OUT OF THIS WORLD
1 PETER 1:1-2 / 5-29-19 / WED

I. WHAT IS OUR RELATIONSHIP TO THE WORLD?

A. Peter says these Christians, and indeed all Christians in every age, are “exiles”—1:1...To God’s elect, “exiles” scattered throughout the provinces and the world.”

1. The word “exiles” means “aliens”, “foreigners” or “strangers”.
2. Peter isn’t writing to people who were forced from their homes to live in a foreign land. No, he is writing to people living in their own home towns.

B. Peter is saying that because you are a Christian everything has changed and nothing is what it used to be.

1. You aren’t the person you used to be—2 Cor. 5:17.
2. Your priorities aren’t what they used to be—Col.3:2.
3. Your place of residence isn’t where it used to be—Phil 3:20 and Heb. 13:14.

C. It’s not a question of being isolated from the world. It’s a question of being in the world but not of the world—John 17:14-16.

II. SECOND, WHAT IS OUR RELATIONSHIP TO GOD?

A. First, we are chosen by the Father.

1. Peter declares in verse 1 that we are “God’s elect”.
2. The word elect means “to choose for oneself”.
3. Many people struggle with the concept of being chosen by God.
   a. The word itself means “to know beforehand” as in verse two—v.2 “who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father”.
   b. The Greek word is “prognois” from which we get our word “prognosis” meaning a prediction regarding future outcomes.
4. What does God’s foreknowledge or election mean with relation to our salvation?
   a. One interpretation is that God knows what’s going to happen before it happens, but this does not violate our free will.
   b. The Baptist Faith and Message: Article V “God’s Purpose of Grace.”
B. Second, we are called by God the Holy Spirit.

1. Peter says in verse two—v.2 ...“through the sanctifying work of the Spirit.”

2. To sanctify means to “set something or someone apart for a holy purpose.

3. Peter’s point is that we cannot become one of God’s elect without the presence and the power of the Holy Spirit who draws us to God.

C. Third, we are cleansed by God the Son.

1. Peter says in verse two—v.2 “to be obedient to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with his blood.”

2. The concept of being sprinkled with blood goes back to the O.T.

3. To be sprinkled with the blood of Jesus means to be forgiven of our sins and be saved—Heb. 9:22.

4. Notice that obedience and cleansing go together.