1 Peter 1.1-2 Changed Man Greets Chosen People

1. Author: Peter v. 1 "Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ"

Bro: Andrew, Father: Jona (John) / BARJona > Given Name: Simon

Hebrew = 'hearing' // SAMUEL = 'God has heard'

1st Confess "You are the X, Son of Living God" > Named ROCK petros

word play > "on this rock, I will build my church" > FAITH IN JESUS

"For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which in Jesus Christ"
1 Corinthians 3.11

"the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone" Ephesians 2.20

Peter NOT Foundation ROCK apart from Jesus Cornerstone & 11 Acts 2.14

Peter becomes the first in a long line of believers throughout the ages who confess the same faith; that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of the Living God" Paul Gardner

Chief among Apostles > Dominant Role in all 4 Gospels & book of Acts

Apostle = Authorized Spokesman > Appointed by Jesus DIRECTLY

"of Jesus Christ" – only time Full Title used in NT > Letter in RED Letters

Office now Closed: Foundation > One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic church

Authority of Apostles HONORED by our Faithfulness to New Testament

5.13 'she who is @ Babylon sends U greetings' Nov 2 Vatican: old bones'

"Peter is a thundering paradox…vacillating between faith and doubt… public denial of Jesus…magnificent confession of Christ…heroic acts of sacrifice…martyrdom in Rome" Bones? Vatican? R.C. Sproul

Message from leading Apostle of Jesus > Saw glory of Transfiguration

Eyewitness of Resurrection > Ran into Empty Tomb > Breakfast on Lake

Mission: Jerusalem (Pentecost), Samaria (w John), Ends (Cornelius)

Some Critics say Peter Fisherman could Not write with Excellent Greek

1) God is Able by His Spirit > Gave Languages @ Pentecost

2) Team Ministry 5.12 "by Silvanus…faithful brother…I have written"

Take Away 1st Pt: PETER is Author, Apostle, Mission Leader: Acts 4.13

Peter and John… "uneducated, common men" > Bold, been with Jesus!

Maybe YOU have Denied Jesus – Made BIG Mistakes > I HAVE

Jesus NOT CANCEL Peter – Throw him under Bus > Apostle to JEWS

Forgiven of Sins > Filled with Spirit > Fulfilled promises of Scripture

SAME God invites Us to Serve Him TOO > in Power of Holy Spirit

2. Audience: Elect Exiles v. 1 " To those who are elect exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia"

Small Minded Jewish Fisherman, 3 X's Sheet Unclean Animals = Vision: WORLD

Residents of Modern Turkey – Large Area – Roman Provinces: P,G,C,A,B

Fantastic Conglom.Territories: Coastal Ranges, Plateaux, Lakes & Rivers

Wide Variety of Peoples "different origins, ethnic roots, languages, customs, religions, and political histories" > both Jews AND Gentiles

Paul's 2nd M Journey: Acts 16.7 "they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them" Now Peter writing Church THERE

Another Question about Peter's Authorship: Had P & Wife BEEN There?

PAUL wrote to Rome and Colossae tho NOT yet VISITED Them

Dispersion/Diaspora: fled Jerusalem, expelled by Emp Claudius??

Lit: Strangers / Sojourners / Pilgrims = Temporary Residents in Land

30 yrs LIVED Nations NOT Citizens – Uganda, Kazakhstan, China

// Abe the Hittite lived in Tents in Canaan > At HOME but NOT @ Home

"By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God" Hebrews 11.9,10

3. Appeal: Triune God

1st C Letters Greeting > Super-Sized, Blessing TRIUNE God – F, S, HS

v. 2 “according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood: May grace and peace be multiplied to you”

Main Message of Peter to Small Group Exiles > Your God is Almighty!

“Whether their neighbors attack or respect them, they can bear witness to God by their Christian lifestyle. Quietly and humbly they can live holy lives, not seeking to claim their own rights but honoring others” E. Clowney

a) v. 2 “according to the foreknowledge of God the Father”

Gentiles call the God of ISRAEL their Father in Heaven > Know Maker

Peter Deep Sleep in Prison Cell Night before his Roman-plan Execution

Full Truth HE knows US 1st “we love because He first loved us” 1 John 4.19

v. 1 “elect exiles” / 2.9 “you are a chosen race” / v. 2 “foreknowledge”

Popular Teaching > God saw US Choose Him, then He Chooses Us

Wrong Many Levels: 1) We Sovereign, 2) We Seeking, 3) Know = LOVE

Amos 3.2 "Of all nations on earth U are only one I have known and cared for”

Genesis 4.1 “Adam knew Eve, and she conceived and bore a son”

“Foreknowledge does not mean that God had information in advance about Christ, or about his elect. Rather it means that both Christ and his people were the objects of God’s loving concern from all eternity” E.P.C.

Apostle to JEWS very familiar w Promise of God thru MOSES: Deut 7

“For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the Lord set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, but it is because the Lord loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery” Deuteronomy 7.6-8

b) v 2 “in the sanctification of the Spirit” SET APART = Once for All

Began w Baptism > Continues until Meet Jesus Face to Face: Power Spirit

1.15 “as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct”

Ap Paul: Corinth “U were washed, U were sanctified, U were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God” 1 Co 6.11

c) v 2 “for obedience to Jesus Christ & for sprinkling with his blood”

Know Jesus means New Heart, Love, Loyalty, Longing for His Kingdom

A REAL Tree will bear FRUIT > Fruit of H.S. – Sign of True Faith in X

2 Pet 3.18 “grow in grace & knowledge of our Lord & Savior Jesus X”

Not Hope in Red/Blue Wave > Knowledge of God fill Earth/Waters Seas

Even WHEN we Strive to OBEY > We Still Sin > Need Daily Cleansing

“sprinking w blood” Exodus 24.7 “Moses took the Book of the Covenant & read it in the hearing of the people. And they said, “All that the Lord has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient.” And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, “Behold the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you in accordance with all these words.”

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” 1 John 1.9

“In probably every country in the world real Christians are a small minority and therefore a ‘scattered’ people. Persecuted Christians, of course, are completely aware of what Peter is saying here. They know they are scattered and strangers in their society. But what about those of us who live with relatively ‘nice’ neighbors? It is far harder to see ourselves as strangers and therefore, in many ways, the temptations become more acute to compromise with the world or adopt its philosophies and ideas. We become uncritical of what we see and read and hear. We so enjoy where we are and feel so comfortable that we cannot even get excited about the thought of Christ’s coming in glory!” Paul Gardner

v. 2 “May grace and peace be multiplied to you.”

GRACE = Undeserved, Covenant, Forever Love of God

NIV > “unfailing love” > Continue Faithfully because God is Faithful

PEACE = shalom – Right w God, man, nature, society TOTAL PEACE

Isaiah 54.10 “’Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace removed,’ says the Lord, who has compassion on you”

Grace and Peace in ABUNDANCE > Multiplied to You!

Psalm 101 // I will sing of steadfast love and justice; to you, O Lord, I will make music. // **I will ponder the way that is blameless. Oh when will you come to me?** // I will walk with integrity of heart within my house; // **I will not set before my eyes anything that is worthless.** // I hate the work of those who fall away; it shall not cling to me. // **A perverse heart shall be far from me; I will know nothing of evil.** // Whoever slanders his neighbor secretly I will destroy. // **Whoever has a haughty look and an arrogant heart I will not endure.** // I will look with favor on the faithful in the land, that they may dwell with me; // **he who walks in the way that is blameless shall minister to me.** // No one who practices deceit shall dwell in my house; // **no one who utters lies shall continue before my eyes.** // Morning by morning I will destroy all the wicked in the land, // **cutting off all the evildoers from the city of the Lord. Amen and Amen.**