



The Canadian *Lord's Day* Association

Bible Course

Acts to Revelation

Lesson 59

Name: _____

1 Peter

We have two epistles in the Bible written by Peter, who was a most eminent apostle of Jesus Christ, and whose character shines brightly as it is described in the four Gospels and in the Acts of the Apostles. Peter was a loyal, energetic, frank, and impulsive fisherman from Capernaum. It is certain from scripture that Simon Peter was one of the first of those whom our Lord called to be his disciples and followers. When the Savior called his apostles, and gave them their commission, he nominated Peter first in the list; and by his behavior towards him he seems to have distinguished him as a special favorite among the twelve. Many instances of our Lord's affection to him, both during his life and after his resurrection, are on record.

The design of this first epistle, written approximately 64 A.D., is,

- To explain more fully the doctrines of Christianity to these newly-converted Jews.
- To direct and persuade them to Christian living for their own peace and to disprove the slanders of their enemies.
- Primarily to prepare them for sufferings.

The suffering of Christians seems to be his principal intention; for he has something to say about suffering in every chapter, and does, by a great variety of arguments, encourage the Christians to patience and perseverance in the faith, lest the persecutions and sad calamities that were coming upon them should prevail with them to apostatize from Christ and the gospel.

– Adapted from Matthew Henry

Peter was known as the apostle to the Jews . That would be Christian Jews. Peter's commission from Christ was to "feed My sheep." A minister must not only seek the lost souls, but "feed the flock of God." Peter preached mainly in the area of Judea, where there was a great persecution. These needed spiritual food to sustain them in persecution, so they would be able to say and experience the blessing of Jesus words: "Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven, for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you" (Matt. 5: 11,12).

1. Are I and II Peter written by Peter or to Peter? _____
2. To whom was I Peter written? _____

3. Matthew Henry says that Peter's _____ shines brightly. Give one example of this (not in the paragraph): _____
4. Give one instance of Christ's affection for Peter (not in the paragraph): _____
5. The main point of I Peter is to prepare the Church for _____.

6. **Circle** the places (v. 1) that Peter wrote to. Today all of these places are in what modern day _____ country?



Read I Peter I

Peter starts with the foundation of the Church... _____ according to the foreknowledge of _____, through _____ of the _____, unto _____ and sprinkling of the blood of _____. Peter describes the work of all three persons of the Trinity.

7. Peter follows in v. 3 with more works of the blessed "Father of our Lord Jesus Christ":

- a. His abundant _____ hath begotten us again unto a lively _____ by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

God's people anticipate a bright future through Christ's work.

- b. Given an incorruptible _____, and undefiled, and that _____ not away. Peter and Paul often give contrasts between the corruptible (earthly) crown and the incorruptible (heavenly) crown.

God's people have an inheritance that cannot be spoiled.

- c. Who are _____ by the power of _____

God's people are kept by the power of God.

God through faith unto salvation.

9. Peter gives reason for His Church to rejoice (in the midst of trials and temptations): The trial of faith is more precious than _____ which is tried by _____. Most of His Church has never seen Jesus, yet they _____ Him. In the midst of persecution they rejoice with joy _____ and full of glory. Many were called to give their life, which was the _____ of faith in an unseen Jesus since they were taken to see Jesus for the first time.
10. This salvation, the _____ searched and inquired diligently after and found, and the _____ desire to look into. (The angels have intense admiration for and an earnest longing for the fulfillment of God's plan. To "look into" in this verse is like when Peter ran to the tomb and stooped to look in.) The blessings of grace are revealed in a God-honoring life. True religion is more than an outward show like writing it on our shirt or wearing a cross; it needs to be in our walk. Peter makes the comparison to preparing for a journey, race, warfare or run. . He says, to gird up the loins of your _____. 'Gird' means encircle (belt or girdle). A person gathering up his loose garments to prepare himself to proceed. Similarly, we must restrain all extravagance of our minds or anything that would hinder us from a godly walk. A godly walk includes the following obligations which are the desire of those receiving the blessings of grace: a right relationship with God and right relations with man.
11. A right relationship with God includes:
 - a. **Living in hope**: Peter urges the Church to be _____ and "hope unto the end for the _____ that is to be brought unto you..." (Christians look forward with hopefulness because of grace in Christ.)
 - b. **Living holily**: Peter pleads with them to be _____ children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former _____ in your ignorance. "Be ye holy for I am _____."
 - c. **Living in the fear of God**: If we call upon the Father...pass your time of your sojourning here in _____. 'Sojourn' means temporary stay. (We must always remember that God hates sin and will judge it. The redeemed realize what forgiveness cost and have a wholesome fear of God.) We are not redeemed with

corruptible things such as silver and gold (Peter uses things that we would never think of as corruptible), but with the _____ of Christ, as a _____ without spot.

- d. **Demonstrate mutual love:** Jesus is the One who _____ our souls (v. 22) in obeying the _____ through the Spirit unto unfeigned _____ of the brethren. Peter then admonishes the Church to love one another with a pure heart _____. ‘unfeigned’ means genuine; sincere. Since they were born again by the _____ of God which liveth and abideth forever. Peter compares the everlasting word with flesh, which is just _____...his glory does not last. (Warm and sincere love must be given to those who have been cleansed by the same blood.)

Evaluator_____

Prayer

Grant, Almighty God, that since thou hast been pleased to adopt us as Thy people, and from being thine enemies, profane and reprobate, to make us the children of Abraham, that we might be unto thee a holy heritage, --O grant, that through the whole course of our life we may so repent as to attain unto Thy mercy, which is daily set before us in the gospel, and of which Thou has given us a sure pledge in the death of Thine only Son so that we may become more and more humble before Thee, and labour to form our life according to the rule of Thy righteousness, and so loath ourselves, that we may at the same time be allured by the sweetness of Thy goodness to call upon Thee, and that being thus united to Thee, we may be more and more confirmed in the faith, until at length we shall reach that blessed rest which has been procured for us by the blood of Christ, Thine only Son. Amen.

‘Contempt of the World’
Augustus Toplady
Worthy is the Lamb