

# 1 Peter 1

Jesus

## Introduction

- **Date:** Between 62-64AD
- **Author:** Apostle Peter...
  1. Leader of church in Jerusalem until James in 44AD
  2. Fisherman raised in Galilee: Bilingual in Greek/Aramaic

**Yet... The wisdom found in 1<sup>st</sup> Peter is a *direct result* of being with Jesus**

**Acts 4:13** Now when [the religious leaders] saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they **had been with Jesus.**

- |                 |                         |                 |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. <b>Paul</b>  | Apostle of <b>Faith</b> | <b>Gentiles</b> |
| 2. <b>Peter</b> | Apostle of <b>Hope</b>  | <b>Jews</b>     |
| 3. <b>John</b>  | Apostle of <b>Love</b>  | <b>All</b>      |

- **Setting:**

**1 Peter 5:13** She who is in **Babylon...** greets you...

1. No church in Babylon. Peter was never there.
2. Babylon: Code name for Rome. **Peter writing from Rome.**
3. Christians forsaking false-deities/Blamed for everything
4. Nero about to go crazy on Christians especially burning Rome in **64AD**

**Nero will blame innocent Christians...Cause them to be seen as Troublemakers**

## I. Elect Pilgrims Who We Are

**1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ...**

- **Peter/Cephas:** Inner circle of Jesus... Peter, James [not Jesus' bro] and John
- **Apostle:** Sent one, Apostle proper; i.e., one of 12 must...
  1. **Chosen** by Father
  2. **Seen** risen Christ
  3. **Miracles** by Spirit

**Peter the Apostle:** Sent by Jesus to the Jews, yet...  
**Instrumental in calling Gentiles...**

- **Acts 10**

1. Pete snoozing. Vision: Sheet w/unclean animals
2. **God:** Kill/Eat. **Peter:** No Lord. 3X. God: What I've cleansed don't call unclean
3. Peter invited by God-fearing Cornelius/Realizes God calling Gentiles

**Acts 10:34** Then Peter opened his mouth and said: "In truth I perceive that God shows no

partiality. 35 But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him. 36 The word which God sent to the children of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ—**He is Lord of all**

- Peter writing to **all of us who are displaced...**

**1b... To the pilgrims** [sojourners] of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia...

- **To the Pilgrims...**Temporary residents in a foreign land

**World is not our home...**Our home is being prepared **as we speak**

2 [To the...] **elect** according to the **foreknowledge** of God the Father, in **sanctification** of the Spirit, for **obedience** and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ...

**Pilgrims: Elected/Chosen**

- **Foreknown of the Father**
- **Foreknowledge:** gr. *Prognosis*. From *proginōskō*. To have knowledge beforehand

**To Know the Outcome...Omniscient/All knowing**

**Romans 8:29** ...whom **He foreknew**, He also **predestined...**

**Ephesians 1:4** [God...] **chose us** in Him **before the foundation** of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love...

**1 Timothy 2:4** [God]...desires **all men to be saved** and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

- If God desires all men to be saved why are all men not saved? Free-will.
- **Q.** Did God choose us/We choose God? **A. Yes**

The foreknowledge of the Father as to who will/will not be saved does not prevent men from exercising free-will to choose or reject His universal offer of Salvation. God's desire is that all men are saved thus "under the sun" the burden must rest with man to respond or reject the offer of God's grace. If we have chosen God, He has already chosen us and **we are the Elect**. [NJC]

- Foreknown of the Father
- **Sanctified by the Spirit**

**Romans 8:29b...** [We are] predestined to be **conformed to the image** of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

**2 Corinthians 3:18** ... we all...are being **transformed into the same image** from glory to glory, just as by the **Spirit of the Lord**.

**Salvation/Sanctification/Glorification**

**2 Thessalonians 2:13b** ...God from the beginning **chose you** for salvation through **sanctification by the Spirit** and belief in the truth, 14 to which He called you **by our gospel**, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

- If we are **Foreknown of the Father**, we will be...
- **Sanctified by the Spirit** enabling us to be...
- **Obedient to the Son:**
  1. **Be cleansed by His blood**...obeying the Gospel. Repent/Believe/Saved
  2. To see others cleansed by His blood

**Isaiah 52:15** [Jesus] ... **He will sprinkle** many nations.

- **O/T:** Blood used to cleanse the altar/NT **to cleans our hearts...**

**Hebrews 9:21** [OT Priest] **sprinkled with blood** both the tabernacle and all the vessels of the ministry. 22 And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission. [Forgiveness of sins]

**Hebrews 10:22** [We had...] our **hearts sprinkled** from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

**1 John 1:7** ... if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the **blood of Jesus Christ** His Son cleanses us from **all sin**.

#### **What can wash away my sins...Nothing but the blood of Jesus**

- **Called to obedience:** To present Jesus' blood/cleansing to others

#### **Triune God and Our Election. Chose...**

- **According to...** Foreknowledge of the Father
- **In cooperation with...** Sanctifying work of the Spirit
- **For obedience in...** Sprinkling the cleansing Blood of the Son

That's why God left us here... That we might be set apart from this world in order to offer the cleansing Blood of Jesus Christ to Pilgrims still searching for their homeland. NJC]

#### **Peter the Apostle of Hope to Fellow Pilgrims You have been Elected/Foreknown/Sanctified/Cleansed**

**2b... Grace to you and peace be multiplied.**

- **Grace leading to peace**
  1. Peace w/ God
  2. Peace of God

**Romans 1:7** [Paul] ... Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

- **Peter still competitive...**first John now Paul. **Peace multiplied**

#### **SUMMARY Greeting to Fellow Pilgrims**

## **II. Heavenly Inheritance** What We Have Waiting

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has **begotten us** again to a **living hope** through the

resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to an inheritance incorruptible [Imperishable] and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 who are **kept by the power of God** through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

### **Peter the Apostle of Hope:**

Beginning with God's Mercy We are Born Again by the Spirit of God

**1 Peter 1:23** ... [we have] been **born again** [begotten]

**John 3:3b** "... unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God...**5**...unless one is born of water and the Spirit, **he cannot enter the kingdom of God.**

**Q.** How do we become born of the Spirit? **A. By faith the moment we believe**

**Ephesians 1:13** In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were **sealed with the Holy Spirit** of promise

- **Trust in what?** The Blood of Jesus to Save this Sinner

**Ephesians 2:13** ... in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

- **Begotten/Born Again/Regenerated by faith:** Not by what we do but what He did...

**Titus 3:5** [Begotten] ... not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,

- We are Born-Again
- **We have a Living Hope**

### **Our Living Hope is the Resurrected Jesus Christ**

**1 Corinthians 15:20** ... Christ is risen from the dead... the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

- **Jesus conquered death for us...**

**Acts 26:23** [Prophesied] Christ would suffer, that He would be the first to rise from the dead, and would proclaim light to the Jewish people and to the Gentiles.

**Revelation 1:5** [Grace and Peace from] Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the **firstborn from the dead** [but not the last], and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood

**Our hope is a Living Hope/Dynamic Confidence... in a Living God.**

**Psalm 42:2** My soul thirsts for God, for the **living God.**

**1 Thessalonians 1:9b** ... you turned to God from idols to serve the **living and true God**, 10 and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who

delivers us from the wrath to come.

**Our hope is not in Impotent Idols/Dead Religion...Our hope is a Living Hope**

Because Jesus rose from the Grave...We who are Born-Again will rise from the Grave

- We are Born-Again
- We have a Living Hope
- **We have an Inheritance from God.** Waiting...Incorruptible/Undeified

Peter didn't really describe our inheritance. All he can tell us is what it is not. What our inheritance actually is...is something too great for him to describe. Yet we can know that our inheritance can't perish, it can't spoil, and it can't fade away. [Guzik]

**Easier to say what our inheritance *is not* because...**

We are Heirs with Jesus of **Everything**...Universes just the beginning

**Romans 8:16** The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and **joint heirs with Christ**, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

- Spirit gives us a **taste of inheritance now/then...**

**1 Corinthians 2:9** But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him." 10 But God **has revealed them to us through His Spirit**. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.

- We are Born-Again by God
- We have a Living Hope in Jesus
- We have an Inheritance from God
- **We are Kept by God...**

To have been told...that our inheritance was reserved in heaven could have yielded us little comfort, unless that assurance had been followed and capped by this, that the heirs also are being kept for its full enjoyment." [Meyer]

**John 10:28** ...I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; **neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.**

**Jude 1:24** Now to Him who is able to **keep you from stumbling**, And to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, 25 To God our Savior, Who alone is wise, Be glory and majesty, Dominion and power, Both now and forever. Amen.

**2 Corinthians 1:21** Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, 22 who also has **sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.**

**Ephesians 1:13** ... **sealed with the Holy Spirit** of promise...

**Ephesians 4:30** ...do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were **sealed for the day of redemption.**

Question's not can you lose Salvation...Are you saved/regenerated/born-again?

- **We are Kept by God**

6 In this **you greatly rejoice**, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved [Distressed] by various trials, 7 that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is **tested by fire**, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, 8 whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, 9 receiving the end of your faith—the **salvation of your souls**.

- **In this you rejoice:** vv 3-5

#### **During Temporal Trials...Reflect Back to God's Eternal Promises**

- We are Born-Again by God
- We have a Living Hope in Jesus
- We have an Inheritance from God
- **We are Kept by God**

#### Trials/Suffering **Will Come**

**1 Peter 4:12** Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you...

Trials/Suffering will come for a **Little While**

**2 Corinthians 4:17** For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory...

Trials/Suffering will come for a Little While  
God allows them **for a reason/purpose...**

- Pete remembers...

**Luke 22:31** "Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked...that he may **sift you as wheat**.

**Job 23:10** .... When He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold.

- **Trials test us as fire test purity of gold**...not for God to know but us
  1. Distill faith from unbelief
  2. Separate wheat from chaff
  3. Reveal Real from fake

For us to be able to present an undiluted faith to Jesus when He is revealed  
**This type of faith Praises/Honors/Glorifies a Faithful God**

Shall a man say, 'I have great faith in God, but I have never had to use it in anything more than the ordinary affairs of life? [Spurgeon]

- **Let's Squeeze out every drop or wisdom/growth that a trial has to offer**
- Our response will determine our growth:

**James 1:2** My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. 4 But **let patience** have its perfect work, that you

may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

- **End of our faith? Salvation of our Souls**

1. Be with Jesus Eternally
2. Co-heirs with Jesus or Everything
3. No sin. No pain. No suffering. No death.

Because of Jesus Life/Death/Resurrection  
We now have the Living and Sure Hope of Eternal Salvation

10 Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, 11 searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. 12 To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things which **angels desire to look into.**

### **Salvation by God's Grace...Not man's works**

Prophets did not fully get it...Angels still scratch their heads

**One day God would send His Son to die that we might be with Him**

- We would be Born-Again by God
- We would have a Living Hope in Jesus
- We would have an Inheritance from God
- **We are Kept by God... for God...to be with God forever**

### **SUMMARY Heavenly Inheritance**

**1 Chronicles 12:32** ...the sons of Issachar... had **understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do**

- **Rome heating up...**people are feeling it

**Psalm 57:4** My soul is among lions; I lie among the sons of men Who are set on fire, Whose teeth are spears and arrows, And their tongue a sharp sword. 5 Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; **Let Your glory be above all the earth.**

**Things are Heating Up...What are we to do?**

### **III. Free to Move**

- **You have been...**
  1. **Chosen** ...by God the Father
  2. **Set Apart** ...by God the Spirit
  3. **Cleansed** ...by God the Son

**13 Therefore, gird up the loins of your mind...**

## **Temptation: Do Nothing** **God's Call: Get Ready for Action**

- **Gird:** OT Saints tucked robe into belt to not trip up while they ran. E.g., Elijah
- **Gird your Minds:** Tuck away things/thoughts that trip us up as we **run this race**

**Hebrews 12:1** ... let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith...

- **VV 1-12** What God did for us: Chosen/Set Apart/Cleansed
- **VV 13 on** What we do for Him...put on our Big Boy/Girl Pants

**Job 40:7** [God to Job] "Now **prepare yourself like a man** [lit. Gird up your loins]

**Ephesians 4:14** [Let us...] no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, 15 but, speaking the truth in love, may **grow up in all things** into Him who is the head—Christ

- **God's Call:** Gird up the loins of your mind...

**13b... be sober**, and rest your **hope fully upon the grace** that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; 14 as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; 15 but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, 16 because it is written, "**Be holy, for I am holy.**"

### **Free to Move Out for God? Be Sober/Be Hopeful/Be Holy**

- **Be Sober:** Tuck away **Foolishness**
  1. gr. *nēphō* Calm/Collected Spirit...
  2. **Self-discipline:** In control of our vessels...Body/Mind

...denotes a condition free from every form of mental and spiritual loss of self-control; it is an attitude of self-discipline that avoids the extremes. [Hiebert]

...to adopt an attitude in the study of the Word of God. [McGee]

- **Circumspect:** Look around/Evaluate/Act on God's Word

**1 Corinthians 9:26** ...I run thus: **not with uncertainty**. Thus, I fight: not as one who beats the air.

- Be Sober: Tuck away foolishness. Lay aside every weight of sin
- **Be Hopeful:** Tuck away despair...

**Titus 2:12** [Grace of God teaches] us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should **live soberly**, righteously, and godly in the present age, 13 looking for the **blessed hope** and **glorious appearing** of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ

- Be Sober/Be hopeful...
- **Be Holy:** Tuck away **Sin/Worldliness**



1. Love what God loves/Hate what God hates

**Psalm 45:7** You love righteousness and hate wickedness; **Therefore** God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness more than Your companions. 8 All Your garments are scented with myrrh and aloes and cassia, Out of the ivory palaces, by which they have made You glad.

2. **Transformed** by God rather than Conformed to the World

**Romans 12:2** ... **do not be conformed** to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

- **NOTE:** Not reformed/Transformed by the Spirit as we yield

Holiness is to the Spiritual life what health is to the physical life...Holiness is to be healthy and robust spiritually. [McGee]

- **Our Current Position:** Chosen, Set Apart, Cleansed

**2 Corinthians 7:1** ... having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the **fear of God**.

#### **Positionally Cleansed by God at Salvation**

Now live it out practically. Get away from what God hates/Draw close to what He loves

**Leviticus 11:45** For I am the Lord who brings you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God. You shall therefore **be holy, for I am holy**.

...not conforming ourselves to former lusts as when we were stupid

**Romans 6:21** [We were slaves to sin] What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. 22 But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life. 23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- **Gird up the Loins of your Mind:** How to be freed up to run during trials
  1. **Be Sober**      Self-disciplined      Tuck away Foolishness
  2. **Be Hopeful**    Eternal Perspective      Tuck away Despair
  3. **Be Holy**        Transformed                Tuck away Sin/Worldliness

**Temptation:** Do Nothing...**God's Call:** Get Ready for Action

17 And **if you call on the Father**, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your **stay here in fear**; 18 knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible [Perishable] things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, 19 but with the **precious blood of Christ**, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

- Conduct yourselves in **Fear of God**

**Our Father is watching our pilgrimage/Our stay here...**

**He has vested interest in what we do here with the time He's given us**

- **Judgement for believers?** Yes. Not for Salvation but Reward

**1 Corinthians 3:13** ... each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be **revealed by fire**; and the fire will **test each one's work**, of what sort it is. 14 If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he **will receive a reward**. 15 If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

Jesus paid the ultimate price to redeem us from an aimless life.

#### **Unsuccessful Search for Purpose in Existence**

- **Aimless Life:** Vain/Devoid of force, truth, success and result. Useless, purposeless

Price for Life/Purpose? Precious Blood of the perfect man/Sinless Son of God

**Q.** How do we know the worth of something? **A.** By what *Someone* is willing to pay.

**Acts 20:28** ... shepherd the church of God which He **purchased with His own blood**.

- **Jesus purchased us with His blood** from an aimless life and **gave us purpose**
- **Jesus sent His Spirit** that we would have the ability to **accomplish that purpose**

**Q.** What is the chief end of man? **A.** Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.

**20** He [Jesus] indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you...

- **Jesus:** Foreordained to die before creation

**Revelation 13:8b**... the Lamb slain **from the foundation of the world**.

- **Sacred agreement** in Eternity past between Son/Father regarding us...

**Hebrews 10:6** In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You had no pleasure. 7 Then I said, 'Behold, I have come— In the volume of the book it is written of Me— To do Your will, O God.'

**Hebrews 9:12b** [Jesus did not offer the Father] the blood of goats and calves, but **with His own blood He entered** the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.

#### **Jesus was made known in these last times for us**

**Word became Flesh:** Dwelt among us/Died instead of us/Rose again for us

**John 1:1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the **Word was God**. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. 4 **In Him was life**, and the life was the light of men. 5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.... **10** He was in the world, and the world was made through Him... 14 And the **Word became flesh** and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

21 [We] who through Him [Jesus] believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your **faith and hope** are in God.

- One way to God the Father

**John 14:6** I am the **way**, the **truth**, and the **life**. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

- Though Jesus our faith/hope are in God. IOW's We **cannot have Father w/out Son**
- E.g., No Salvation in Native American Great Spirit because they deny the Son

**1 John 2:23** Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.

### **Jesus Resurrection is Our Hope of Eternal Life**

- **God raised Him:** Jesus raised by Father, Spirit, Jesus raised Himself

**John 2:19** ... Destroy this temple, and in three days **I will raise it up**... 21 ... He was speaking of the **temple of His body**.

**John 10:18** No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and **I have power to take it again**.

### **SUMMARY Free to Move**

- |                      |                     |                                  |
|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. <b>Be Sober</b>   | Self-disciplined    | Tuck away <b>Foolishness</b>     |
| 2. <b>Be Hopeful</b> | Eternal Perspective | Tuck away <b>Despair</b>         |
| 3. <b>Be Holy</b>    | Transformed         | Tuck away <b>Sin/Worldliness</b> |

**The Father is expecting the life Jesus bought with His blood for His purpose**

## **IV. Enduring Word**

22 Since you have **purified your souls** in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, **love one another fervently with a pure heart**...

- **Souls Purified by the Word:** You began to love one another...

**John 13:35** By this all will know that you are My disciples if you have **love for one another**.

**John 13:34** A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that **you also love one another**.

**As Things Heat Up...Temptation:** Allow our Love to Grow Cold

**Matthew 24:12** ... because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. 13 But he who endures to the end shall be saved.

- **Temptation:** Introspection rather than circumspection/Self-Pity/**Self-Love**

**2 Thessalonians 3:1** ...know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: 2 For men will be **lovers of themselves**

## **Instead: Ramp it up! Love each other with a Fervent Love**

- **Fervent:** rt. To stretch out. Specifically, here to fellow brothers/sisters

**Romans 12:10** Be kindly affectionate to one another with **brotherly love**, in honor giving preference to one another

**Hebrews 13:1** Let **brotherly love** continue.

**1 Peter 2:17** Honor all people. **Love the brotherhood.**

**1 Peter 3:8** ... be of one mind, having compassion for one another; **love as brothers**

- Loving fellow believers is **not optional...**

**1 John 4:20** If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?

**The invisible God becomes visible to people as they see us loving one another**

**1 John 4:12** No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us.

**Those Born-Again love one another. Period.**

23 ... having **been born again**, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the **word of God** which lives and abides forever, 24 because "All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away, 25 But the **word of the Lord endures forever.**"

- **Born Again**

- |                           |                    |                    |
|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. <b>Natural Birth</b>   | Corruptible seed   | <b>Adam</b>        |
| 2. <b>Spiritual Birth</b> | Incorruptible Seed | <b>Word of God</b> |

**Luke 8:11** ... The **seed** is the **word of God.**

**James 1:21** ... lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and **receive** with meekness the **implanted word, which is able to save your souls.**

- **Seed/Word of God:** Once planted in our hearts keeps sin from taking root

**Psalms 119:11** Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I **might not sin against You.**

- Sin will keep you from the Word/Word will keep you from sin

**Word of the Lord endures Forever.** C.f. Isaiah 40:8

66 Books/40 Different Authors/3 Continents/Thousands of Years/Fits together perfectly

- **The Word of God:** Anvil that has survived 10,000 Hammers
- **Science/Archeology:** Following God's Word like child on tricycle trying to catch up

**25b...** Now this is the **word** which by the gospel was **preached to you.**

- **Preaching of the Word** of God that changes lives. No programs/Gimmicks

**Things are Heating up quick**

**Temptation:** Do nothing and/or letting our hearts grow cold/selfish

- We understand the times we are in... **So, what are we to do? Gird Up...**

1. **Be Sober**      Self-disciplined      Tuck away **Foolishness**
2. **Be Hopeful**      Eternal Perspective      Tuck away **Despair**
3. **Be Holy**      Transformed      Tuck away **Sin/Worldliness**
4. **Be Fervent**      Love One Another      Tuck away **Selfishness**

**Jesus is our Rock on which we will never be moved**

**Psalm 27:5** ... in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion; In the secret place of His tabernacle He shall hide me; He shall **set me high upon a rock.**

**Psalm 61:2** From the end of the earth I will cry to You, When my heart is overwhelmed; Lead me to the **rock that is higher than I.**

**Q.** How can we have Perfect Peace in the Midst of Complete Chaos?

**A. Set your Mind on Jesus**

**Isaiah 26:1** In that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah: "We have a strong city; God will appoint salvation for walls and bulwarks. 2 Open the gates, That the righteous nation which keeps the truth may enter in. 3 You will keep him in **perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You.** 4 Trust in the Lord forever, For in Yah, the Lord, is everlasting strength. 5 For He brings down those who dwell on high, The lofty city; He lays it low, He lays it low to the ground, He brings it down to the dust.