### First Peter 1:1-12

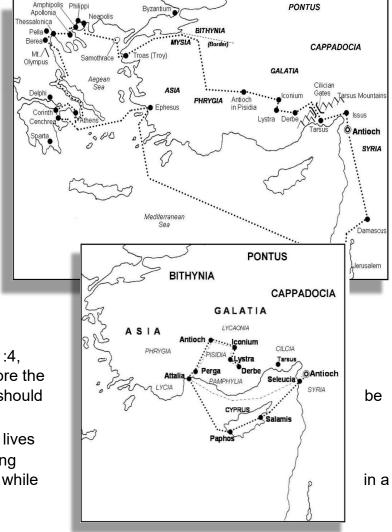
First Peter 1:1 - Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,

To those who are elect exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia.





- 1. "apostle"  $(\alpha\pi\sigma\sigma\tau\sigma\lambda\sigma\varsigma)$  an official representative who was appointed and authorized by the one doing the sending.
- 2. "elect" (εκλεκτος) elect, is an adjective, from the verb form that means to pick out, to select.
  - a. This word was used in the papyri to mean "select" or "choice"
  - b. Deuteronomy 14:2
  - c. Verb form is used in Ephesians 1:4, "even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should holy and blameless before him."
- 3. "strangers"  $(\pi\alpha\rho\epsilon\pi\iota\delta\eta\mu\sigma\varsigma)$  one who lives alongside of. A sojourner. A person living temporarily as a foreigner, staying for a while strange place. They have settled down alongside others.
  - a. See 2:11
  - b. Also used in Hebrews 11:13, "even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him."
- 4. "scattered"  $(\delta\iota\alpha\sigma\pi\sigma\rho\alpha)$  means "dispersion, scattering, diaspora"
  - a. It is a word used of the Jewish diaspora that came from deportation and movement into foreign lands.



- b. Here Peter uses a term normally used for Israel and places the meaning on the believers in the church age.
  - i. John 7:35
    - "The Jews said to one another, "Where does this man intend to go that we will not find him? Does he intend to go to the <u>Dispersion</u> among the Greeks and teach the Greeks?
  - ii. James 1:1 -
    - "James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ. To the twelve tribes in the **Dispersion**: Greetings.

1:2 – 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.



- 1. "according to" is *kata* ( $\kappa \alpha \tau \alpha$ ) which means down and gives the impression of dominion.
  - a. The "election" is established by the authority or dominion of the "foreknowledge."
- 2. "foreknowledge" *prognosis* (προγνωσις) knowing beforehand, foreknowledge. Compound Greek word:
  - a. "pro" meaning "before" and "gnosis" meaning "knowledge
  - b. First used in Acts 2:23
  - c. A term used of Israel in the OT as being God's client nation to reveal himself to the world with.
  - d. Calvinist change this word into "foreordination" just like they do in Romans 8:29 5. For example:
    - i. Pink says this foreknowledge is not God's "prescience of all things, but signifies that the saints were all eternally present in Christ before the mind of God" since they were "chosen by Him as the special objects."
    - ii. Calvin says "God knew before the world was created those whom he had elected for salvation."
    - iii. Warfield calls it "the elective foreknowledge of God."
  - e. Divine election is one thing, but foreknowledge is another.
- 3. Sequence:
  - a. God's eternal plan
  - b. Sanctified by Spirit which means set apart (made holy) for a lifestyle.

- i. The connection with "election" and "sanctification" is made only one other place and that is by Paul in 2 Thes. 2:13-14:
   "But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God <u>chose</u> you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. To this he called you through
- ii. The Spirit sanctifies us at the new birth, but our lives are an ongoing sanctification process by the power of the Holy Spirit conforming us into the image of the Son.

our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ."

- c. Obedience and blood of the Son
  - i. This could refer to Jesus or the believer:
    - 1. Jesus' obedience on the cross working the plan of salvation through his blood
    - 2. The believers' obedience in response to this salvation (either initially in response to the message or in obedience in life) and being sprinkled by Jesus' blood.
      - a. 1 Peter 1:14 "<u>As **obedient** children</u>, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance."
      - b. 1 Peter 1:22 "Having <u>purified your souls by your **obedience** to the truth</u> for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God."
  - ii. Romans 10:16 (10:15-17)

"As it is written.

"How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"
But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says,
"Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?"
So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."

- iii. 2 Cor. 10:5 (10:4-7)
  - "For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, being ready to punish every disobedience, when your <u>obedience</u> is complete."
- iv. Romans 1:5 (1:1-6)
  - "Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ."
- v. Summary:
  - 1. Salvation was achieved by the Son's obedience on the cross
  - 2. Salvation is attained by the believer when they obey the message and trust in the work of the Son

- 3. The true believer's life will be a demonstration of growing obedience to the character and plan of God
- d. "Sprinkled" is the sealing of the covenant as in:
  - i. Exodus 24:7-8 after the people pledged obedience in Ex. 24:3.
  - ii. These people are in a covenant.

## 1:3-5 – focus is on God the Father 1:6-9 – focus is on God the Son

1:10-12 - focus is on God the Spirit

- 1. Peter begins, like secular pagan letters of his culture, with thanks to the gods, or in this case, the Trinity.
- 2. Peter's opening wording is identical to that of Paul's in:
  - a. 2 Corinth 1:3 "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort..."
  - b. Eph. 1:3 "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ..."
  - c. 1 Peter 1:3 "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead..."
- 3. This is the Jewish blessing formula that has done two things to make it a Christian blessing:
  - a. Applied the title "Father" to God 2
  - b. Separated "Lord" from "Father" and applied "Lord" to Jesus
    - i. "Jesus" means "Jehovah-Savior"
    - ii. "Christ" means "the Anointed One"
  - c. This new formula gives deity and personality to God the Father and God the Son.

## 1:3 – Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.



- 1. "Blessed" or "Praise" is eulogetos
  - a. made with two Greek words:
    - i. *eu* meaning "well" and "well done"
    - ii. legeo from logos meaning "word" and lego meaning "to speak"
  - b. (English word "eulogy" comes from this which means "to speak well")

- c. To "bless" someone or to "praise" God means to speak well of them
- d. Peter's reason to "**speak well**" or to "**praise**" the Father is for "**new birth**" or **regeneration** which originates in God's great "**mercy**"
- e. "*Mercy*" is the Greek word used to translate the Hebrew word *hesed* in Ex. 20:6 and 34:7
  - i. "mercy" is a reference to God's covenant love
  - ii. The Greek word for "*mercy*" is used to translate *hesed* which is the Hebrew word used to identify God's covenant love (not emotional love).
    - 1. Ex. 20:6 "showing <u>love</u> (*hesed*) to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.
    - 2. Ex. 34:7 "maintaining <u>love</u> (*hesed*) to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation."
- f. So, because of God's "*mercy*" we have been given "*new birth*"....and, this "new birth" puts us:
  - i. "into a living hope" (currently active today)
  - ii. gives us an eternal "inheritance" (guaranteed for our eternal future).
- g. "*In his*" or "*According to*" is *kata* which means "<u>down</u>" and carries the idea of domination.
  - i. So, instead of "<u>according to his great mercy</u>" it has a more forceful or determinative meaning such as:0
    - 1. "impelled by his great mercy", or
    - 2. "caused by his great mercy."
- h. "New Birth" or "Regeneration" is from the Greek word αναγεννήσας from:
  - i. the prefixed preposition ana- meaning "re-" or "again"
  - ii. to the participle *gennao* meaning "generation"
  - iii. together the word is "ana-gennao" or "re-generation" and "again-birth"
  - iv. This word is only used by Peter here and in 1:23.
  - v. This word is not used by anyone else in the NT.
  - vi. The concept that believers have new life or have been born again is also found in:
    - 1. James 1:18 "He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of first fruits of all he created."
    - 2. John 1:13 "...children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, <u>but born of God</u>."
    - 3. But, in 1 Peter 2:2 a different word is used for the same concept.
- i. "into" or "unto" is from eis which is a Greek preposition speaking of result.
  - i. This says, "so that we have."
  - ii. We have been given a new birth "so that we have" hope
- i. "Hope" is living and alive energizing the believer.
  - i. "Living Hope" means the focus is not on the past when the believer was born again, but on where that new life is going to take the believer.

- ii. The birth of a child is celebrated because the parents are anticipating what that child will become in that child's future.
- iii. Likewise, the new life of a believer is celebrated because of the anticipation of the child's future.
- iv. The Holy Spirit makes us alive so we have hope:
  - 1. Expectantly in time
  - 2. Expectantly in eternity

#### k. "through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead"

- i. Consider the hope of the resurrection:
  - 1. Romans 6:4-5
  - 2. 1 Cor. 15
- ii. Our identification and union with Christ's death and resurrection gives us:
  - 1. Regeneration
  - 2. Living hope inheritance
- I. "From" in "from the dead" is ek or "out from within"
  - i. "from" could have been apo which means "from the edge of" death
  - ii. "from IS instead **e**k which means "out from among" the dead
  - iii. The dead stay in the grave and in the underworld, but Jesus (and, those in union with him) rise <u>out from among</u> the dead.

#### 1:4 – to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you,

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	to	an inheritance	imperishable	and	undefiled	and	unfading	being reserved	in	[the] heavens	for	you
	Prep	N-AFS	Adj-AFS	Conj	Adj-AFS	Conj	Adj-AFS	V-RPM/P-AFS	Prep	N-DMP	Prep	PPro-A2P

#### 1. "Inheritance" is kleronomia

- a. *Kleronomia* can refer to property already received as well as property you are expecting to receive at a later time.
- b. *Kleronomia* refers to the salvation the believer has received and experienced on earth and also the portion (fullness, completion) of the salvation promised to the believer received in eternity.
- 2. The mention of "birth" in 1:3 led to the mention of the inheritance for the child
  - a. Principle: If a son, then an heir"
    - i. Galatians 4:7 "So you are no longer a slave, but <u>a son</u>; and since you are <u>a son</u>, <u>god has made you also an hei</u>r."
    - ii. Romans 8:17 "Now if we are children, then we are heirs <u>heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ</u>, if indeed we share in his suffering in order that we may also share in his glory."
- 3. "*into*" or "*to*" in "to an inheritance" is *eis* which means we were born "*into*" (*eis*) this inheritance at the "*ana-gennao*"
  - a. Thus, we have the experience of the present possession of this inheritance in Ephesians 1
- 4. *Inheritance* is described with three adjectives:
  - a. "incorruptible"

- b. "undefiled"
- c. "unfading"

#### 5. "Incorruptible" (imperishable)

- a. Cannot rot or decay
- b. This is opposite of the earthly things. Things in this age decay (1 Cor. 9:25; 15:52)
- c. Permanent, will not wear out, cannot be lost
- d. This is not rewards
- e. This word is used to describe eternal, heavenly realities in the NT:
  - i. Rm. 1:23 God
  - ii. 1 Tim. 1:17 Jesus Christ
  - iii. 1 Pt. 1:23 God's Word
  - iv. 1 Cor. 15:52; 1 Cor. 9:25; 1Pt. 3:4 Resurrected bodies

#### 6. "Undefiled" (unstained by sin)

- a. Morally and religiously pure as in Heb. 7:26; 13:4 and James 1:27
- b. You, the believer, cannot defile this inheritance.
- c. Possession of this inheritance cannot defile you
- d. In the OT a thing defiled was unfit to be used by God or appear in God's presence.
  - i. For example, the land (inheritance) was defiled by sin in Num. 35:34; Dt. 24:4; Jer. 2:7; 3:2

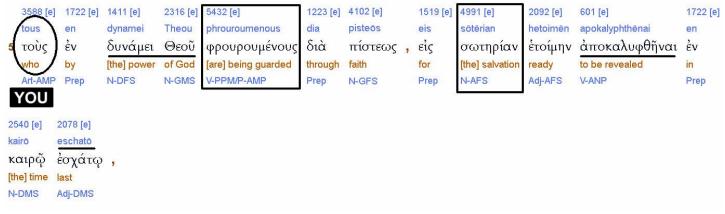
#### 7. "Unfading"

- a. This word is only used by Peter.
- b. A related term is used again in 1 Peter 5:4:"When the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory."
- c. Unlike the flowers that fade
- d. Unaffected by time
- e. Unaffected by conditions
- f. Never loses its beauty
- g. Never loses its glory

#### 8. "kept in heaven for you"

- a. "kept" or "being reserved" is teteremenen from tereo (τηρεω /tay-reh'-o/)
  - i. *tereo* means "to watch, to guard, to reserve, to protect, to rescue, to set aside."
  - ii. The Greek form of this word *tereo* is perfect passive (τετηρημενην) which indicates this inheritance is already in existence

### 1:5 – who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.



- 1. Besides being <u>incorruptible</u>, <u>undefiled</u>, <u>unfading</u> this inheritance is "*Guarded*" and it is "*Guarded*" in heaven.
- 2. "Guarded" is phroureo and means "kept safe, carefully watched"
  - a. *Phroureo*, "guarded" is used to refer:
    - To keeping something from being stolen (as when Canaan protected their treasure from Israel)
    - ii. To keeping something from escaping (as when Paul tried to escape Damascus)
  - b. "Shielded" only translates half the meaning
  - c. *Phroureo*, "guarded" is <u>present participle</u> which means "<u>you are continually being</u> guarded."
  - d. This inheritance is totally secure:
    - i. It cannot be:
      - 1. spent,
      - 2. lost,
      - 3. corrupted
      - 4. cashed in,
      - 5. exchanged,
      - 6. damaged
    - ii. It cannot be taken with:
      - 1. time,
      - 2. corruption,
      - 3. sin,
      - 4. conditions,
      - 5. attitude
    - iii. Because:
      - 1. it is eternal
      - 2. it is guarded by God continually

### 1:6 – In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials,

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## 1:7 – so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

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## 1:8 – Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory,

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#### 1:9 – obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

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## 1:10 – Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully,

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### 1:11 – inquiring what person or time the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glories.

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	inquiring	into	what	or	what manner of	time	was signifying	the	in	them	Spirit	of Christ	
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# 1:12 – It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look.

12 C	739 [e] ois δίς o whom delPro-DMP	ἀπε	alyphthē εκαλύφθ s revealed	3754 [e] hoti η ὅτι that Conj	3756 [e] ouch οὐχ not Adv	1438 [e] heautois ἑαυτοῖς themselves RefPro-DM3	s you	de δὲ how	, ever	διηι	noun CÓVOUV were serving	846 [e] auta αὐτά in those th PPro-AN3F	ha Či ings w		3568 [e] nyn vũv now Adv
anēng ἀνη have	312 [e] anengele ἀνηγγέλη have been proclaim V-AIP-3S		4771 [e] hymin ὑμῖν to you PPro-D2P	1223 [e] $3588$ [e] dia ton $\delta i \dot{\alpha}$ $\tau \tilde{\omega} v$ by those Prep Art-GMF		euangelisamenon εὐαγγελισαμένων having proclaimed the go			4771 [e] hymas ὑμᾶς you PPro-A2P		en ểv by	1151 [e] Pneumati Πνεύματι (the] Spirit	40 [e] Hagiō Άγίο Holy Adj-DN	having	ταλέντι been sent
575 [e ap' ἀπ' from	i 3772 [e] ouranou oὐραν heaven N-GMS	οũ ,	eis εἰς	3739 [e] ha à which RelPro-ANF	desire	nousin ε υμοῦσιν ἀ	angeloi άγγελοι angels	3879 [e] parakypsa D1 παρακι to look V-ANA		X1 .					