

“Anchored” *The Book of 1 Peter*
Class Notes
Session 2

1 Peter 1.1-2 In the ancient world it was the normal practice to begin a letter by identifying the sender.

(vs.1-2): Peter... (Meaning “Rock”)...Who was an “Apostle” ... ἀπόστολος (*apostolos*)... “One sent.” This became a specific title.

The recipients of the letter... “Exiles of the Dispersion.”

The terms reflect the sense of being a temporary resident in a foreign place.... Yet...Our identity and calling is from God!

God’s presence and power is *Trinitarian*.

The chosen pilgrims are foreknown by God the Father.... πρόγνωσις (*prognōsis*)... “To know beforehand.”

Foreknowledge reflects God’s control in election. Foreknowledge should be understood in covenantal terms.

As elect sojourners... Believers are... ἁγιασμός (*hagiasmos*)... “To set apart”... “Sanctified” by the Holy Spirit.

For... ὑπακοή (*hypakoē*)... “Obedience” ... Through Jesus’... ῥαντισμός (*rhantismos*)... Lit., “To sprinkle.”

Jesus cleansed believers from sin through His “blood” (Death).

“The foreknowing work of God and the sanctifying action of the Spirit result in human obedience and the sprinkling of Christ’s blood...Hence, they have the energy to counter accepted cultural norms and to live in accord with God’s purpose¹

Those who understand themselves as God’s elect have the power and authority to resist the norms and culture.

“Peter writes to Christians who struggle because they live in this world but are really citizens of heaven. He reminds them of their election in Christ and His gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation. Apart from God’s grace in Christ, this sinful world has no hope in the midst of trials, persecution, and eternal death. God, through His Son, brings reconciliation and forgiveness of sin for all who believe by grace through faith that Christ is Savior. In Him we have grace and peace.”²

1 Peter 1.3-5 Peter begins with the theme of the entire paragraph. God is to be blessed... εὐλογητός (*eulogētos*)... “To be praised” “Worthy of commendation.”

This was a common Jewish prayer/blessings... *A berakah*...“Praise be to God.” (*Genesis 14.20; 24.27; Ruth 4.14; 1 Sam. 25.32*).

¹ T.R. Schreiner. *1, 2 Peter, Jude* (Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2003).

² *The Lutheran Study Bible* (Concordia, 2001).

Peter calls for the blessing of God the Father... καὶ (*kei*)... “Even” ... The Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

(v.3): The reason God is to be praised is now explained... We are given a new birth.”

ἀναγεννάω (*anagennaō*)... Lit., “To begat again” ... “Born anew.”

To a... “Living hope.” ... ζάω (*zaō*)... “Life” (Quality) ... ἐλπίς (*elpis*)... “Expectation”

(v.4): “Inheritance.” ... κληρονομία (*klēronomia*)... “To possess (Something)” That is eternal!

(v.5): “Guarded.” ... φρουρέω (*phroureō*)... “To guard against.”

This is our Salvation ... σωτηρία (*sōtēria*)... “To (be) saved, rescued.”

The security of our salvation...*past...present...and future...*are all based on God’s faithfulness *through Christ!*

...To be fully revealed at the end of history! *John 6.39-40; 12.48.*

“Prepared to be revealed.” ... ἀποκαλύπτω (*apokalyptō*)... “To disclose.”

This is a “divine passive” and infers that everything is *already prepared*... Similar to a meal before being called to eat!

Jesus uses this imagery in *Matthew 22.8* (The same Greek term is used).

In this hope and assurance...Believers are to move forward through faith.

“Through Christ, God has promised us the riches of heaven....Our true home...Nothing in this world can take our inheritance from us. Luther: ‘This blessing is ours forever and ever, even though we do not see it now. . . . On earth no pleasure is so great that it does not become unpleasant as time goes on. We see that one becomes weary of everything. But this blessing is different. All this is ours in Christ, by God’s mercy, if we believe’ (AE 30:13)....(We are promised)...Deliverance from sin and death to live with God forever....God’s promised salvation will be fully revealed on Judgment Day.”³

³ Ibid.