

1 PETER: IDENTITY IN EXILE

Living In A World That Doesn't Fully Accept Us

1 - Chosen Strangers: Who You Are When You Don't Fit In

1 Peter 1:1-2 (NIV)

“Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,
To God’s elect, exiles scattered throughout the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance.”

BIG IDEA: WE CAN BE OUT OF PLACE IN THE WORLD BUT STILL BE SECURE IN CHRIST.

1. We might be scattered, but not forgotten.

“Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ.”

“To God’s elect, exiles scattered...”

- Scattered doesn't mean abandoned.

2. We Are Exiles In The World, But Chosen By God

“To God’s elect exiles.”

- Feeling out of place in a broken world doesn't necessarily mean something's wrong with our faith; it might mean our faith is actually working.
- Our identity is shaped by who claims us, not by who rejects us.
- The world may call us strange, but heaven calls us chosen.

3. Our Salvation Is The Work Of The Father, Spirit, And Son

“To God’s elect...who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of **God the Father**, through the sanctifying work of **the Spirit**, to be obedient to **Jesus Christ** and sprinkled with his blood...”

- A. We are chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father.
- B. We are sanctified through the work of the Holy Spirit.
 - We're not just chosen in theory; we're being sanctified in reality.
- C. We are obedient to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with His blood.
 - Too many Believers want the benefits of Jesus without the authority of Jesus.
 - The people of God are called to live under the lordship of Christ.
 - We weren't saved just to find comfort. We were saved to belong and to obey.

4. Grace And Peace Are Not Small Greetings; They Are Sustaining Gifts **"Grace and peace be yours in abundance."**

- Grace isn't only the doorway into salvation; grace is the atmosphere of the Christian life.
- Grace is God's favor and enabling presence.
- Peace is completeness from being rightly related to God.
- Grace is how we stand. Peace is how we stay steady.
- Before Peter tells believers how to live, he tells them who they are.
 - My environment does not define me; God does.