

First Baptist Church | Poinciana

Church Wide Study | 1 Peter

Rev. Wayne Harrell, Senior Pastor

About the book of 1 Peter. (an introduction to the study)

Title: 1 Peter is a general Epistle (non-Pauline) it is named after the author and is called the First Epistle of Peter. (1 Peter)

Paul's letters are generally named for the recipient. *General Epistles* are named after the author and were typically written to a more general audience. General Epistles are – Hebrews, James, 1 Peter, 2 Peter, 1 John, 2 John, 3 John and Jude.

Author: The first word of this letter is “Peter” (1:1) Peter goes on to identify himself as a witness of the sufferings of Christ (5:1). The early church accepted Peter as the author of this letter without dispute.

Intended Audience: 1 Peter was a letter addressed to the “scattered” Christian congregations throughout Asia Minor, (modern day Turkey) (1:1) The context points to the fact that these churches were interracial congregations (a mixture of Jew and Gentile Christians)

Date of Writing: 1 Peter was written just before the outbreak of the persecution of the Christian church at the end of the Roman Emperor, Nero (AD 54–68). Likely, this was written just before the fire that burned Rome down and turned the Romans against the Christian faith. Peter himself was martyred during this period of Christian persecution.

Place of Writing: It cannot be stated with 100% certainty where Peter was when he wrote this letter. However, the evidence points to Rome as the place of writing, where Peter spent his final days (1 Peter 5:13). Babylon is generally understood to be a metaphorical alias for Rome.

Reason: Christians scattered throughout the Roman province of Asia Minor faced growing hostility, this became full-fledged persecution under Nero. Peter wrote this letter to encourage the church to stand firm in Christ in the face of opposition.

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Themes:

- Salvation Through Faith in Christ
- The Believer's Hope for the Future
- The Reality and Response to Christian Persecution
- The Nature and Ministry of the Christian Church
- Christian Duty in
 - Family
 - Work
 - Society

View of Christ: The Lord Jesus Christ is presented as the crucified Savior and Risen Lord in fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy (Isa. 53)

Christ is also viewed as the example in suffering and hope of future glory.

Christ is directly mentioned 21 times in 1 Peter.

1. Notes:

Weekly Memory Verse:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Because of his great mercy he has given us new birth into living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1 Peter 1:3

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Session One | Message One

“Our Living Hope”

1 Peter 1:1-12

1. We are Known by God (vs 1-2)

- Chosen – Not Forsaken. (v1)
- Given Power by and a work of the Spirit (v2)
- To Be: _____.
- “Sprinkled with the blood of Jesus Christ”
 - Looks back to the OT when Moses sprinkled sacrificial blood on the people of Israel as a symbol sealing their covenant as they promised to **obey** God’s Word. (Exodus 24:3-8)
 - The New Covenant – faith in the shedding of Christ’s blood on the cross not only begins God’s promise to give a new believer perfect atonement – but also brings the believer into covenant by our promise of _____ to the Lord and His WORD.

“The opposite of faith is not doubt, the opposite of faith is disobedience”

NOTES:

2. Christ is our Living Hope (v3-5)

- New Birth, through Mercy, into Living Hope (how?)
- Through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the Dead
- Romans 8:11 – We share in the same power as we accept Christ as our Savior.
- We have an _____, Kept in Heaven.
 - Rewards for faithfulness, loyalty to the King and His Kingdom
 - It is kept in Heaven: No one can take, lose it, hack it out of God's heavenly computer system.
- We are guarded / protected by God's Power(through faith)
 - If you are truly born again, you are not going anywhere.
 - NOT because of your power to hold on to God, but because God has an _____ grip on you.(John 10:27-29)

3. We Will Face Trials (v6-7)

- All Trials are Designed to do 3 things :
 1. _____ your faith.
 2. _____ your faith.
 3. _____ your Savior.

"The purpose of trials is to see if you believe what you say you believe." - Tony Evans

4. Love Christ (v8-9)

- We _____ Christ by seeking His glory, so we must determine how we can bring Him the most glory in any given circumstance and do it.
- We _____ Christ (or – trust Him) by obeying Him. Trusting Christ is not a feeling; it is a decision to obey (1:8)
- We _____ in Christ, meaning that we are thanking and praising Him because we are receiving the goal of our faith – Salvation.

Notes:

How can I apply today's message to my life?