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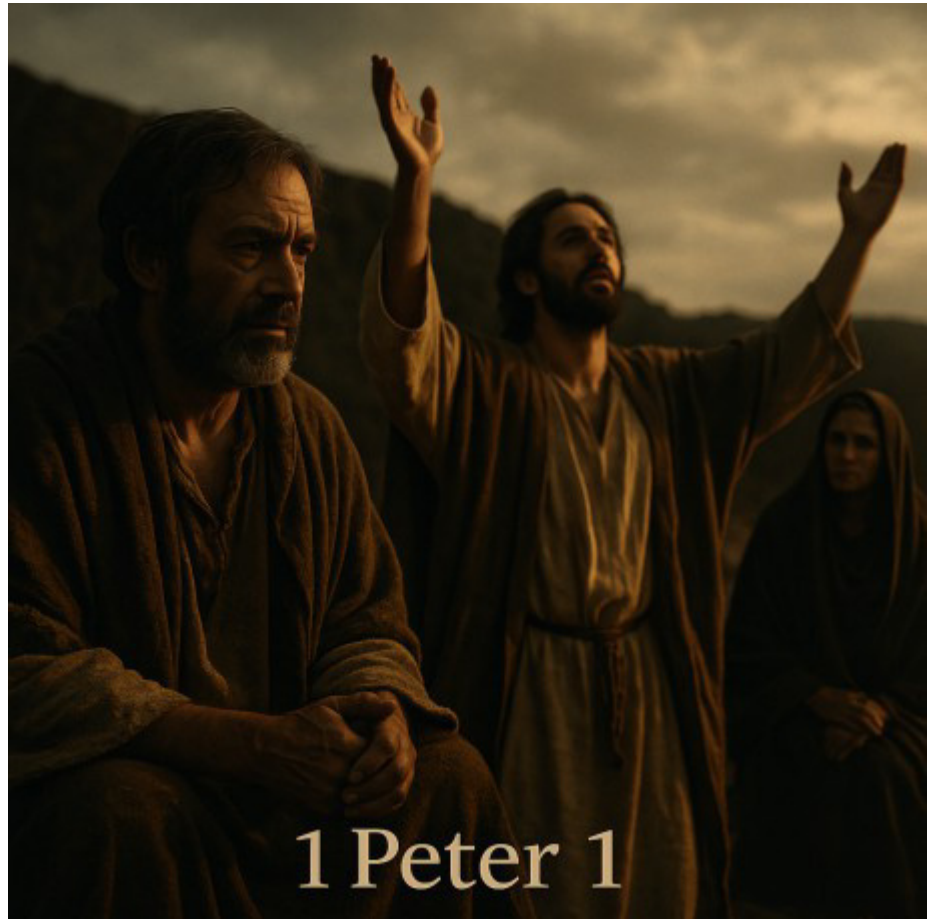
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1 Peter 1 This study has not been posted on facebook yet



By Dan Maines

1 Peter 1

1 Peter 1:1

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to those who reside as exiles, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, who are chosen.

† Peter writes to believers scattered across Asia Minor, many of whom were Jewish exiles of the dispersion and Gentile converts.

† Josephus (Antiquities 14.7.2) mentions Jewish communities

spread throughout Asia Minor, aligning with Peter's audience.
† The Dead Sea Scrolls also spoke of the "exiles of Israel," showing how deeply this identity was ingrained.

1 Peter 1:2

According to the foreknowledge of God the Father, by the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with His blood: May grace and peace be multiplied to you.

† Their election was grounded in God's foreknowledge and accomplished through the Spirit's sanctification.

† "Sprinkled with His blood" echoes **Exodus 24:8**, where the covenant was ratified by blood. Now the new covenant is confirmed in Christ's blood.

† Clement of Rome (1 Clement 49) connected the sprinkling of Christ's blood with obedience, showing continuity of early Christian teaching.

1 Peter 1:3

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

† Peter praises God for the new birth into a living hope secured by Christ's resurrection.

† Unlike Israel's fading hopes in temple and land, this hope is eternal and spiritual.

† Josephus (Wars 6.2.1) describes the despair of Israel in AD 70, contrasting with the living hope of believers.

1 Peter 1:4

To obtain an inheritance which is imperishable, undefiled, and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you.

† Unlike earthly inheritances that decay or are lost, this inheritance is heavenly and unfading.

† Philo (On the Virtues 12) described worldly possessions as fragile shadows, while heavenly realities remain imperishable.

† Jesus promised in **Matthew 6:20** that treasure in heaven does not decay.

1 Peter 1:5

Who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

† Believers were being kept by God's power, awaiting salvation soon to be revealed.

† This "last time" is the same period described by Jesus in **Matthew 24:34**, fulfilled in that generation.

† The Dead Sea Scrolls (1QpHab) spoke of a time of revelation in the last days, showing this expectation was shared among Jews.

1 Peter 1:6-7

In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which perishes though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

† Their trials were temporary but necessary, refining their faith like gold.

† Gold perishes, but faith refined by trials endures and brings glory when Christ was revealed.

† Tacitus (Annals 15.44) records the fiery trials Christians endured under Nero, showing the reality of Peter's words.

1 Peter 1:8-9

And though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, obtaining as the outcome

of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

† Faith is not dependent on sight. Their love for Christ and joy in Him brought salvation.

† Jesus told Thomas in **John 20:29**, "Blessed are those who did not see, and yet believed."

† The early church lived by this unseen faith, proving its reality through endurance.

1 Peter 1:10-12

As to this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that would come to you made careful searches and inquiries, seeking to know what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating as He predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories to follow. It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves, but you, in these things which now have been announced to you through those who preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look.

† The prophets foresaw the coming salvation but knew it was for a future generation.

† Isaiah 53 foretold the sufferings of Christ and His glory.

† Philo acknowledged that prophets often spoke of things beyond their time, pointing to realities that would later be revealed.

† Even angels longed to see this grace, showing its immense importance.

1 Peter 1:13

Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, set your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

† Since the revelation was near, Peter urges readiness and sober hope.

† This echoes Jesus' warnings in **Luke 21:34-36** to stay alert as

the day approached.

† The urgency reflects that they were living in the final days of the old covenant age.

1 Peter 1:14-16

As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance, but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior, because it is written: "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

† Holiness separates believers from their former way of life.

† The call is rooted in **Leviticus 11:44**, showing continuity with God's covenant expectation.

† Clement of Rome (1 Clement 30) exhorted the church to holiness, quoting the same command.

1 Peter 1:17

If you address as Father the One who impartially judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves with fear during the time of your stay on earth.

† God judges impartially, so believers must live in reverent fear.

† Josephus (Antiquities 4.8.23) emphasized that God shows no partiality in judgment, a theme consistent with Peter's exhortation.

1 Peter 1:18-19

Knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ.

† Redemption comes not through wealth but through the blood of Christ.

† This fulfills **Exodus 12:5**, where the Passover lamb had to be unblemished, now realized in Christ.

† Philo (On the Special Laws 2.146) described the Passover

lamb as a symbol of purity, pointing to Christ's sacrifice.

1 Peter 1:20-21

For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you who through Him are believers in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

† Christ was foreknown before creation but revealed in the last times for their sake.

† This confirms the immediacy of fulfillment: they lived in the "last times" of the old covenant age.

† The Dead Sea Scrolls (1QpHab) reflect similar language of God's works being revealed in the appointed time.

1 Peter 1:22-23

Since you have purified your souls in obedience to the truth for a sincere love of the brothers and sisters, fervently love one another from the heart, for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable, but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring word of God.

† Purification comes through obedience, leading to sincere love.

† The imperishable seed is God's word, which gives new birth.

† Clement of Rome (1 Clement 49) connected the word of God with brotherly love, reflecting Peter's command.

1 Peter 1:24-25

For, "All flesh is like grass, and all its glory is like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls off, but the word of the Lord endures forever." And this is the word which was preached to you.

† Peter quotes **Isaiah 40:6-8** to show the fading nature of human life and the permanence of God's word.

† Josephus (Wars 6.2.2) wrote that human glory and pride

perished in the war, while the word of God endured.

† The eternal word, now fulfilled in Christ, was the gospel they received.

How it applies to us today

† 1 Peter 1 calls us to live in holiness, hope, and love, anchored in the unchanging word of God.

† The trials of the first century refined their faith and confirmed the nearness of Christ's revelation.

† For us today, the same imperishable inheritance and enduring word remain our foundation, even though the old covenant age has passed.

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

Source Index

† Josephus, Antiquities 14.7.2 – Jewish communities in Asia Minor

† Josephus, Antiquities 4.8.23 – God's impartial judgment

† Josephus, Wars 6.2.1 – despair of Israel in AD 70

† Josephus, Wars 6.2.2 – human glory perishes in war

† Philo, On the Virtues 12 – worldly possessions fragile

† Philo, On the Virtues 38 – passions as soldiers at war

† Philo, On the Special Laws 2.146 – Passover lamb as purity

† Philo, On the Decalogue 65 – God's jealousy explained

† Tacitus, Annals 15.44 – fiery trials under Nero

† Dead Sea Scrolls, 1QpHab – last days revelation

† Dead Sea Scrolls, 1QS 3.6-9 – purity of hands and heart

† Clement of Rome, 1 Clement 30 – holiness commanded

† Clement of Rome, 1 Clement 49 – word and brotherly love

† Isaiah 40:6-8 – grass withers, God's word endures

† Exodus 12:5 – lamb without blemish

† Exodus 24:8 – blood of covenant

† Deuteronomy 11:14 – early and late rains

† Hosea 3:1 – unfaithfulness as adultery

† Proverbs 3:34 – God resists the proud

- † Matthew 6:20 – treasures in heaven
- † Matthew 24:34 – fulfillment in that generation
- † Luke 21:34-36 – watchfulness in the last days
- † John 20:29 – blessed are those who believe without seeing

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