

# 1 Peter 1:1-2

<sup>1</sup> Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,  
To the exiles of the Dispersion throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia,  
chosen <sup>2</sup> according to the foreknowledge of God the Father and sanctified by the Spirit for  
obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by His blood:  
Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

Berean Study Bible

<sup>1</sup> [From] Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,  
To [the] elected sojourners  
    scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia,  
<sup>2</sup>    according to [the] foreknowledge of God [the] Father,  
        and [the] sanctification of [the] Spirit for obedience,  
        and sprinkling by [the] blood of Jesus Christ.  
Grace to you, and peace, in abundance.

My own translation

---

1

## I've got this. 1 Peter 1:1-2

All I am. 1:1

My human condition. 1a "Peter"  
My Divine calling. 1a "apostle"  
My earthly constraints. 1b "exile"

All I have. 1:1-2

I have been chosen by God the Father. 1b-2a "chosen"  
I have been sanctified by God the Spirit. 2a "sanctified"  
I have been sprinkled by God the Son. 2 "sprinkled"

All I need.

God's grace to me. 2b "grace"  
God's peace in me. 2b "peace"  
God's abundance through me. 2b "abundance"

---

## 2 – Leaders / Business devotion

### The makings of a great team. 1 Peter 1:1-2

Start at the top. 1:1a

Focused leadership. 1a “apostle”

Outward vision. 1a “exiles”

Diverse team. 1b “throughout...”

Supply the centre. 1:1b-2a

Through a strategic plan. 2a “foreknowledge”

Through a supply of resources. 2a “sanctified”

Through a commitment to outcomes. 2a “for obedience”

Strengthen the base. 1:2b

Give more responsibility than blame. 2b “grace”

Give more affirmation than stress. 2b “peace”

Give more equipping than demanding. 2b “abundance”

---

3

### **Picked for a purpose. 1 Peter 1:1-2**

Key action words “chosen... and sanctified... for obedience”

This is who I am. 1:1a

I am an ordinary person. 1a “Peter... exiles”

I am extraordinarily gifted. 1:1a “apostle”

This is where I am going. 1b-2a

I am the right person to live this life. 1b-2a “chosen”

I am fully equipped to live life to the full. 2a “sanctified”

I am now expected to live a holy life. 2a “obedience”

This is how I get there. 2b

I have abundance flowing into me. 2b “grace... in abundance”

I have abundance rising within me. 2b “peace... in abundance”

---

4

### **God wants to give me a great future. 1 Peter 1:1-2**

I have been planned for my future by God the Father.

I am a person who has been preselected. Eph.1:4 “before the foundation...”

I have a path that has been predetermined. Rom.8:29 “to be conformed to...”

I am being prepared for my future by God the Spirit.

My position is I am declared holy. Rom.5:1 “declared righteous by faith”

My practice is I am becoming holy. 2a “sanctified by the Spirit”

I am being purified for my future by God the Son.  
I am cleansed by Calvary's blood. 2 "sprinkling by His blood"  
I am committed to ongoing obedience. 2 "for obedience"

---

5

### **Minimum and Maximum. 1 Peter 1:1-2**

Idea: weather theme

The climate of God the Father

The Father minimises my choices. 1b "chosen"

The Father maximises my outcomes. 2a "foreknowledge"

The outpouring of God the Holy Spirit

The Spirit minimises my weaknesses. 2 "sanctified"

The Spirit maximises my strengths. 2 "sanctified... for..."

The sunshine of God the Son

The Son minimises my past. 2 "sprinkling by His blood"

The Son maximises my future. 2 "obedience to Jesus Christ"

---

6

### **This will test your memory. 1 Peter 1:1-2**

Remember who you are. 1:1

You are ordinary, but gifted. 1a "Peter, an apostle"

You are exiled, but at home. 1b "exiles... throughout..."

Remember whose you are. 1:1b-2a

You belong to the Father who chose you. "chosen"

You belong to the Spirit who makes you holy. "sanctified"

You belong to the Son who purifies you. "sprinkling"

Remember what you have. 1:2b

You have God's Riches At Christ's Expense. "grace"

You have peace that passes all understanding. "peace"

You have more than you will ever need. "abundance"

---

7

### **Congratulations. You've been elected. 1 Peter 1:1-2**

You don't vote for a king. Jesus is King. I am the one who is elected.

I've been elected to a great future by God the Father. "foreknowledge"

My platform is God knows the best future.

My policy is 'chosen people choose' a Godly path.

I've been elected to a holy lifestyle by God the Spirit. "sanctified"

My platform is God operates in pure holiness.

My policy is 'saved to be sanctified'

I've been elected to disciplined progress with God the Son. "obedience"

My platform is God saves completely

My policy is 'salvation starts but doesn't stop'

I've been elected to leave my past by the atoning blood. "sprinkled"

My platform is God has a terrible memory.

My policy is 'my past determined my present, but not my future'

---

8

### **Life is better with abundance. 1 Peter 1:1-2**

Note: Not an abundance of 'health, wealth, and happiness', but grace and peace.

I already have physical abundance. 1:1

I am an individual who is gifted. 1a "Peter, an apostle"

I am an individual in community. 1b "throughout..."

I already have spiritual abundance. 1:1b-2a

I have been selected by God the Father. "chosen"

I have been sainted by God the Spirit. "sanctified"

I have been saved by God the Son. "sprinkling by His blood"

I already have personal abundance. 1:2b

I have Heaven's resources with me. "grace"

I have Heaven's resources within me. "peace"

---

9

### **I'm the 'elect', so why am I in exile? 1 Peter 1:1-2**

I need to be realistic about my earthly condition. 1:1

I am an ordinary individual. 1a "Peter"

I am exceptionally gifted. 1a "an apostle of Jesus Christ"

I am extraordinarily selected. 1b "elect"

I am in an extended family. 1b "scattered sojourners"

I need to be optimistic about my spiritual condition. 1:2

God the Father sees how good my future can be. 2a "foreknowledge"

God the Spirit supports my humble obedience. 2a "sanctification... obedience"

God the Son saves and makes me renewed. 2a "sprinkling by the blood"

God the Trinity pours His abundance into me. 2b "...in abundance"

---

10

### **One foot on earth, one foot in Heaven.1 Peter 1:1-2**

One foot on earth. 1:1

I am starting on earth. 1a "Peter"

I am gifted for earth. 1a "an apostle of Jesus Christ"

I am selected to show Heaven. 1b "elect"

I am never alone. 1b "scattered sojourners"

One foot in Heaven. 1:2

My future is fully planned. 2a "foreknowledge"

My obedience gives me strength. 2a "sanctification... obedience"

My salvation gives me confidence. 2a "sprinkling by the blood"

My resources are His abundance. 2b "...in abundance"

---

### **Other possible titles**

I am the 'elect'. So, why am I in exile?

Dual citizenship.

Not there yet.

People in transition.

I'm having a little trouble with the Trinity.

---

## Music and songs

### Songs of exile

By the rivers of Babylon.  
God holds the key of all unknown, and I am glad. H 537  
Guide me oh Thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land. H 540  
He who would valiant be, 'gainst all disaster. H 530 / 531  
I am a stranger here... on business for my King. H 736  
O love that will not let me go. H 446  
My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary. H 532  
Lord, Thy Word abideth, and our footsteps guideth. H 281 / 282  
This world is not my home... The angels beckon me...

### Songs of the Trinity

Come Thou Almighty King. Help us Thy name to sing. H 58  
Glory be to God the Father. H 64  
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty. H 60

### Songs about "chosen" v1

For we are a chosen people. SiS 348 (1 Peter 2:9)  
We are His people... saved by His grace.

### Songs about "blood" v2

And can it be that I should gain, an interest in the Saviour's blood? H 377  
Christ has for sin atonement made. H 631  
Have you been to Jesus... Are you washed in the blood? H 640  
It's Your blood that cleanses me. SiS 566  
There is a fountain filled with blood. H 153 / 698  
What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood. H 705  
Would you be free... There is power in the blood. H 715

### Songs of grace and peace v2

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound. H 380  
Amazing grace, my chains are gone. 1067  
For by grace. Ot 93  
Let there be peace shared among us. HCJ 28  
Living in the rhythm of grace. Ot 73  
Master the tempest is raging... Peace be still. H 722  
Only by grace can we enter. 408  
We rejoice in the grace of God. Ot 51

### Other songs responding to this text

Greatly blessed, highly favoured.  
I'm gonna follow You.

In my life Lord, be glorified. SiS 577  
It's a good thing to give thanks to the Lord. Ot 75  
Let the weak say 'I am strong'... What the Lord has done in me. Ot 65  
Live for the Kingdom. Ot 15  
Live with abandon. Ot 36  
Living in the rhythm of grace. Ot 73

---

### **Thought starters for personal reflection or group discussion**

1. Have you ever lost your keys and been locked out of your home, your car, or your workplace? What was that like?
  2. In what ways is the answer to Q1 similar to, and different from, being excluded from the 'in' crowd? (Caution: this may trigger unpleasant memories or reaction in some)
  3. Imagine yourself one of the exiled and scattered few Christians of 1 Peter 1:1. What would be the significance of a letter from an apostle, corporate worship, and fellowship? Have we lost it; and can we regain that significance today?
  4. God the Father has foreknowledge (v2), so why should I pray?
  5. God the Holy Spirit sanctifies me (v2), so why should I pray, worship, or study the Bible?
  6. God the Son sprinkled His blood for my sin (v2), so why should I worry about my sin?
- 

### **Commentary**

"...to the elect sojourners of the dispersion..." 1 Peter 1:1

Elect / Chosen / Selected

ἐκλεκτός [Strong's 1588] is an adjective which occurs 23 times in the New Testament. Matthew 20:16, 22:14, 24:22, 24:31, Mark 13:20, 13:27, Luke 18:7, 23:35, Romans 8:33, 16:13, Colossians 3:12, 1 Timothy 5:21, 2 Timothy 2:10, Titus 1:1, 1 Peter 1:1, 2:4, 2:6, 2:9, 2 John 1:1, 1:13, Revelation 17:14.

ἐκλογή [Strong's 1589] is a noun which occurs 7 times. Acts 9:15, Romans 9:11, 11:5, 11:7, 11:28, 1 Thessalonians 1:4, 2 Peter 1:10.

Sojourners / Strangers / Aliens / Exiles / Foreigners

παρεπίδημος [Strong's 3927] is literally, someone "passing through" but still with personal relationship with the people in that locale (note the prefix, παρᾶ-, "close beside"). This temporary (but active) relationship is made necessary by circumstances, as defined only by the context. This adjective occurs 3 times. Hebrews 11:13, 1 Peter 1:1, 1 Peter 2:11.

Dispersion / Dispersed / Diaspora / Scattered

διασπορά [Strong's 1290] a noun made by combining δια [Strong's 1223] "through" which intensifies σπείρω [Strong's 4687] "sow, spread, scatter", which is the root of "seed"

This noun, διασπορά, occurs 3 times. John 7:35, James 1:1, 1 Peter 1:1.

The verb διασπείρω [Strong's 1289] also occurs 3 times. Acts 8:1, 8:4, 11:19.

"...according to the foreknowledge of God the Father..." 1 Peter 1:2

According to

κατὰ [Strong's 2596] is a preposition, properly, "'down from', i.e. from a higher to a lower plane, with special reference to the terminus (end-point)" (Thayer). This word occurs 480 times in the New Testament.

This preposition, κατὰ, "bring down, complete" is different from the preposition ἀνά [Strong's 303] "bring up to completion" which occurs 13 times.

Foreknowledge

πρόγνωσις [Strong's 4268] "foreknowledge, previous determination" is a noun which is a combination of πρό [Strong's 4253] "before", and γινώσκω [Strong's 1097] "know, especially by learning facts, or studying data, or by gaining first-hand experience; as distinct from οἶδα [Strong's 6063] "know by insight, to perceive".

This noun, πρόγνωσις, occurs twice in the New Testament. Acts 2:23, 1 Peter 1:2.

προγινώσκω [Strong's 4267] is the verb, and occurs 5 times. Acts 26:5, Romans 8:29, 11:2, 1 Peter 1:20, 2 Peter 3:17.

Trinity "God the Father... the Spirit... Jesus Christ"

The English word "Trinity" never occurs in the Greek New Testament. The fact of one God expressed in three Persons is difficult for most people to understand because there is no parallel anywhere in creation. God's triune nature is unique. However, the three Persons of the Godhead are found throughout the Old and New Testaments.

What the Trinity does not mean

There is only one God (Deuteronomy 6:4), so Trinity does not mean three Gods. Nor does it mean three parts of one whole God. Nor does it mean three demi-gods, which come together to make one God. Nor does it mean that the one God sometimes expresses Himself as Father, and at other times Son, and yet other times as Spirit. Rather, there are three whole Persons, each complete within their Divine selves, yet who are the one God. This uniqueness of God's nature makes it difficult for mortal minds to comprehend, yet it is how God expresses Himself in Scripture.

Trinity in the Old Testament

A doctrine of the Trinity is never delineated in Scripture. Instead, His Triune nature is simply stated as a fact. From Genesis onward, the name of God, Elohim, is a plural name. Angels in



Heaven offer triple praise, “Holy. Holy. Holy.” (Isaiah 6:3). Priests on earth offer a triple blessing, ““The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace.” (Numbers 6:24-26). God expresses Himself as a multi-person, “Come near to Me, hear this: I have not spoken in secret from the beginning; From the time that it was, I was there. And now the Lord GOD and His Spirit Have sent Me.” (Isaiah 48:16)

#### Trinity in the New Testament

The Trinity was obvious at the baptism of Jesus, when the Spirit descended like a dove, and the Father spoke from above (Matthew 3:16 – 17). Jesus taught the Trinity when He spoke of sending the Holy Spirit from the Father (John 15:26). Each member of the Trinity is named in the apostolic benediction, “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.” (2 Corinthians 13:14), and in the Great Commission’s baptismal formula, “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 28:19).

---