

**Rejected By The World-
Chosen By God**

The case could be made that if one were to be ship wrecked on a desert island and allowed to have only one of the New Testament letters as a companion, then 1 Peter would be the ideal choice, so rich is its teaching, so warm its spirit, and so comforting its message in a hostile environment.

– I Howard Marshall



1 Peter 1:1-2

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,
To those who are elect exiles of the
Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia,
Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia,
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.

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ

Matthew 16:15-17

He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.

From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer...And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

It must have been very pleasant to his heart to write those words, — not “Peter, who denied his Master, “not” Peter, full of imperfections and infirmities, the impetuous and changeable one of the twelve; “but” Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,” as truly sent of God as any of the other apostles, and with as much of the Spirit of his Master resting upon him: “Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ” How sweetly the apostle is obeying his Master’s command,

“When thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.” This is the same Peter who once began to sink beneath the waves, yet now he is helping others to stand. This is the very Peter who denied his plaster, but he begins his Epistle by owning himself to be “an apostle of Jesus Christ.” What wonders the Lord Jesus had wrought for Peter by his grace! It is no marvel, therefore, that he should say to others, “Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.”

– Charles Spurgeon



Peter, an **apostle** of Jesus Christ

"a diplomatic agent of the highest rank accredited to a foreign government as the resident representative of his own government for a special and often temporary diplomatic assignment"
– Webster's Dictionary

Acts 1:21-22

So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection.”

The supreme importance of the apostles is suggested by the fact that the phrase of Jesus Christ is attached to no other New Testament office: we do not read of teachers of Jesus Christ or prophets of Jesus Christ or evangelists of Jesus Christ, only of apostles of Jesus Christ.

– Wayne Grudem



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

John 7:33-35

Jesus then said, "I will be with you a little longer, and then I am going to him who sent me. You will seek me and you will not find me. Where I am you cannot come."

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 Dispersion** among the Greeks and teach the Greeks?"

Exiles = Parepidemos

literally means a stranger alongside and so a stranger or sojourner. This person is not simply one who is passing through, but a foreigner who has settled down, however briefly, next to or among the native people.

- Bruce Hurt, NT Word Studies

Believers are exiles because they suffer for their faith in a world that finds their faith off-putting and strange.

- Thomas Schreiner



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

Phlippians 3:20

for **our citizenship is in heaven**, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ

Psalms 84:5

Blessed are those whose strength is in you, **in whose heart are the highways to Zion.**

Hebrews 13:14

For here we have no lasting city, but **we seek the city that is to come.**

These terms give us the key to Peter's whole letter. Peter is writing a travelers' guide for Christian pilgrims.

He reminds them that their hope is anchored in their homeland. They are called to endure alienation as strangers, but they have a heavenly citizenship and destiny.

– Wayne Grudem



Matthew 22:14

For many are called, but few are **chosen**.

Mark 13:27

And then he will send out the angels and gather **his elect** from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

John 17:9

I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world **but for those whom you have given me**, for they are yours.

Ephesians 1:4

Even as **he chose us in him** before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.

2 Thessalonians 2:13

But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because **God chose you as the firstfruits** to be saved

1 Peter 2:9

But you are a **chosen race**, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession

Amiable agnostics will talk cheerfully about man's search for God. For me, they might as well talk about the mouse's search for a cat... God closed in on me.

- C. S. Lewis



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

According to the **foreknowledge** of God the
Father

Amos 3:2

You only have I known of all the families of
the earth

Deuteronomy 10:14-15

Behold, to the LORD your God belong heaven
and the heaven of heavens, the earth with all
that is in it. Yet the **LORD set his heart in
love on your fathers and chose their
offspring after them**, you above all peoples,
as you are this day.

in the **sanctification of the Spirit**

1 Corinthians 1:2

To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those **sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints** together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours

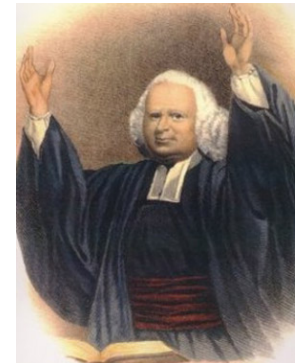
for **obedience** to Jesus Christ and for
sprinkling with his blood

Exodus 24:7-8

Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it in the hearing of the people. And they said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do, **and we will be obedient.**" And Moses **took the blood and threw it on the people** and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words."

A true faith in Jesus Christ will not suffer us to be idle. No, it is an active, lively, restless principle; it fills the heart, so that it cannot be easy till it is doing something for Jesus Christ.

– George Whitefield



Christians...reside in their respective countries, but only as aliens. They take part in everything as citizens and put up with everything as foreigners. Every foreign land is their home, and every home a foreign land...They find themselves in the flesh, but do not live according to the flesh. They spend their days on earth, but hold a citizenship in heaven.

– The Epistle to Diognetus, 2nd Century AD

May grace and peace be multiplied
to you.