



Lesson #1: Secure Strangers (1 Peter 1:1-2)

The aim of 1 Peter is to encourage and strengthen believers who were living in difficult days. The Jewish audience Peter addresses is being mistreated and persecuted for their faith. They are scattered among the five Roman provinces in what is now modern-day Turkey. They were likely seeking to hide for safety from _____ who is burning Christians and confiscating their land.

Peter seeks to encourage them by offering them _____. 5x in this epistle the word “_____” is brought up. While the introduction to Peter’s letter is not long and flowery (only 33 words in the original) it is jam packed with this message of _____.

Perhaps you have come this morning asking some questions of God. (1) Does God even _____ about how hard this is for me, (2) Does God even _____ who I am?, (3) Does God have any _____ he can offer? In these first two verses Peter seeks to encourage those suffering saints and give them security in their affliction by answering those three questions.

GOD’S _____ IS UNQUESTIONED

In that first verse we read these intriguing words – “*Strangers scattered.*” I would suggest to you that in those words Peter is saying, “God _____!”

A. God’s view is seen in where He _____ us

The words “stranger” could literally be translated “one who resides _____ the natives.” Calling believers strangers is really an apt description. Every one of us, in some fashion, lives alongside the natives (Phil. 3:20; John 17:16). Being a stranger reminds us of the _____ we have. No matter where we are it’s exactly where God wants us to be.

B. God’s view is seen in _____ He uses us

The word “scattered” reminds us of our _____. This is the Greek word *diaspora*. It’s the word used when a farmer went out to sow his seed. We are scattered to grow fruit just as surely as seed sown in the field is scattered to make a difference. God has scattered us through our neighborhoods and through this city and He has done it with a purpose.

GOD’S _____ IS UNHINDERED

The words of verse 2 are often words of confusion in the church today but to the early church these words would have been words of _____. In this second verse the _____ is revealed. All three members of the Godhead are involved, together, in the work of salvation.

A. Salvation requires the _____ of God

- “*Elect*” – That word is used frequently in the OT. The Israelites were called God’s “chosen people” (Psalm 105:6). This same word is found _____ in the NT. Here the verb being used is passive. In other words, the believer is the object of God’s _____.
- “*Foreknowledge*” – This is the word *prognosis* we get our word “prognostic” or “prognosticate.” It literally means “before to know” or “having a previous _____.”

This doctrine is not set for to be debated but to be declared. It is not meant to confuse but to comfort. I may not fully understand it but I revel in it and I glory in it!

B. Salvation requires the _____ of the Spirit

At the moment of your salvation the Spirit baptizes you into the body and _____ you so that you are one of the Lord’s that is stamped forever in Christ. The Spirit fills you, empowers you, and makes you a _____ person.

C. Salvation requires the _____ of the Son

This provision of salvation has been provided through the _____ of the Son.

GOD’S _____ IS UNENDING

Two divine provisions are being highlighted at the close of verse two.

A. God supplies _____

“*Grace*” is the undeserved _____ that God can give. It comes from God; it is not earned by any merit; we pray for it for ourselves and for our friends; we can ask for nothing better.

B. God supplies _____

When grace abides in the soul there is _____ within the heart. This peace of mind overflows in the believer’s relationships with both God and man.

Concluding Thoughts

In the *New International Commentary of the New Testament* Peter Davids notes, “1 Peter has frequently been _____ by the church for since the reformation the Pauline Epistles have taken center stage. This is an unfortunate situation for 1 Peter is a highly relevant book whenever the church is _____ and the faithful church will _____.”