




ALIENS!


A look at the letter of 1

Peter


1. Be Holy – 1 Peter 1: 1–21

 **1 Peter 1:16** ¹⁶ for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."


2. Love One another – 1 Peter 1:22– 2:3

 **1 Peter 1:22** ²² Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart,


3. Be people of God– 1 Peter 2: 3–10

 **1 Peter 2:10** ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

4. Submit Yourselves–1 Peter 2:11–3:7






 **1 Peter 2:12** ¹² Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

5. Arm yourselves– 1 Peter 3:8– 4:6

 **1 Peter 4:1** Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm

About these studies:

These studies are interactive and designed so that you'll understand the text and grow in godliness. To understand the text, a few basic tools are important:

-  We read the text to understand what the writer is saying.
-  We look for key words that break the text down to bite sizes.
 - Separators** – break the passage down into bite sizes. Look for words like 'Therefore', 'Since', 'Now that'.
 - Connectors** – These words explain the ideas even further and continue the train of thought. Look for words like 'So that', 'because', 'now that', 'For', 'And', 'But', 'Although' etc.
-  We ask questions to gather information.
-  We discuss how to apply this new knowledge to our lives.
-  **Praise God for all he has done .**

Who was Peter?

Although there is uncertainty about the identity of the author, it is generally accepted that the writer of 1 Peter was Jesus' right hand man and apostle, Simon Peter. You can read about the beginning of Peter's ministry in the book of Acts.

Why was 1 Peter written?

Peter outlines to the Christians at the time who were facing trials as Christians, what it means to be the people of God. He uses words like elect, strangers and aliens to describe their identity as Jesus' followers. Because of this they need to live accordingly. The letter is best summed up in two verses: **1 Peter 2:11-12.**

How does it apply to us today?

How do we, as the people of God today, continue to remain unstained by this world, so that the name of God will be glorified? That is what we hope to teach you in this study, so that you will continue to grow up in your salvation (1 Peter 2:2).

Be Holy

1 Peter 1: 1-21

1 Peter 1:16 ¹⁶ for it is written:
"Be holy, because I am holy."



1 Peter 1:1 - 21

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God's elect, strangers in the world... ² who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance. ³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he

has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade-- kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. ⁷ These have come so that your faith-- of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire-- may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls... ¹³ Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. ¹⁴ As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. ¹⁵ But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; ¹⁶ for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy." ¹⁷ Since you call on a Father who judges each man's work impartially, live your lives as strangers here in reverent fear. ¹⁸ For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. ²⁰ He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. ²¹ Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

1. Read 1 Peter 1: 1-21

Note down any repeated words or ideas while you read the text.



2. Locate the Separators.

Firstly, find the key words that will break this passage into bite size pieces. Draw a box around them and separate the 'parts' with a line. Secondly, write down the main ideas. This will help us work out what the writer is saying. In this passage there are four main 'parts' that we will look at :

1: 1-12 'Praise be to God' (write in the main idea of the first verse) _____

1:13-21 'Therefore' (write in the main idea of the first verse).

3. Part 1 (verses) _____

Looking at the connectors we can see how this is all linked:

V3- 5 speaks of the amazing salvation we have in the Father, Son and Spirit. We are given new birth into a future that will never end. The turning point comes at an important connector in verse 6 'Though now'... (circle).

Although we have this future secure, which brings us joy, right now we will face trials. The reason for this in v7 'so that'... (circle) God can see whether our faith is genuine and whether we will last the distance (salvation).

V10 continues about the previous idea 'this salvation' and outlines how the message revealed to the prophets of old about the sufferings of the Christ, has become so precious for our salvation.



Q. How does our faith prove to be genuine? (v's 7-9).

Q Write into your own words what you think this part of the passage is saying:

A. Key idea in one line is...

3. Part 2 (verses) _____

Looking at the connectors we can see how this is all linked:

Verse 13 begins with a response to how we 'work out' our faith while we face these trials, by preparing our minds for action. Focusing our hope heavenward and the grace that will be given to us, we ought to show self control. There is a contrast between our former evil ways (v14) and how we ought to live now.

This connector in verse 15 'But' (circle) shows us the point of contrast as we are urged to be holy just like the one who called us. There is a solid link here between preparing our minds and holiness.



Q. How do we prepare our minds for action? (vs 13-16)

The next connector is in v17 'since' (circle) and connects the previous idea. Since God expects us to strive for holiness and doesn't have favorites', live as strangers in _____. The second connector in v18 'For' (circle) tells us why we ought to live in this way.



Q. From these verse (18-21) why ought we to live in reverent fear?

God's justice means all sin must be removed. The cost of removing our sin was his only son (lamb without a blemish). He hasn't really let ignored our sin because he punished Jesus instead. The writer tells us that our future with God is all because of Jesus. If he hadn't died, our sin would still be with us. So really, our hope is in God's hands (v21).

Q Write into your own words what you think this part of the passage is saying:

B. Key idea in one line is...



Q. What would you say to a Christian brother or sister if they said they have never been through trials as a Christian?

Q. The Bible shows that although we should strive for holiness and Jesus' blood does make us holy before God, we are still sinful (1John 1:10). What are some other practical ways we can strive for godliness and purity within this reality of sin?

4. Pray



Spend a few moments praying about the joy of following Jesus.



A+B= big idea. Copy in the one-liners:

_____ **A.** _____

_____ **B.** _____

A + B = Big Idea:

Write what you think the writer is saying into your own words.
