

# I Will Praise You *In the Storm*

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A Study of 1 Peter • Wednesdays 6:30pm

## THE BOOK OF 1 PETER

### BROAD OVERVIEW

5-chapter letter near the end of the N.T.

- Written from Rome (called “Babylon”) to Christians in Asian Minor (Turkey)

Attributed to **Peter the Apostle**

- Missionary (“fisher of men”)
- Shepherd (“feed my sheep”)

**Martin Luther:** 1 Peter contains *everything* a Christian needs to know.



# THE BOOK OF 1 PETER

## MAJOR THEMES

1. Responding to **Suffering**: How do we make sense of the pain and persecution?
2. **Hope** for the future: Jesus' resurrection and exaltation gives us hope.
3. Christian **Identity**: Citizens of Heaven, rooted in Jesus.
4. Christians and **Culture**: Living responsibly as dual citizens of Heaven and earth.
5. **Holiness**: Living with Christian morals even when it becomes costly.








# WHY WAS 1 PETER WRITTEN?

*“This is the true grace of God. Stand fast in it.”  
1 Peter 5:12*

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“Peter’s readers were experiencing various kinds of trials that were causing them varying degrees of grief and suffering. Their Christian faith was being slandered and maligned. Their social status, family relationships, and possibly even their livelihood were threatened. ***When one’s Christian faith is criticized and even mocked, it is natural that one may begin to doubt the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ.***” -Karen Jobes

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“The life of Jesus and the believer’s life are inseparable in Peter’s thought. In 1 Peter Jesus is not only the object of Christian faith; he is also **the pattern of Christian destiny.**”

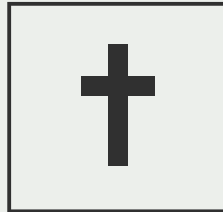
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Karen Jobes

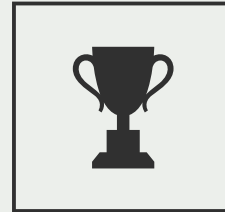
# THE JOURNEY OF JESUS



**BIRTH**



**SUFFERING**



**GLORY**

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“To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that ***you should follow in his steps.***” 1 Peter 2:21 (NIV)

# WHEN WAS 1 PETER WRITTEN?

**56-58 A.D.**

Paul writes the book of Romans, but doesn't mention Peter (who wrote 1 Peter from Rome)

**68 A.D.**

Nero is killed. The upper limit on 1 Peter since Peter was killed during Nero's reign.



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Widespread persecution of the church under the Roman Emperor Nero. **1 Peter 2:13-17** makes this unlikely.

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“Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.” 1 Peter 2:17 (NIV)



# WHEN WAS 1 PETER WRITTEN?

56-58 A.D.

Paul writes the book of Romans, but doesn't mention Peter (who wrote 1 Peter from Rome)

59-63 A.D.

The most likely “sweet spot” for 1 Peter if you believe Peter is the authentic author.

64-68 A.D.

Widespread persecution of the church under the Roman Emperor Nero. **1 Peter 2:13-17** makes this unlikely.

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## EVIDENCE FOR PETER

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- Direct attribution: 1 Peter 1:1
- Early church tradition: Papias (60-130 AD) references “The Epistle of Peter”
- Extensive knowledge of the teachings of Jesus. Up to **30** references (Selwyn, 1958)
- Earlier theology about the return of Jesus
- The help of Silas/Silvanus (5:12)



## PETER'S DEATH

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- Peter died by **crucifixion** during the reign of Nero (Eusebius, *Church History* 2.25.5 & Tertullian, *Scorpiace* 15)
- Nero (who died in 68 AD), was angry that Peter had been killed without his knowledge—because he wanted the chance to torture him more. (Eusebius, *Acts of Peter*, 41)





## EVIDENCE AGAINST PETER

- Suspiciously eloquent for a fisherman...
- Church structure and widespread persecution reflects a *later situation*.
- “Babylon” wasn’t typically used as a name for Rome until *after Peter’s death*.
- Reliance on Paul’s theology could push the date of this *past Peter’s death*.
- Unlikely Christianity would have reached Asia Minor *during Peter’s lifetime*.

DELIVERY OF THE KEYS, PIETRO PERUGINO, C. 1481-82.







## 1 PETER 1:1-2

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,  
To God's elect, exiles scattered  
throughout the provinces of Pontus,  
Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and  
Bithynia, 2 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.







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Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

## 1 PETER 1:3-5 (NIV)

“3 **Praise** be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, 5 who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.”



## 1 PETER

“He has given us new birth into a living hope”

“An inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.”

## JESUS

“No one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

**John 3:5**

“Store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.

**Matthew 6:20**



## 1 PETER 1:6-9 (NIV)

“6 In all this you greatly **rejoice**, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. 7 These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in **praise**, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. 8 Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious **joy**, 9 for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.”







**INHERITANCE**  
In heaven that  
never spoils.

**FAITH**  
Is better than  
gold, which  
perishes.

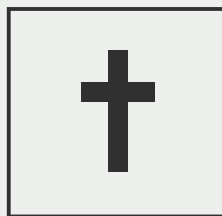
**TRUST**  
In unseen  
promises from  
God.

## OUR JOURNEY AS CHRISTIANS



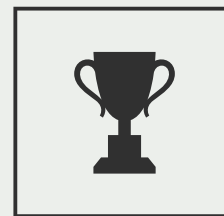
**BIRTH**

**1 Peter 1:3**  
“New birth”



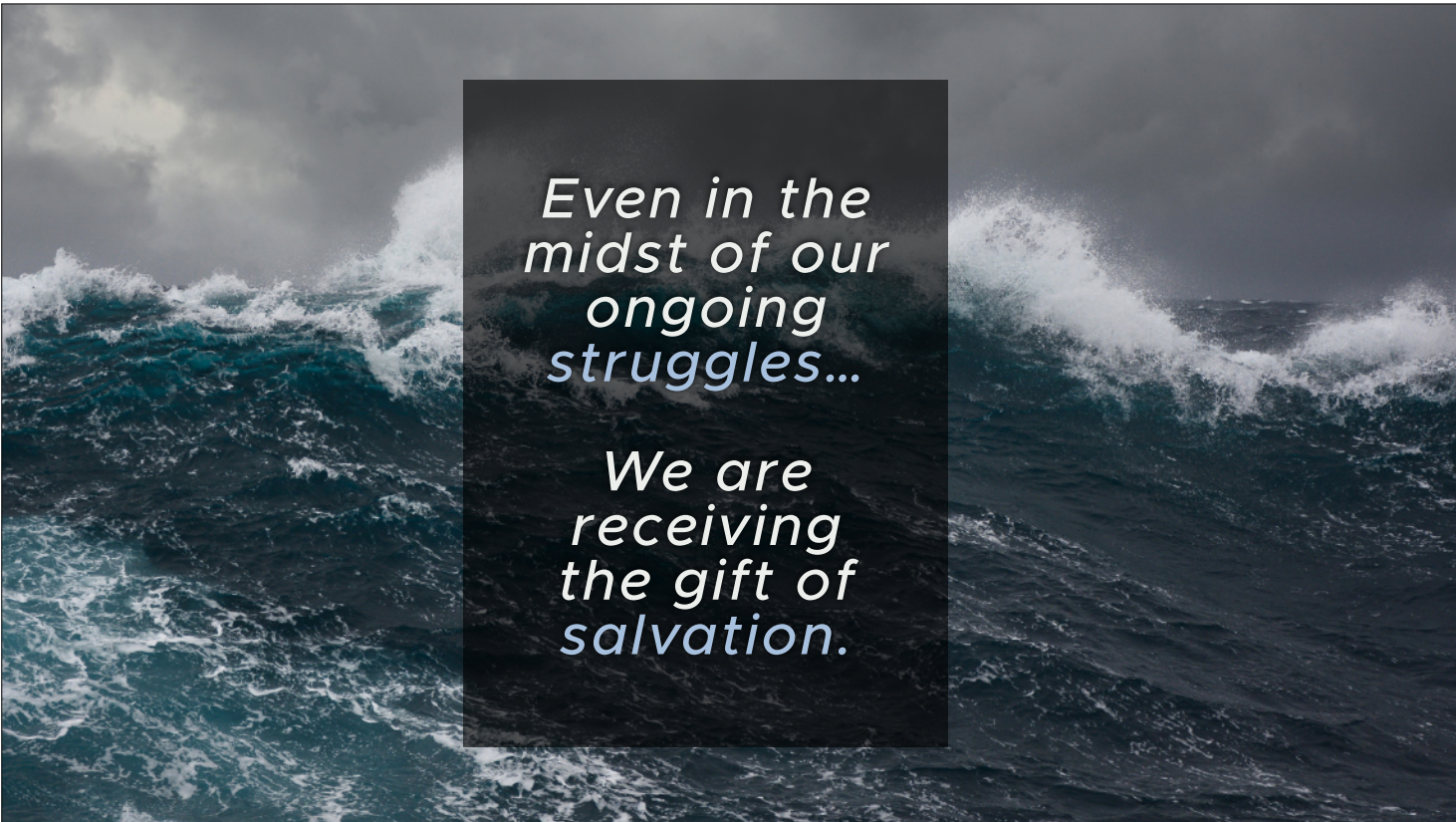
**SUFFERING**

**1 Peter 1:6**  
“Suffer Grief”



**GLORY**

**1 Peter 1:9**  
“Glorious joy”



*Even in the  
midst of our  
ongoing  
struggles...*

*We are  
receiving  
the gift of  
salvation.*



  
**Westside**  
Church of Christ

**I Will Praise You**  
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## 1 PETER 1:10-12 (NIV)

“10 Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, 11 trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of the Messiah and the glories that would follow. 12 It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things.”



## APPLICATION

1. “This world is not my home.”
2. Invest your efforts in Heavenly treasure.
3. Embrace the fact our story is intertwined with Jesus.