

New Testament Foundations: Session Twenty

I Peter: The Enemy Without

Authorship

1. Peter probably used _____ as his amanuensis when he wrote this letter because the Greek is very eloquent—better than a fisherman from Bethsaida would be expected to use!

1 Peter 5:12, 13

With the help of Silas, whom I regard as a faithful brother, I have written to you briefly, encouraging you and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand fast in it. She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you, sends you her greetings, and so does my son Mark.

2. This letter was probably written shortly before the _____ persecutions began and before Peter was martyred, between 62 and 64 AD.
3. This letter was written to Christians in five Roman provinces of _____ who were experiencing various forms of persecution.

Style

1. Paul often developed a theological point before applying it, but Peter mixes _____ and imperative throughout.
2. Peter's epistle falls into three general sections. Section One (1:3-2:10) focuses on the _____ and responsibilities of being God's chosen and elect.
 - The first part concerns our privileges (1:3-12): we have a living hope, an imperishable, undefiled, and unfading inheritance, and a glorious salvation.
 - The second part concerns our responsibilities (1:13-2:3): we must be holy in our conduct, purify our souls to love others, and long for pure spiritual milk.
3. Section Two (2:11-4:11) focuses on exhibiting a _____ that is appropriate for those who are strangers and exiles in the world.

1 Peter 2:12

*Keep your **conduct** among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.*

1 Peter 3:1, 2

*Likewise, wives, be subject to your own husbands, so that even if some do not obey the word, they may be won without a word by the **conduct** of their wives—when they see your respectful and pure **conduct**.*

1 Peter 3:16

*...yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your **good behavior** in Christ may be put to shame.*

4. Section Three (4:12-5:11) focuses on the proper response to _____.

5. Peter emphasizes the _____ / _____ tension of New Testament eschatology.

ALREADY		NOT YET	
You were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers.	1:18	Though you do not now see him, you believe in him.	1:8
You have been born again.	1:23	Set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.	1:13
You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession.	2:9	...that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.	4:13
You have been healed.	2:24	When the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.	5:4

Purpose

- Peter wrote his letter to _____ believers who were experiencing persecution and suffering from the "Enemy Without." That is why this letter is filled with so many promises for those who endure.

1 Peter 1:6, 7

In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 4:12, 13

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you; but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing; so that also at the revelation of His glory, you may rejoice with exultation.

1 Peter 5:9, 10

But resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you.

- There are three other themes that emerge from Peter's encouragement to those experiencing persecution:

- _____.

1 Peter 1:3

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.

- _____.

1 Peter 2:11

I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul.

- _____.

1 Peter 5:10

And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.