

The First Epistle of
Peter

¹ Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,
To sojourners of the Dispersion of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and
Bithynia, ² chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in holiness of the
Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ:

May grace and peace be multiplied to you.

³ Blessed is the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who according to His
great mercy has begotten us again to a living expectation through the resurrection of
Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and unfading,
having been kept in the heavens for you, ⁵ those being guarded in the power of God
through faith to a salvation ready to be revealed in the last season. ⁶ In which you are
glad, if it is necessary for a little while now that you have been distressed in various
trials, ⁷ so that the proven character of your faith, much more valuable than perishing
gold, and having been tested through fire, may be found to intense praise, and honor, and
glory in the revelation of Jesus Christ, ⁸ Whom having not seen you are devoted to, in
Whom now not seeing, yet believing, you are glad with inexpressible and glorified joy,
⁹ obtaining the end of your faith: the salvation of souls.

¹⁰ About this salvation prophets sought out and searched out, who have prophesied
about the grace for you, ¹¹ searching for who or what kind of season the Spirit of Christ in
them was indicating, testifying beforehand of the sufferings of Christ and the glories after
these things. ¹² To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to you they were
ministering these things, which now have been reported to you through those having
announced a good message to you in the Holy Spirit having been sent from heaven, into
which things messengers are craving to stoop to look into.

¹³ Therefore, having girded up the loins of your mind, being sober, fully expect the
grace having been borne to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ¹⁴ As children of
obedience, not conforming yourselves to the former cravings in your ignorance; ¹⁵ but just
as the One having called you is holy, you also become holy in all conduct, ¹⁶ because it
has been written, "Become holy, because I am holy." ¹⁷ And if you are calling upon the
Father, the One judging impartially according to the work of each one, conduct
yourselves in fear during the time of your sojourn, ¹⁸ having known that, not with
corruptible silver or gold were you ransomed from your futile conduct handed down from
your fathers, ¹⁹ but with precious blood, as of a lamb blemishless and spotless – of Christ,
²⁰ having been foreknown before foundation of the world, being manifested upon the last
of the times for your sake, ²¹ those believing through Him in God, the One having raised
Him from the dead and having given glory to Him so that your belief and expectation
would be in God.

²² Having purified your souls through the Spirit in the obedience of the truth, for
unhypocritical brotherly love, devote yourselves fervently to one another from a clean
heart, ²³ having been begotten again, not from corruptible seed, but incorruptible through
a living word of God continuing into the age, ²⁴ because all flesh is grass and all glory of

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man is as the flower of grass. The grass withered, and its flower fell off, but the word of the Lord continues into the age. ²⁵ Now this is the word which was announced as a good message to you.

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¹ Therefore, having put away all depravity and all deceit, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all malignings, ² as newborn infants, long for the unadulterated rational milk, so that by it you may grow, ³ if indeed you tasted that the Lord is kind. ⁴ Toward Whom approaching, a living stone, having been rejected by men, but chosen, precious with God, ⁵ you also as living stones are being built up into a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it is contained in the Scripture, “Behold, I place in Zion a stone at the extreme angle, chosen, precious, and the one believing on Him will certainly not be humiliated.” ⁷ Therefore the honor is to you who are believing, but to those disobeying, “The stone which those building rejected, this one became head of the corner,” ⁸ and “a stone of stumbling and rock of a trap.” They are stumbling, being disobedient to the word, to which also they were appointed.

⁹ But you are a chosen generation, a kingly priesthood, a holy nation, a people for possession, that you may declare the virtues of the One having called you from darkness into His amazing light; ¹⁰ who formerly were not a people, but are now the people of God, those not having received mercy, but now having received mercy.

¹¹ Beloved, I am encouraging you as foreigners and sojourners, to abstain from the cravings of the flesh, which are warring against the soul; ¹² having your conduct good among the nations, so that whenever they are maligning you as evildoers, from observing the good works, they may glorify God in a day of inspection.

¹³ Submit therefore to every ordinance of man for the Lord’s sake, whether to a king as supreme, ¹⁴ or to governors as being sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and the intense praise of those doing good. ¹⁵ For so is the will of God: for your doing of good to muzzle the ignorance of non-thinking men – ¹⁶ as free, and not having freedom as a cover for depravity, but as slaves of God. ¹⁷ Honor all. Be devoted to the brotherhood. Be fearing God. Be honoring the king.

¹⁸ Domestic servants, submitting in all fear to the masters, not only to the good and reasonable, but also to the crooked. ¹⁹ For this is a grace, if because of conscience toward God, someone is persevering under pain, suffering unjustly. ²⁰ For what kind of credit is it if, sinning and being beaten, you will endure? But if you will endure, doing good and suffering, this is a grace with God. ²¹ For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving behind a pattern for you, so that you should follow in His footsteps, ²² Who “did no sin, nor was deceit found in His mouth,” ²³ Who, being reviled, didn’t revile back, while suffering, wasn’t threatening, but was committing everything to the One judging righteously; ²⁴ Who Himself carried up our sins in His body, upon the tree, so that having died to sins, we might live to righteousness, by Whose wound you were healed. ²⁵ For you were like wandering sheep, but now you have been turned back to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

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¹ Likewise, wives, submitting yourselves to your own husbands, so that even if some are being disobedient to the word, they will be gained without a word through the conduct of their wives, ² having observed your pure conduct in fear. ³ As to you, don't let it be outward adorning – braiding of hair, and wearing of gold, or putting on of garments – ⁴ but the hidden person of the heart, in the incorruptible adornment of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very expensive in the sight of God. ⁵ For thus also the holy women, placing their expectation on God, formerly were adorning themselves, submitting themselves to their own husbands, ⁶ as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, of whom you became children, doing good and not being afraid of any terror.

⁷ Likewise, husbands, dwelling with them according to knowledge, as to a weaker vessel, to the feminine, ascribing honor as a fellow heir also of grace of life, for your prayers not to be hindered.

⁸ And finally, all of you being likeminded, sympathetic, brethren-loving, affectionate, friendly, ⁹ not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, blessing, knowing that to this you were called, so that you might inherit a blessing. ¹⁰ For “the one desiring to be devoted to life and to see good days, let him stop his tongue from evil, and his lips from speaking deceit. ¹¹ Let him turn away from bad, and let him do good; let him seek peace and pursue it. ¹² Because the eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and His ears toward their request; but the face of the Lord is against those doing bad things.”

¹³ And who is the one who will be harming you, if you become imitators of the good? ¹⁴ But even if you might suffer for righteousness, you are blessed. “But don't fear their fear or be troubled.” ¹⁵ But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, always prepared with a defense to everyone asking of you a word about the expectation in you, with gentleness and fear, ¹⁶ having a good conscience, so that in whatever they malign you as evildoers, those insulting your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame.

¹⁷ For it is better, if the will of God should will it, to suffer for doing good than for doing bad. ¹⁸ Because Christ also suffered once for sins, the Righteous on behalf of the unrighteous, so that He could bring you to God, having been put to death in flesh, but having been made alive in spirit, ¹⁹ in which also having gone, He proclaimed to the spirits in prison ²⁰ who formerly disobeyed when the patience of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being constructed, into which a few, that is eight souls, were saved through water. ²¹ The antitype is now also saving us – immersion (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the response of a good conscience toward God) through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² Who is at the right of God, having gone into heaven, messengers and authorities and powers having been subjected to Him.

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¹ Therefore, since Christ suffered for us in flesh, you also arm yourselves with the same thought, because the one having suffered in flesh has been stopped from sin, ² toward no longer living the rest of his time in the flesh for the cravings of men, but for the desire of God. ³ For the time of life having been past is sufficient for you to have accomplished the desire of the nations, having gone in licentiousness, lusts, drunkenness,

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revelries, drinking bouts, and lawless idolatries. ⁴In which they are counting it strange, your not running together into the same excess of profligacy, defaming you. ⁵These will give an account to the One ready to judge the living and dead. ⁶For for this reason also a good message was announced to the dead, so that they might be judged according to men in flesh, but they might live according to God in spirit.

⁷But the end of all things is at hand. Therefore be of sound thinking and sober in your prayers. ⁸But above all, have earnest devotion for each other, because devotion will cover a multitude of sins, ⁹hospitable to one another without grumblings. ¹⁰Just as each one received a gift, ministering it to one another as good stewards of the diverse grace of God. ¹¹If anyone is speaking, as the utterances of God; if anyone serves, as from strength as God is supplying, so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to Whom is the glory and the might into the ages of the ages. Amen.

¹²Beloved, do not be counting it strange, as of a strange thing happening to you, concerning the burning taking place among you, for a test for you, ¹³but in so far as you are sharing in the sufferings of the Christ, be rejoicing, so that, being glad, you may rejoice also in the revelation of His glory. ¹⁴If you are being reproached in the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God is resting upon you. On their part He is defamed, but on your part He is glorified. ¹⁵For let none of you be suffering as a murderer, or a thief, or an evildoer, or as an overseer of the affairs of others. ¹⁶Yet if as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but be glorifying God in this matter. ¹⁷Because the season for judgment to begin from the house of God has come; and if first with us, what will be the end of those being disobedient to the good message of God? ¹⁸And “if the righteous is scarcely being saved, where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?” ¹⁹Therefore also, let those suffering according to the will of God be entrusting their souls to God in doing good, as to a faithful Creator.

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¹The elders who are among you, I, the fellow-elder and witness of the sufferings of the Christ, and the sharer of the glory about to be revealed, am encouraging:
²Shepherd the flocklet of God among you, overseeing not by compulsion, but voluntarily, nor for shameful gain, but eagerly, ³nor as exercising lordship over the allotments, but becoming examples to the flocklet, ⁴and when the Chief Shepherd has appeared, you will carry off as a prize the unfading crown of glory.

⁵Likewise, younger ones, submit to elders. But all of you, submitting to one another, clothe yourselves with the humility, because, “God is defying the proud, but giving grace to the humble.”

⁶Be humbled, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that He may exalt you in season, ⁷casting all your worry upon Him, because it matters to Him, concerning you.

⁸Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the slanderer is walking as a roaring lion, seeking someone to drink down. ⁹Resist him, steadfast in the faith, having known the same sufferings to be accomplished by your brotherhood in the world. ¹⁰Now may the God of all grace Himself, the One having called you into His eternal glory in Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a little, adjust you. He will stabilize, strengthen, and found you. ¹¹To Him is the glory and the might into the ages of the ages. Amen.

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¹² Through Silvanus, the faithful brother, as I am considering him, I wrote to you briefly, encouraging and thoroughly testifying this to be the true grace of God, in which you stand.

¹³ She in Babylon, chosen together with you, greets you; and Mark, my son.

¹⁴ Greet one another with a kiss of devotion. Peace to you all who are in Christ Jesus.
Amen.