

1 Peter - Week 1

Peter the Man

1 Peter 1:1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God's elect, strangers in the world, scattered throughout 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, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood:

Grace and peace be yours in abundance. 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-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. 6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. 7 These have come so that your faith-of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire-may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. NIV

- One of the great things about our God is that He deals in _____.
- Peter's choice of the words _____ and _____ probably reminded him of forgiveness.
- Nero launches a fearful and desperate _____ of this Jesus-centered church.

So what do we glean from this introduction?

1. This letter from Peter is a letter of _____ in the midst of _____. This hope we have is not just a future hope, it's a hope of today that is _____ and active today.
2. It's a letter of _____ chances and new _____.
 - Suffering and pain in the new birth cannot _____ us.
 - Grace: the free _____ of God, with all its proper effects, pardoning, healing, assisting, and saving. The grace of God is a _____, not a selfish principle.
 - Peace: can be domestic peace, civil peace, religious peace in the church, and _____ peace with God. It's a _____ peace (but not always an experienced peace).
 - Solid peace cannot be _____ where there is no true grace; first grace, then peace.
3. It's a letter of a triumphant _____.

- _____ for the believer is a triumphant faith that leads to a future hope.
- A good Christ-centered believer's condition is never so _____ that he doesn't have great reason still to bless God.

About Peter...

- Peter was an impetuous, rock-hard, life-sized, _____ figure of a man.
- In Peter's life and words, we see the preeminence of _____.
- In spite of his abrupt lifestyle, Peter had _____. He bluntly declared that our election is based on God's _____. What does that mean? Foreknowledge is based on _____.
- In Peter's life we will see the _____ of Nero. In Nero, Satan will be _____.

Final thoughts:

1. God's people are just _____ here.
2. We must train ourselves to pursue _____ as we wait for His return.
3. We must allow the grace of God to keep us focused on a _____ (set apart) life.
4. Our walk with God causes us to live an _____ life before God even in the midst of suffering.
5. We must remember in all of this, God is our _____.