



# ENCOURAGING WORDS IN A DISCOURAGING WORLD

UNCOMMON PURSUITS: EPISODE 1 OF 6

A Study in 1 Peter (1:1-12)

I, Peter, am an apostle on assignment by Jesus, the Messiah, writing to **exiles scattered** to the four winds. Not one is missing, not one forgotten. **God** the Father has his eye on each of you and has determined by the work of the **Spirit** to keep you obedient through the sacrifice of **Jesus**. **as a result**: May everything good from God be yours! I Peter 1:1-2 (MSG)

## WHAT TO REMEMBER WHEN I AM DISCOURAGED

**1. GOD HAS CHOSEN ME TO BE A PART OF HIS FAMILY!**  
Dear friends, God the Father chose you long ago and knew you would become his children... vs. 2a (LB)

...for it is his boundless mercy that has given us the **privilege** of being born again so that we are now **members** of God's own family. vs. 3a (LB)

**2. GOD IS WORKING IN MY LIFE!**  
...And the Holy Spirit has been at work in your hearts, cleansing you with the blood of Jesus Christ and making you to please him. vs. 2b

May God bless you richly and grant you increasing freedom from all anxiety and fear. vs. 2c

(You're) not forgotten: God the Father has his eye on each of you...vs. 1b

These trials are only to test your faith, to see whether or not it is strong and pure. It is being tested as fire tests gold and purifies it—and your faith is far more precious to God than mere gold; so if your faith remains strong after being tried in the test tube of fiery trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day of his return. 1:7 (LB)

...This short time of distress will result in God's richest blessing upon us forever and ever! II Corinthians 4:17 (LB)

**3. GOD HAS SECURED MY FUTURE!**  
And God has reserved for his children the priceless gift of eternal life; it is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay. vs. 4 (LB)

God, in his mighty power, will make sure that you get there safely to receive it because you are trusting him...vs. 5 (LB)

**PETER'S CONCLUSION...**  
This means tremendous joy to you, even though at present you may be temporarily harassed by all kinds of trials. vs. 6 (Ph)

**JUSTIFICATION: GOD HAS CHOSEN ME TO BE A PART OF HIS FAMILY**  
**SANCTIFICATION: GOD WILL NEVER STOP WORKING IN MY LIFE**  
**GLORIFICATION: GOD HAS SECURED MY FUTURE**



...Do you realize how fortunate you are? Angels would have given anything to be in on this! I Pet. 1:12b (TM)

**MAIN IDEA: GOD'S DEEP ENCOURAGEMENT PROVIDES THE POWER OVER DISCOURAGEMENT.**