

OUTLINE OF 1 PETER
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I. Introduction

- A. Peter, apostle, to Exiles of the Dispersion (in Asia Minor)
- B. Spiritual description of recipients (chosen and destined by God, sanctified by Spirit, sprinkled with blood of Jesus)
- C. Grace and peace

II. Spiritual Identity A¹ (see chart; 1:3-2:10)

- A. (See spiritual description of recipients, I.B.)
- B. Blessing (1:3-12)
 - 1. God's mercy, through Christ: born again to a new and living hope (1:3)
 - 2. and to an imperishable, undefiled, unfading inheritance [salvation ready to be revealed in the last time; *apokalypsis*] (1:4-5)
 - 3. You rejoice, yet for a little while you suffer (→ *apokalypsis*; 1:6-9)
 - 4. These things predicted through the prophets [by the Spirit of Christ] (1:10-12)
- C. Practical exhortations (note imperatives; 1:13-2:10)
 - 1. Gird up your minds, set your → hope on the coming grace (→ *apokalypsis*); do not be conformed (*suschēmatisō*) to the passions of your former ignorance (cf. Ro 12:2); be holy, as he who called you is holy (1:13-16)
 - 2. Conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile
Christological excursus: You have been ransomed...by the the blood of Christ; destined before the foundation of the world, revealed (→ *apokalypsis*) at the end of the times... (1:17-21)
 - 3. Having purified your souls, love one another... You have been → born anew.... So put away all malice...; like newborn babes long for pure

spiritual milk (1:22-2:3)

4. Come to him, the living stone; be yourselves built into a spiritual house, a holy priesthood. He is the stone the builders rejected, the precious corner stone. But you are a chosen race, royal priesthood, holy nation, God's own people... (2:4-10)

III. Social Identity with Ethical Admonitions B¹ (*Haustafel*; 2:11-4:11)

- A. to all believers: introduction (conduct yourselves honorably among the Gentiles; 2:11-12)
- B. Subjects: submit to (human "creation") (2:13-17); [2:17 is summary, social and spiritual relationships; chiastic structure suggests entire range, lowest to highest]
- C. Slaves: submit to masters (2:18-25)
 1. Masters sometimes punish slaves unjustly
 2. if you patiently suffer injustice you have God's approval
 3. to this you have been called... Christ also suffered...
- D. Wives [of unbelieving husbands]: submit to husbands (3:1-6)
 1. Believing wives will influence unbelieving husband
 2. if you do right and are → terrified by nothing you are Sarah's children
- E. [Husbands of believing wives]: be considerate to your wives... (3:7)
 1. Be considerate in your life together
 2. honor the weaker sex since they are co-inheritors of the gift of life; that your prayers not be hindered
- F. to all believers: summary/conclusion (3:8-4:11)
 1. have unity of spirit, sympathy, love, a tender heart, a humble mind
 2. do not return evil for evil, or reviling for reviling, but bless
 3. → to this you have been called Christ also died...
 4. Christological digression (Noah/flood, baptism)

IV. Social Identity B² (in the world: social relationships; 4:12-19)

- A. the fiery trial if you share Christ's sufferings you are blessed
- B. → let no one suffer as a wrongdoer (cf. slaves); if anyone suffers as a Christianós; let those who suffer according to the will of God do right and entrust their souls to the faithful Creator (*pistō ktistē*, see 2:13)

V. Spiritual Identity A² (as the church: spiritual relationships; 5:1-11)

- A. From a witness of Christ's sufferings elders, tend the flock younger, submit to elders all of you, be humble toward one another; humble yourselves before God
- B. cast all your anxieties on him (→ do not fear); resist the devil; stand firm; after you have suffered for a little while... the God who called you will restore, establish, strengthen you; doxology

VI. Conclusion: I have written this exhortation and declaration (5:12-14) through Silvanus, she who is Babylon (co-elect), my son Mark; Peace to all in Christ