

# The Epistle of 1 Peter

- ▶ Purpose of epistle
  - ▶ Encourage Christians to remain faithful through sufferings
  - ▶ 1 Peter 4:12, 5:12
- ▶ So far we've seen
  - ▶ Gratitude for the great salvation we have
  - ▶ The inheritance laid up for us is worthy of trial and suffering
  - ▶ Consider how what we have is what even the prophets did not understand and what even angels desire to look into
  - ▶ We need to live holy lives so that we might possess the heavenly reward one day

1:13-16 Because of the great salvation and the trials to come, do this:  
“Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;  
{14} as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance;  
{15} but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct,  
{16} because it is written, ‘Be holy, for I am holy.’”

- ▶ Verses 15-16 exhort us to live holy lives, with the example of God Himself
- ▶ Verse 17 will exhort us to godly fear, based on the fact of God’s impartial judgment according to what we do
- ▶ And verse 18 will exhort us to live holy because of the price of our redemption

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- ▶ Live holy lives
  - ▶ Holy – separated, set apart for service to God
  - ▶ In all manner of living
    - ▶ Titus 2:11-14
    - ▶ 1 Thessalonians 4:3, 7
  - ▶ Why?
    - ▶ Because God is holy
    - ▶ Imitate the God we serve and worship

1:17 Because of the great salvation and the trials to come, do this:

“And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one’s work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear;”

- ▶ Think, talk, and walk with godly fear
- ▶ The fact of judgment should cause us to live that way
  - ▶ God is an impartial judge
  - ▶ God judges according to our works

1:18-21 Knowing the cost of your redemption, we should live in fear and holiness:

“knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, {19} but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

{20} He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you

{21} who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.”

- ▶ What does it mean to be redeemed?
  - ▶ To be delivered or set free from slavery
  - ▶ Requires a Redeemer paying the price and the one being purchased to be delivered
  - ▶ What were we redeemed from?
    - ▶ “aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers”

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- ▶ What were we not redeemed by?
  - ▶ “corruptible things, like silver or gold”
- ▶ What were we redeemed by?
  - ▶ “the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot”
- ▶ What does “without blemish and without spot” mean?
  - ▶ Perfect, without sin

1:22-23 Because we have purified our souls in obeying the truth, we ought to have sincere love of the brethren:

“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, {23} having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,”

- ▶ Our souls were purified by doing what?
  - ▶ “obeying the truth through the Spirit”
- ▶ What three words describe the love to have for brethren?
  - ▶ “sincere”
  - ▶ “fervently”
  - ▶ “with a pure heart”



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- ▶ Christians have been born again through what?
  - ▶ “the word of God which lives and abides forever”
  - ▶ What is that word by which we were born again, verse 25?
    - ▶ The gospel – “Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you”



1:24-25 The enduring quality of the word of God:

“because ‘All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away,  
{25} But the word of the Lord endures forever.’ Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you.”

- ▶ In the face of trial and suffering, Christians need to remember
  - ▶ That they were redeemed by the precious blood of Christ
  - ▶ They believed and now live by faith and are blessed with hope
  - ▶ The word which they obeyed will endure
    - ▶ Then the promises of that word are sure and steadfast

## 2:1-3 Consequence of the new birth: Put off old man and grow in the word of God

“Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking,

{2} as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,

{3} if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious.”

- ▶ We have been born again to sincere love of the brethren. If we are going to love our brother, these things must be laid aside:
  - ▶ All malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking
- ▶ Third emphasis so far upon the new man
  - ▶ 1:3; 1:23; now 2:2

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- ▶ Newborn babes long for, crave, and intensely seek milk
  - ▶ Our desire for the word of the God should be like that
  - ▶ Emphasis is upon DESIRE
- ▶ “pure milk of the word”
  - ▶ Pure – unadulterated, without mixture of something else
  - ▶ Milk of the word – the soul-nourishing spiritual word of God
- ▶ Why desire the pure milk of the word like newborn babes?
  - ▶ “that you may grow thereby” (“that you may grow thereby unto salvation” ASV)