16**

**1 PETER
CHAPTER 3**

- Vs 1** "In the same way refers back to 2:13, 18
- 1. In the same way that believers as citizens are to submit to the governing authorities (because God has so society that "authority" resides in the governing individual. Rom 13:1-2**
 - 2. In the same way believers as employees are to submit to the management currently in authority Rom 13:1-2**
 - 3. In the same way believers as wives are to submit to the authority (headship) of their husbands Rom 13:1-2; Eph 5:22-24 as a function of order within the home.**

Recognizing that there are times when the husband may well be disobedient to the Word (further clarification 1 Cor 7:12-17);

**Purpose or focus of this "command" (option?) –
that the unbelieving husband may be won:
a. without a word (from the wife)
b. by observing the behavior (of the wife)
Titus 2:4-5**

Vs 2 Chaste Behavior – holy, pure
Respectful Behavior – does 1 Pet 2:19-21 apply?

Vs 3 Let not your (wives) adornment be external (only)
Hair 1 Cor 11:14-15
Jewelry, Clothes 1 Tim 2:9-15
Please note that this passage does not forbid the wearing of jewelry, for if it did, it would also forbid the wearing of clothes.

Vs 4 **but** in contrast to verse 3, let it be the hidden person of the heart:
To be specific – the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit

This quality is what is precious in God's sight!

Summarized – Christian wives should not think of outer attire as the source of genuine beauty (Christian men should think likewise).

Vs 5 **The historical record bears this out:**

Purity of life, vs 2, and a submissive spirit, vs 5, have always been a godly woman's lasting source of beauty and attractiveness.

Note: Physical beauty and the financial ability to maximize it is not granted evenly to all women.

Inner purity and pious actions are. In eternity the only ones that will have counted are these.

Vs 6 **The single example given is Sarah. How does her experience work for this example?**

- 1. The historical account Gen 18:9-15**
- 2. The divine commentary Heb 11:11-12; 1 Pet 3:6**
- 3. The obvious conclusion:**

All that occurred is not recorded in Genesis.

Additional information was revealed to the author of Hebrews and to Peter at the time that they were used by God to give His revelation.

(Another example: Heb 11:19, Gen 22:5)

We are not in a position to create such explanations at the present time but the Bible writers were in their times.

Wives become the children of Sarah (so to speak) if they respond in a similar manner without being frightened by any fear – when they are married to an unsaved (or saved) husband who does not function in a Biblical pattern. (Does Matt 10:28 apply?)

Vs 7

"husbands, likewise, live with your wives in an understanding way" – be considerate of your wives' spiritual, emotional, and physical needs – implies providing for them!

In Eph 5:23-30 husbands are to be the "Savior" of their wives, in the same way that Christ is the "Savior" of the Church.

1. Husbands are to love their wives just as...
2. Husbands are to sacrifice themselves for their wives
3. Husbands are to have a plan, that will result in God being glorified, for their wives
4. Husbands are to always remember that as created and presented, the wife is a weaker vessel and the husband, therefore, has responsibility for the way he treats her.
5. Husbands are to grant their wives honor – as equal, fellow-heirs of the grace of life Gal 3:27-29

All of the above, remembering that how well the husband sees or treats his wife affects how well God sees or treats the husband. If He doesn't hear our prayers, we are in trouble!

Note: If a husband is married to an unsaved wife, being a "fellow-heir of the grace of life" would refer to physical life or eternal life in potential. 1 Cor 7:16

Again, the third building block of a functioning society, "Parent and children" are not included in Peter's epistle, though Paul does include them in his. Eph 6:1-4; Col 3:20-21

Verses 8 through 12 form a Unit.

Vs 8 "To sum up" is not looking back over what has been said, but is actually progressing in Peter's exhortation. He quotes Ps 34:12-16 (vs 10-12) and makes application to the truths contained in that Psalm.

These believers have experienced persecution and are continuing to do so 1 Pet 1:6; 2:12,15,19. They need to continue on their godly course.

Whoever means to love life (vs 10) must control their tongue, Jas 3:1-12.

Verse 8 tells us how this is accomplished. These teachings are directed to all – let it be:

1. Harmonious – in music it means that individual sounds are joined together in a way that the resulting sound is pleasing to the ear. It would be the opposite of being contentious.
2. Sympathetic – compassion, sensitivity to others, showing empathy, a warm friendly appreciative interest in others; relating to. It would be the opposite of being antagonistic.
3. Brotherly – affectionately, kindly, love as brothers.
4. Kindhearted – Philemon 7, 20
5. Humble – Phil 2:2-5

Vs 9 The above is seen in action – Lk 6:27-38, 46; Jas 1:19-25.

Vs 10 see above under verse 8

Vs 11 Let Him turn away from evil and do good Matt 5:39.

Let Him seek peace 1 Pet 5:14, and pursue it:

1. Pray for those who persecute you Matt 5:44
2. When we are cursed, we bless 1 Cor 4:12
3. This is to be the believer's response when confronted with persecution Rom 12:14-21

Verse 9 – The result of the pursuit – inherit a blessing.

Why? – verse 12 (Note: To be blessed does not mean to "feel delighted but to be highly privileged" 1 Pet 4:14

**Vs 12 For God sees and hears His people Heb 10:30-31
God sees everything and it matters that He sees.**

Verses 13 through 17 develop the teaching contained in verses 8-12

Vs 13 The question of verse 13 is immediately answered in verse 14. There are many who would bring us harm. The question is " How much harm can they do?" Matt 10:28

**Vs 14 "But even if you should suffer..." Matt 5:10-11
Peter quotes Isa 8:12ff. If there is someone to fear, it is the Lord and not man.**

**Vs 15 In every circumstance, especially in the face of persecution, a Christian is to "remember Jesus".
If we respond as Peter has told us to, we will be asked...
We must be ready to answer.
How we answer also matters.**

**Vs 16 We must sanctify Christ in our hearts.
We must always be ready to share.
We must always keep a good conscience.
(Peter knows from experience how important this is).
Matt 26:69-75**

Three additional observations are noted:

- 1. When we keep a good conscience – we will be slandered**
- 2. Our good behavior will be reviled**
- 3. Those who respond to us in this way will ultimately be put to shame!**

Vs 17

God wills all – Our input is also included. 1 Pet 2:15

1. Suffering will come to those who do right.
1 Pet 4:16, 19
2. Suffering will come to those who do wrong. Rev 14:15
Gal 6:7-10

Verses 18 through 22 provide us with an example which demonstrates the truth of what Peter has been talking about. The example of Christ!

1. Christ suffered for doing what was right.
2. His sinless life provoked the hostilities directed against Him.
3. He did not fear men but trusted Himself to God.
4. He was committed to a course of action – Accomplish the Will of God for His life.
5. As a result of the above, He has and will receive tremendous blessing and reward.

Christ died for sins Rom 3:21-26

Once for all Rom 6:10; Heb 9:26,28; 10:1-18 / 1 Jn 2:2;
2 Cor 5:18-19

The Just for the unjust 2 Cor 5:21

Why? – In order that – He might bring us to God – The divine desire and accomplishment of the crucifixion was that by means of Christ's death, man was reconciled to God.

Reconciliation is the result of Christ being:

1. Put to death in the flesh Jn 19:32-34
2. Made alive in the Spirit – the word "Spirit" could refer to the Third Person of the Trinity as the agent of Christ's resurrection (He is the reason we rise from the dead.);
Or – it may refer to Christ's human spirit in contrast with His human body. Heb 2:14-17: 1 Pet 4:6

Vs 19-20

Between the time of the death and resurrection of Christ, He went and "made proclamation" to the spirits "now in prison" (still imprisoned at the time that Peter is writing his epistle).

They are the humans whose sins necessitated the Noahic Flood.

They had heard Noah's message preached for the 120 years that it took him to build the Ark Gen 6:3.

After Jesus' death, He went to the place of the departed dead and demonstrated to those souls the truthfulness of Noah's message and left them to await the final judgment of God at the end of the age.

PS: He set free the souls of all who had died in faith up to His time; free from the Bosom of Abraham and took them Home. Eph 4:8-10

Noah's experience bears out what Peter has been saying:

- 1. Noah committed himself to a course of action which was given to him by God.**
- 2. It meant enduring ridicule from man.**
- 3. Noah did not fear man but obeyed God.**
- 4. He suffered unjustly and by means of that suffering Noah's faith was proven, resulting in his salvation (deliverance) and that of his family.**

Vs 21

As the Flood resulted in Noah's break from the old world of sin, so baptism represents a complete break with our past life and the entrance into our new life in Christ.

**Noah – entered the Ark, leaving the old life
 exited the Ark, entering a new world
Baptism – (pictures) – our death to our old life, and
 our entrance into the resurrected life of**

Christ

Note: Peter is not teaching "Baptismal regeneration"!

Arguments For Baptismal Regeneration

1. Acts 2:38 **Answer:** The same word that is translated as "for the" in Acts 2:38 is also translated as "because of" in Mt 12:41. The word can legitimately be translated either way, thus developing baptismal regeneration from this verse is the product of how the word is translated in the English, rather than what the original word meant.
Bottom Line: You wouldn't establish the doctrine from the English translation of the word.

2. Acts 22:16 **Answer:** There are 2 verbs found in the verse; "be baptized" and "wash away your sins".
How do you get baptized – arise.
How do you wash away your sins – call on Name of the Lord.

3. 1 Pet 3:21 **Answer:** It's stated to be a spiritual and not a physical one.

4. Gospel of John **Answer:** It's purpose is stated to be that believing, you may have life in His Name. Jn 20:30-31
If Baptism were a requirement, the Apostle John forgot to tell us.

5. 1 Cor 14 with 4:15 **Answer:** Paul states that he baptized none of the Corinthians, except for 2, and yet in 4:15, he claims that he became the father of all those in the church, through the gospel. Their baptism, therefore, was not required for any of them to become a spiritual child of the Apostle Paul.

Vs 22 Jesus Christ

1. Who is at the Right Hand of the Father
2. Having (completed action) – subjected all authority in the universe to Himself Col 2:11-15

**1 PETER
CHAPTER 4**

Vs 1 Therefore –

1. "since Christ has suffered in the flesh" – while on earth
1 Pet 3:18; Mt 26:39,42; Jn 6:38-40 with Heb 12:1-2
2. arm yourself – a soldier putting on armor – with the same purpose (attitude, mindset) that Christ had when He suffered and died 1 Pet 2:21. (Same word, arm yourself, is found in Eph 6:13).

NOTE: Other examples that were recorded for us to find application in: 1 Cor 10:1-13; 1 Tim 1:15-16; Jas 5:10-11

**Vs 1b-2 because – he who joins Christ in His sufferings has ceased from sin (living for the will of God and not to fulfill the lusts of men)
Rom 6:1-11,12-13,14; Eph 4:17-24**

**Vs 3 Reasonable basis for the command of verses 1-2
Old habits are to be past habits. We must make a clean and complete break with our past. It does not "just happen" but is the result of a conscious new mind set.**

1. sensuality – 1 Cor 6:15-20
2. lusts – Jas 1:13-16
3. drunkenness – (drugs) Eph 5:18-20
4. carousals – revelings, to riot 2 Pet 2:12-13
partying
5. idolatry – Col 3:5-ff

**Vs 4 When you live a sanctified life, those who knew you in your unsaved state:
1. are surprised at your life of self-control
2. respond negatively (verbally) to you 1 Pet 3:16**

Vs 5

Those who oppose us – shall give account to Him

- 1. who is ready to judge – Jn 5:22-23; 12:47-48
(1 Cor 5:13 Jesus is God)
He was made like us Heb 2:17, and tested in all
things Heb 4:15; the result being Phil 2:6-11**
- 2. the living and the dead – every generation
Acts 10:42-43; Rom 14:9-12 ; 2 Tim 4:1**

Vs 6

**The gospel has been preached to those who are now dead
(physically)**

**that though they are judged as men physically, they will,
through (by means of) hearing and believing the gospel,
live in the Spirit for this is God's revealed will.**

- 1. The gospel – 1 Cor 15:1-5ff**
- 2. preached and heard – Rom 10:13-15**
- 3. men, physically dying and yet living – Rom 8:10-11;
1 Cor 15:29**
- 4. Purpose – Rom 14:9**

Vs 7

The end of all things is at hand Jas 5:8.

**Knowledge of this fact, the shortness of the time remaining
forms the basis for the following exhortations. Therefore:**

- 1. be of sound judgment (clear minded)**
- 2. be of sober spirit – 1 Pet 1:13 (self-controlled)**

**Both that they might enable us to pray – In context –
Peter's readers have found themselves in the midst of
trials 1 Pet 1:6. They must remember that these present
trials will come to an end 1 Pet 1:7, and that their very
present need is to pray.**

**Prayer- clear, reasonable, sober communication with God
is the persecuted Christian's number one priority.
Jas 1:2-8**

Vs 8

**Above all – love one another 1 Cor 13 for the greatest commandment reflects this truth Lk 10:25-37
because ? love covers a multitude of sins Jas 5:19-20**

1. A believer has "missed his path and is hopelessly lost"
2. This lost believer is in need of restoration, not salvation.
3. With love a rescue action is run.
4. The "fallen away" believer responds and is saved from greater loss of reward and physical judgment(destruction).
1 Jn 5:16
5. The multitude of sins involved in this erring brother will be covered and remembered by God no more.
6. What a gift to a brother or sister in Christ!

Vs 9

**The importance of hospitality – a quality needed in all believers and required in those who lead the church
1 Tim 3:2
Only practiced when it is done without complaint!
God loves a cheerful host as much as He loves a cheerful giver!**

Vs 10

Each one has received a gift of the Holy Spirit..."employ it"

1. in serving other believers 1 Cor 12:7
2. The grace of God, in context, refers to the grace gifts entrusted to us Eph 4:7-16
3. Good stewards employ their gift(s)

Vs 11

Peter amplifies verse 10 by categorizing the grace gifts into two categories:

1. Speaking Gifts

**Prophecy
Teaching
Exhortation
Leading**

2. Serving Gifts

**Service (Helps)
Giving
Showing Mercy**

In the exercise of every gift, God is glorified through Jesus Christ. God cannot be glorified apart from Jesus Christ.

It is Jesus Christ to whom belongs... Jn 5:23

Vs 12

All the teaching Peter is sharing is being given to believers who are hurting.

Their suffering is woven throughout every chapter of the Book.

Beloved – these suffering believers are the object of God's love.

Remaining mentally alert would result in not being "blind-sided" by the suffering that is and will continue to be a part of their lives.

Suffering equals testing and verse 13 tells us that testing will result in rejoicing and glory.

Difficulty in a believer's life is not a strange thing.

NOTE: The four spiritual laws – God has a wonderful plan for your life – understood in the way it is, is foreign to the Scriptures. "God has a life of testing by suffering"- would make a more truthful first law in the tract.

Vs 13

Rejoice that God has chosen you to be a participant.

Sharing in the sufferings of Christ results in:

- 1. joy – 1 Pet 1:6; Phil 1:18, 21; 2:17-18, 29-30; 3:7-14; 4:4**
- 2. fellowship with Him – Heb 13:12-15**
- 3. glorified with Him – Rom 8:17**
- 4. reign with Him – 2 Tim 2:11-13**

The New Testament is clear that those who take part in the sufferings of Christ will also take part in His glory when it is revealed.

- Vs 14** **Mt 5:11-12; 1 Pet 3:9**
You are blessed 1 Pet 3:14. Anything that we suffer for the sake of Christ is a privilege, not a penalty.
The Spirit of glory
The Spirit of God
rests upon the one who suffers Isa 11:1-2
He has shared that same Spirit with us.
Mt 3:16; Acts 1:5; 2:1-4
- Vs 15** **Peter clarifies the truth that some suffering that is the result of wrongdoing should never be deserved by a Christian.**
This can result from both initial wrongdoing and improper response when suffering for Christ (returning evil for evil and suffering for it 1 Pet 2:19-20; 3:17).
- Vs 16** **The title "Christian" appears only 2 other times in the Bible.**
Acts 11:26 and 26:28
It is possible that the name was coined, not as a kind name, but rather as a name of derision. (The name "Jew" was born during the Babylonian captivity.)
- Vs 17** **Peter had referred to persecution and suffering as that which refined and proved one's faith.**
He now adds the fact that God also uses it as disciplinary judgment to purify the lives of those in the family of God.
Heb 12:3-11
- Vs 18** **Prov 13:1 is quoted. Discipline is always hard!**
Rather than thinking that those who are saved are exempt from discipline, the opposite is the truth.
Heb 12:7 says we are to "endure discipline as Sons".
- Vs 19** **Therefore – to sum up what has been said:**
Just as Christ trusted Himself to His Father 1 Pet 2:23
so should believers commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do right.
Our focus must remain focused – Heb 11.

I PETER CHAPTER 5

In light of the troubled times that Peter's readers were in, he exhorts the elders to shepherd the people (vs 1-4), reminds the young men to submit to the elders (vs 5a), and encourages everyone to stand firm in the faith (vs5b-11).

Vs 1 Therefore – all practical exhortations built upon truths already presented.

Exhort – Rom 12:1-2 Service to God is experientially optional.
A person cannot be commanded to serve or follow God!

NOTE: "Urge you" is found 14 times in the New Testament.
Twelve of them are the same kind of exhortation for us to voluntarily serve God, as we find here, in 1 Peter 5:1.

Rom 12:1; 15:30; 16:17

1 Cor 16:15

2 Cor 2:8; 6:1

Phil 2:18

1 Thes 4:10; 5:14

Heb 13:19, 22

1 Pet 2:11

Elders – 1 Tim 3:1-7; Heb 13:7,17; 1 Tim 5:17; Titus 1:7-9

Basis, or Authority behind this exhortation:

1. an Apostle of Jesus Christ 1 Pet 1:1

2. fellow elder 1 Pet 5:1

3. witness of the sufferings of Christ Acts 1:21-22

4. partaker of the glory that is to be revealed Rev 21:14;

1 Pet 4:13

5. eyewitness of Christ's majesty 2 Pet 1:16-19a; 1 Jn 1:1-3

Vs 2 The exhortation – Shepherd the flock of God among you means to tend - includes feeding, caring for, leading, protecting

1. exercise oversight – stresses the function of the position –
overseer – spiritual and physical guardianship

2. not under compulsion

3. but voluntarily – not because you must, but because you are
willing

4. according to the will of God

5. not for sordid gain – social or financial pressures are not to be
the motivation Ezk 34:1-16; Titus 1:10-12

6. with eagerness

- Vs 3 7. not as lording it over those allotted to your charge
 Mt 20:25-28
8. prove to be an example – pattern; models for the people to
 follow; lives lived as illustrations, not driving but leading

- Vs 4 Christ the
1. Chief Shepherd Heb 6:17-20
 2. Good Shepherd Jn 10:11,14
 3. Great Shepherd Heb 13:20

When Christ returns, His faithful under shepherds will share in His glory (vs 1) and receive a crown (vs 4).
Application in Paul's life – Phil 4:1; 1 Thes 2:19

NOTE: Other Crowns that are mentioned:
2 Tim 4:8; Jas 1:12; Rev 2:10; 3:11

- Vs 5a Younger men are to submit themselves to their elders.
In God's creation everybody is required to submit to somebody.
1 Pet 2:13, 18; 3:1; Rom 13:1-2; 1 Cor 15:28

- Vs 5b-11 is directed to all of Peter's readers
1. Clothe yourselves with humility toward one another.
Peter saw this teaching walk Jn 13:4-17; 1 Pet 3:8; Phil 2:5-11

- Vs 6 2. Humble yourselves – "allow yourselves to be humbled"
The same hand of God that humbles you now will be the hand
that lifts you up Jas 4:10; Mt 18:1-4

- Vs 7 3. Cast all your anxiety upon Him – He cares Mt 6:25-32;
Phil 4:6-7

- Vs 8 4. Be of sober spirit 1 Pet 1:13; Mt 24:42-44
5. Be on the alert 1 Thes 5:4-10
 6. Remember the devil is...the damage he can cause is
unimaginable 2 Tim 4:17 (The lion is a real force to
be reckoned with.)

- Vs 9 7. Resist the devil Jas 4:7 – Passive, defensive, never go on the
attack with such an adversary.
- a. firm in your faith
* body of truth Eph 4:5; Jude 3
 - b. knowing others have before you 1 Cor 10:12-13

Vs 10 And after you have suffered – assumed to be universal!
for a little while – a whole lifetime of suffering is still but a
moment Rom 8:16-28; 2 Cor 4:16-18

The God of all grace Jas 1:17

1. Who called you 1 Thes 2:10-12; Rom 11:29

2. will Himself (through suffering)

a. perfect – made complete, same mind and same
judgment 1 Cor 1:10; Eph 1:9-12

b. confirm 2 Thes 2:15-17

c. strengthen

d. establish Eph 3:17-21; Col 1:21-23

Vs 11 It is He who has all power for all time Rom 11:36; 1 Tim 6:15-16

Verses 12 – 14 form the conclusion to Peter's first Epistle.

Vs 12 Silvanus (Silas) wrote the letter for Peter (see introductory
notes).

Peter has written to them to:

1. exhort them – encourage them to stand fast in their faith
and thereby endure persecution

2. testify the true grace of God 2 Pet 1:12-13

3. call them to "stand firm in it"- that they might bear witness
with their lives in the same way that the Apostle had.

Peter is writing to the second generation Jn 17:20.

Vs 13 Peter references the church in Babylon, who have been chosen
and placed in the same way that the recipients of this letter
have.

Historically, Peter is believed to have lived in Rome at the end of
his life, so some think that Rome is referenced here.

John Mark – see my notes on "the man who ran away naked".

Vs 14 The place of the holy kiss in the NT Church – see my notes on
Romans 16:16.

Peter ends his epistle the same way he began it. 1 Pet 1:2

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