

STUDIES IN FIRST PETER

Pastor's Bible Hour – March 9, 2008
Tabernacle of Praise – Pastor G. Richardson
www.topmanteca.org

1Pe 1:22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, *see that ye* love one another with a pure heart fervently:

WE ARE CHILDREN OF THE SAME FAMILY AND HAVE EXPERIENCED THE SAME BIRTH

1. The only way to enter God's spiritual family is by a spiritual Birth, by being born of the water and of the spirit. (John 3:5)
2. Just as we have two parents in physical birth, so there are two parents in the spiritual birth. The Spirit of God, and the Word brings life.

1Pe 1:23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever.

3. **Two elements in the creation:** Spirit and Word.

Gen 1:2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness *was* upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

Gen 1:3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

1Co 12:13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether *we be* Jews or Gentiles, whether *we be* bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

Joh 1:11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

Joh 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name:

Joh 1:13 **Which were born**, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, **but of God.**

4. **The New Birth**: Gives us a new nature (2 Peter 1:4).

5. **And a New and Living Hope**: Lively Hope

1Pe 1:3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

OUR FIRST BIRTH WAS OF THE FLESH

1. Our first birth was a birth of “flesh” and the flesh is corruptible. Whatever is born of flesh is destined to die and decay.

1Pe 1:24 For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:

Eph 2:3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.
Eph 2:4 **But God**, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,

2. This explains why mankind cannot hold civilization together; it is all based on human flesh and is destined to fall apart. Like the beautiful flowers of spring, man’s works look successful for a time, but then they start to decay and die.

3. All the way from the Tower of Babel in Genesis 11, to “Babylon the Great” in Revelation 17-18, man’s great attempts at unity are destined to fail.

4. If we try to build unity in the church on the basis of our first birth, we will fail; but if we build unity on the basis of the new birth, it will succeed.

Mat 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

THE WORD OF GOD ENDURETH FOREVER

1Pe 1:25 But the word of the Lord endureth forever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

Endureth forever - Is unmoved, fixed, permanent. Amidst all the revolutions on earth, the fading glories of natural objects, and the wasting strength of man, his truth remains unaffected. Its beauty never fades; its power is never enfeebled. The gospel system is as lovely now as it was when it was first revealed to man, and it has as much power to save as it had when first applied to a human heart.

Isa 40:8 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand forever.

Mat 24:35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

ALL FLESH IS AS GRASS

1Pe 1:24 For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:

1Pe 1:25 But the word of the Lord endureth forever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

1Pe 1:24 - All men, as born of corruptible seed, are frail, mortal, and perishing; they spring up like grass, and look beautiful for a while, but are very weak and tender, and in a little time they are cut down by death, and wither away;

and all the glory of man as the flower of the grass; all outward things which are in esteem with men, and render them glorious to one another, as riches, honour, wisdom, strength, beauty, external righteousness, holiness, and goodness; all which are fading and transitory, like the flower of the field; but the Gospel continues, and reveals durable riches, and honour with Christ; and true wisdom and strength with him, and spiritual knowledge, in comparison of which, all things are dross and dung.

REMBER NOW THY CREATOR

Ecc 12:1 Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;

Ecc 12:2 While the sun, or the light, or the moon, or the stars, be not darkened, nor the clouds return after the rain:

Ecc 12:3 In the day when the keepers of the house shall tremble, and the strong men shall bow themselves, and the grinders cease because they are few, and those that look out of the windows be darkened,

Ecc 12:4 And the doors shall be shut in the streets, when the sound of the grinding is low, and he shall rise up at the voice of the bird, and all the daughters of music shall be brought low;

Ecc 12:6 Or ever the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern.

Ecc 12:7 Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.