

## **BIB 291 General Epistles**

### **Lesson 5 - I Peter**

Intro. Peter is writing toward the end of his life to encourage those who are suffering persecution from Nero. He has been off the scene while the focus has been upon Paul who was spreading the gospel to the Gentile world. Peter remaining the apostle to the circumcision likely spent his years traveling to the Jews of the dispersion testifying of the “true grace of God”. He writes this letter from Babylon where there would likely be a large number of Jews who remained there from the captivity that didn’t return during the time of Ezra and Nehemiah.

1:1-2 Introduction to the elect scattered in Asia Minor. This would likely include both elect Jews and Gentiles. He certainly makes reference to OT Jewish concepts but also appears to make reference to Gentiles as well. 2:10 Maybe it was written to prevent Gentiles or Jews from thinking that Peter was still taking sides as had happened previously. It was the doctrine of election that helped Jews to accept the fact that a Gentile could be saved. Romans 9:24-26

Theme: the believers hope overcomes suffering

Key verse: 1:7 - great verse

The word suffer or suffering used 13 times in 5 chapters. The word hope 4 times. He writes to give a great encouragement on how to overcome and endure suffering wrongfully for your faith.

#### 1. The Salvation of the Christian 1:1-2:10

Note: Jews were “inheritance conscious” to an inheritance incorruptible

##### A. The doctrine of salvation 1:1-12

1. The hope of the future 3-5
2. The joy of the present 6-9
3. The search of the past 10-12

##### B. The duty of salvation 1:13-25 - I Timothy 2:15

1. holiness 13-16
2. sobriety 17-21
3. endurance 22-25

##### C. The design of salvation 2:1-10 Growth

1. The growth of a body - individual 1-3
2. The growth of a building - corporate 4-10

#### 2. The Submission of the Christian 2:11-3:7 submission to those who may not treat you the way that you feel that you deserve

##### A. Submissive servants 2:11-18 summary in verses 11-12

##### B. Submissive sufferers 2:19-25 following the example of Christ’s silence

##### C. Submissive spouses 3:1-7

1. wives 1-6 emphasis is placed upon the wife because that is her primary role
2. husbands 7 dwelling according to knowledge (know your wife) give honor

#### 3. The Suffering of the Christian 3:8-5:14

##### A. Blessed are the peacemakers 3:8-22

1. our effort at peacemaking 3:8-12
  2. our expectation of peacemaking 3:13-17 ready to give an answer, clear conscience and not ashamed
  3. our example of peacemaking 3:18-22 Christ suffering the just for the unjust
- B. Blessed are the persecuted 4:1-19
1. our preparation for persecution 1-6 expect it
  2. our performance in persecution 7-11
  3. our partaking of persecution 12-19 rejoice and be exceedingly glad
- C. Blessed are the pastors 5:1-11
1. from a partaker of the sufferings of Christ - with the glory that shall be revealed -1
  2. be an example -2-3
  3. you will receive a reward -4
  4. relationship between elders in a church 5
  5. the need for humble prayer to maintain that relationship 6-7
  6. warning for shepherds to watch for their adversary 8-9
  7. his prayer for them - After you have suffered God will perfect you 10-11
- D. Salutation - The true grace of God 12-14

#### Conclusion

Notice his confident expectation that all who live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution but also his expectation of the benefits that they would receive from it - purification as gold tried in fire.

Men in Turkey who were having an invitation only church service and five Moslems came in and tied up three men and tortured them for hours.