

THE FIRST EPISTLE OF PETER
TO THE CHURCH OF THE DISPERSION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

1 PETER CHAPTER 1:1-2

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SMX-943

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“Anchored To The One True God” Part 2

The Ministry of The Grace of God Toward All Those Who Are Anchored in Christ.

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Persecution, Foreknowledge, Grace, Suffering

Introduction to the Text:

1 Peter 1:1-2

1 Peter 1:1-2 NKJV

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To the **pilgrims** of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, **2 elect** according to the **foreknowledge** of God the Father, in **sanctification** of the Spirit, for **obedience** and **sprinkling** of the blood of Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and **peace** be multiplied.

This is Peter’s “Epistle”

1st. Peter is not known as a Pastoral Epistle’, it is not known as a prophetic Epistle’– though it certainly has elements of both doctrines within its pages, the epistle of Peter is a personal message, a communiqué from a pastor’s heart to the flock of God.

1 Peter 5:2-3

Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; **3** nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock;

**Echoing in his ears must have been those words of Jesus’
“Peter – Feed my Sheep”**

It is important to note that this Epistle was known to have been read out-loud among the congregation in all the churches of Asia minor.

Early church fathers have reported that the reason for this was that the value of the message that Peter was communicating was absolutely essential for the survival and the encouragement in the unification of the Saints during today's of persecution and general rejection from the world in which they lived.

Although 1 Peter doesn't fall under the category of being "a theological treatise", 1st. Peter abounds with valuable theological implications. It presupposes a biblical worldview based upon God's sovereignty and His will to intentionally & specifically act regarding mankind's redemption.

Anchored To The One True God

1.) We are anchored to His indivisible care	vs. 1a
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**we are *forever* situated right in the middle of His
INDIVISIBLE CARE for Us!**

Anchored To The One True God Anchored To His Indivisible Care

1a.) Was the man Peter	vs. 1a
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1a Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,

PETER'S LIFE AND EXPERIENCE IS A GREAT ENCOURAGEMENT.

**He grew in grace. He grew in ministry. He grew in experience.
He is now aged – no longer physically as strong as he once was, but now
stronger than ever in faith.**

**If we can take anything away from Peter, it is this:
That Peter continued on to the end.**

**His life turned out to be exactly what Jesus had said that it would be.
"Peter" – did become a stone or a rock of a man.**

Anchored To The One True God;
Anchored To His Indivisible Care

1b.) Is the calling

vs. 1b

:1b Peter, an **apostle** of Jesus Christ,

Anchored To The One True God;
Anchored To His Indivisible Care

1c.) Are the people of God

vs. 1c

:1c ...to the **pilgrims of the Dispersion**
in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia

To the Pilgrim / Strangers

These were people just like us – not at home in this world. We live here for now, but were keenly aware that we've not yet

“And thus there is hardly any portion in the Word of God which has been more eagerly read than this Epistle, by those who were pressed with many trials and weaknesses.”

F.B. Meyer

Again F.B. Meyer writes;

“To a student of the earlier life of the Apostle Peter it would have seemed in the highest degree unlikely that one so impulsive, so rough-handed, so fond of action, should have been selected to write some of the tenderest and most comforting words that have ever fallen on the ears of a suffering and persecuted saint. Yet so it befell. And we are left to infer how keenly this strong nature of his must have suffered before it could have become so sweetened and softened, so humble and tender, as to afford a tropical soil for the luxuriant growth of Divine comfort.”

Dr. Adrian Rogers

“a faith that cannot be tested is a faith that cannot be trusted”

Anchored To The One True God

2.) We are anchored to His infinite love

vs. 2

The Infinite, Transcendent Love of God

No one has any appreciation for a **passive love**. Love is decided upon by the participants. **It is active and vibrant**. Real love is **expressed by** action and is **sustained by** action. Love does...

Anchored To His Infinite Love

2a.) A love that is determined

vs. 2a

:2a elect according to the foreknowledge of God

Here we are introduced to the wonderful and comforting doctrine of election - that God in His infinite omniscience “called out” “designated” “selected” those who are His.

No Christian should be troubled by this doctrine. Rather – it was given to bring comfort. What a great thing it is to know that in this world-of-hurt, I belong to God and He belongs to me, bound by an inseparable “love-relationship” that is secured in Him.

elect grk: chosen, selected, appointed, placed (as being set in a predetermined moment and place of time.

To be taken up, out and away from something, and to be placed safely, securely and right in the middle of another.

John 17:6, 14

“I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. :14 I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

The “election” of God is in His nature - as being God

Deuteronomy 4:37

tells us that His “election” is rooted in the intentional (determined) Love of God...

“And because He loved your fathers, therefore He **chose** their descendants after them; and He brought you out of Egypt with His Presence, with His mighty power,

Deuteronomy 7:6c

“For you are a holy people to the Lord your God; the Lord your God has **chosen** you to be a people for Himself.

John 15:5,16

“I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing, 16 You did not choose Me, but I **chose** you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.

Ephesians 1:4a

He **chose** us in Him before the foundation (creation) of the world

2 Thessalonians 2:13-14a

But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning **chose** you for salvation through **sanctification** by the Spirit and belief in the truth, 14 to which He **called** you.

Anchored To His Infinite Love

2b.) A love that is preceding

vs. 2b

1 Peter 1:2b

the **foreknowledge** of God the **Father**

foreknowledge grk: **prognosis**; to have pre-knowledge of that which is to happen. Possessing, knowing, seeing that which is has yet to be. Knowing all that was, is and shall be before it's time, existence or occurrence.

Anyone who tells you that they understand this deep characteristic of God's nature is fooling you and themselves.

This Doctrine is Beyond Human Comprehension.

All we can know is (#1) that God knows all things in advance. (#2) that all that He does originates out of His divine nature of love and (#3) He has invited all to come to Him, (#4) those who do respond to His invitation to believe in Him, He has known in eternity.

It's a Biblical Doctrine describing the Nature of God

Isaiah 46:10 NIV

I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say, 'My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.'

Jeremiah 1:5a

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you;

Acts 2:22-23a

(here's peter just days after Pentecost)

"Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know **23** Him, being delivered by the **determined** purpose (prearranged) and **foreknowledge** of God,

"The best I can do with this wonderful doctrine is this:

"Anchored in God's FOREKNOWLEDGE, His perfect pre-knowledge of all things before anything ever existed, He CHOSE me and called me to be among His ELECT."

I'm just gonna enjoy this doctrine!

Romans 8:28-30

And **we know** that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the **called** according to His purpose. **29** For whom He **foreknew**, He also **predestined** to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. **30** Moreover whom He **predestined**, these He also **called**; whom He **called**, these He also **justified**; and whom He **justified**, these He also **glorified**.

"But Pastor Jack – How can I know if God has foreordained me to salvation?"

John 6:29

Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in (exercise faith) in Him whom He sent."

John 6:40c

And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who **sees** the Son and **believes** in Him will have everlasting life."

John 6:44

No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.

John 6:37

All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.

Here's a (+) example of what we're learning today...

Acts 2:37-39

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" :38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

Here's a (-) example of what we're learning today...

Acts 5:31-33

Him (Jesus) God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. 32 And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him." :33 When they heard this, they were furious and plotted to kill them.

**And what about the two sinners crucified
on either side of Jesus?**

(+) this man changed his mind before it was too late. He desired what Jesus offered and he trusted in Christ.

(-) the other man hung in silence

Which of these 2 camps are you?

End of Study

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