1646 Sojourners Under Fire

Deal bountifully with your servant, that I may live and keep your word. Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law. I am a sojourner on the earth; hide not your commandments from me! My soul is consumed with longing for your rules at all times.

You rebuke the insolent, accursed ones, who wander from your commandments. Take away from me scorn and contempt, for I have kept your testimonies. Even though princes sit plotting against me, your servant will meditate on your statutes.

Your testimonies are my delight; they are my counselors.

My soul clings to the dust; give me life according to your word! When I told of my ways, you answered me; teach me your statutes! Make me understand the way of your precepts, and I will meditate on your wondrous works.

My soul melts away for sorrow; strengthen me according to your word! Put false ways far from me and graciously teach me your law! I have chosen the way of faithfulness; I set your rules before me.

I cling to your testimonies, O LORD; let me not be put to shame! I will run in the way of your commandments when you enlarge my heart!

Peter Sojourners Under Fire



- Author:
- Date:
- Where Written:
- To Whom Letter is Written?

CAPPADOCIA CILICIA MAN PROVINCES IN ASIA



Themes:

The main purpose of this epistle was to strengthen the readers so they would persevere through their persecution with the right attitude. Peter did this by showing that God's grace provided all that they needed for strength. In a larger sense, the purpose is to help Christians know how to live as "aliens" in the world.



Peter makes several bold claims:

i) Christians are God's holy and chosen people in direct continuity with Old Testament concepts



Peter makes several bold claims:

• ii) Christians are to live as a holy people within a hostile society. This provides a witness to the gospel and a contrast to society's norms



Peter makes several bold claims:

- When Christians are persecuted, they identity with Christ who also suffered
- iv) These themes are relevant for Christians living in a post-modern culture.



Above all, the epistle is written to show that God's grace is sufficient for all our needs.

- (1) First grace proceeds from God
- (2) Second, grace produces confidence.



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- (3) Third, what proclaims God's grace is our conduct.
- (4) Fourth, grace perfects character.



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(5) Fifth, grace promotes courage.



Outline of 1 Peter:

- I. Apostolic Salutation (1:1-2)
- II. Introductory Thanksgiving (1:3-12).
- Christians are to Lead Holy Lives (1:13-2:10)
- III. Specific Instruction and Encouragement for Holy Living (2:11-4:11)



Outline of 1 Peter:

IV. Joy Amid Suffering and Further Clarifications about What is Expected of the Community (4:12-5:11)

V. Final Greetings (5:12-14)



¹Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who are elect exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, ²according 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 Peter



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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 vou. - 1 Peter 1:1-2



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"It would be the greatest slander and blasphemy of the name of Christ if we refused to honor Christ's blood for washing away our sin or refused to believe that this blood makes us holy. Hence you must believe and confess that you are holy, but by this blood and not by reason of your own piety."

Martin Luther

Sojourners Under Fire Next Week: 1 Peter 1:3-12