**1 & 2 Peter Introduction and Background**

***\*Before we start our study, I want us to spend some time looking at Peter’s life. I think if we go through this, it will remind us of many important lessons and give us a proper context for the books of 1 and 2 Peter. We are simply going to read and discuss passages related to Peter’s life.***

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| **John 1:35-42** | 1st Meeting with Jesus |
| **Luke 4:38-41** | Healing of mother-in-law |
| **Luke 5:1-11** | Catch fish |
| **Luke 8:41-56** | Peter, James, and John |
| **Matthew 16:13-20** | On this rock |
| **John 6:66-69** | To whom shall we go? |
| **Matthew 14:22-33** | Walking on water |
| **Matthew 16:21-23** | Get behind me Satan |
| **Matthew 17:1-13** | Mount of transfiguration |
| **John 13:1-11** | Jesus washes feet |
| **Luke 22:31-34, 54-62** | When you have returned, denial |
| **John 21** | Fishing/swimming/challenge |
| **Acts 1:12-14, 15-17** | Waiting in Jerusalem |
| **Acts 2:14-36-42** | Preaching on Pentecost |
| **Acts 3** | Healing and preaching |
| **Acts 4:1-22** | Arrested |
| **Acts 5:1-11, 17-32, 40-42** | Problems in church, witnessing |
| **Acts 9:36-43** | Peter raised Dorcas |
| **Acts 10-11:18** | With the house of Cornelius |
| **Acts 12:1-8** | Herod to kill |
| **Acts 15:6-22** | Pursuing peace |
| **Galatians 2:11-16, 2 Peter 3:14-16** | Peter caught up in hypocrisy |
| **1 Peter 5:1-4** | Elder in the Jerusalem church |
| **History (John 21:18)**  | Crucified upside down |

**Questions for 1 Peter 1**

***\*Please make the time to study at home in order to answer the questions below. All of our Bible classes are richer in the sharing of thoughts when we dedicate time to prepare for our public Bible studies.***

1. What is Peter talking about when he starts with “To the pilgrim (or exiles) of the Dispersion”?

2. Who are the elect and how do they become of the elect?

3. From verses 3-9, what can trials do for Christians?

4. From verses 3-9, what is the end result of being tested with fire?

5. Who inquired and searched carefully for the salvation of Jesus?

6. What does Peter say has been revealed and who desires to look into it?

7. Why does Peter encourage to “gird up the loins of your mind”?

8. What redeems?

9. When was the plan for Jesus to come and die for us foreordained?

10. How can one be “born again”?

11. What strong admonition does Peter give to the brethren?

**Questions for 1 Peter 2**

***\*Please make the time to study at home in order to answer the questions below. All of our Bible classes are richer in the sharing of thoughts when we dedicate time to prepare for our public Bible studies.***

1. Why does Peter refer to newborn babes in verses 1-2?

2. What makes a disciple of Christ a stone that is alive?

3. Why is it important to have a good cornerstone? See Ephesians 2:19-22 also.

4. Why did many of the Jews stumble with Jesus?

5. Why would Christians who have been dispersed around the known world, be comforted by verses 9-10?

6. Should Christians be rebellious and trouble makers in society according to verses 11-12?

7. Please make a list of at least three examples to share of how Christians need to submit to every ordinance of man in our society?

8. Please explain true submission from verses 18-20.

9. Why is Jesus our example that we should follow in His steps?

10. Why should Jesus be the Shepherd and Overseer of your soul?

**Questions for 1 Peter 3**

1. What does “likewise” in verse one indicate or refer to?

2. What are ways a Christian wife can win over their husband to the Lord? Can this also be successful for Christian husbands to win over their wives to the Lord?

3. What does God deem the most important characteristic of beauty a woman can have?

4. What woman of the Old Testament does Peter use as an example and why?

5. What does “likewise” in verse seven indicate or refer to?

6. How are husbands to be toward their wives? What consequence is there if they do not follow Peter’s command?

7. Starting in **chapter 2**, Peter has given instructions on how Christians are to submit to government, how servants are to submit to masters, how wives are to submit to husbands, and how husbands are to submit to wives. In **chapter 3, verses 8-11**, what group of people is Peter addressing?

8. Please make a list of attitudes Christians are to have from **verses 8-11**.

9. How can these attitudes from **verses 8-11** be helpful in our dealings with government, masters, wives, and husbands?

10. What does **verse 12** teach us?

11. In your own words, what are Peter and the Holy Spirit teaching us in **verses 13-17**?

12. **Verse 14** mentions that we may suffer for righteousness sake. Who is our example of suffering for righteousness sake from **verse 18**?

13. What happened during Noah’s time of preparing the ark for the great flood (also see **2 Peter 2:4-5**)?

14. What now saves man and how does that happen?

15. Where is Jesus now?

**Questions for 1 Peter 4**

1. What type of mind (or way of thinking) does Peter tell us to arm ourselves with and why?

2. What does Peter tell us about our past lifetime of sin in **verse 3**?

3. How do many people in the world react when they see we do not run with them in the same flood of dissipation (debauchery) (**Ephesians 5:18**)?

4. **Verses 5-6** speak about a judgment. Who will give account for the deeds they have done? Knowing this, what is the hope that we have when we preach the gospel?

5. What does Peter warn about in **verse 7**?

6. From **verses 8-11**, please make a list of at least four things a Christian should be active in doing.

7. From **verses 12-16**, what positives things happen when we endure trials and suffering for the Lord?

8. What is Peter’s point from **verses 17-18**?

10. What kind of suffering is good in God’s eyes from **verse 19**? Why is this so?

**Study question:** Peter mentions a fiery trial, partaking in Christ’s sufferings, being reproached (insulted or reviled), suffering as a Christian, and suffering according to the will of God. ***Please be ready to discuss two examples of Peter going through one or more of these things as recorded in the New Testament.***

**Questions for 1 Peter 5**

1. Who is Peter exhorting in **verses 1-4**? What qualifications does Peter have to provide proper exhortation to elders?

2. What are the important tasks of shepherds and overseers (see **Ezekiel 34** also)?

3. Who will shepherds ultimately answer to or give account to?

4. Why does God want younger people to be submissive to their elders and to each other?

5. Please look up the meaning of the word “adversary” and be ready to discuss in class.

6. Who is the devil prowling around for or seeking? Why would he want to do this?

7. What are we to do in opposition to the devil?

8. What four things does Peter hope happens after one has suffered a while?

9. Could “She who is in Babylon” in **verse 13** be a reference to the church in Rome? Why or why not?

10. Who do you think “Mark my son” is a reference to?

**Study question:** Who is “Silvanus” mentioned in **verse 12**? ***Please be ready to discuss what you have found on Silvanus.***

**Questions for 2 Peter 1**

1. Peter describes himself as a “**bondservant**” of Jesus Christ in **verse 1**. What does that term mean?

2. What group of people of **2 Peter** directed to?

3. Please make a list of blessings that we become aware of from the knowledge of God and Jesus in **verses 2-4**.

4. Please look at other translations and provide synonyms for these seven words that occur in **verses 5-7** in the NKJV and be ready to share in class.

**diligence -**

**faith -**

**virtue -**

**self-control -**

**perseverance -**

**brotherly kindness -**

**love -**

5. What does Peter say will happen if these things are yours and abound (increasing)?

6. What condition is one in who lacks these things?

7. What does Peter encourage and why in **verses 10-11**?

8. How long does Peter intend to remind the readers of **2 Peter** of these things?

9. What event confirmed the prophetic word to Peter and the other apostles present?

**Study question:** When Peter was on the mountain that he refers to in **verse 19**, what lessons did he learn that day (see **Matthew 17**)?

**Questions for 2 Peter 2**

1. What warnings does Peter give in **verses 1-3** that we, of the Oak Ridge church of Christ, should take heed to?

2. What three illustrations of God’s judgment does Peter mention in **verses 4-8**?

3. What two righteous men does Peter mention in **verses 4-8** and why?

4. Is there ever a situation where God does not know how to deliver the godly when oppressed by the unjust, presumptuous, and self-willed false teachers of this world?

5. What point do you think Peter is making in **verse 11**?

6. What two things does Peter say will happen to the evil in **verses 12-13**?

7. What kind of hearts do the false prophets and teachers have?

8. What example does Peter mention in **verses 15-16** and why does he use this example?

9. What is reserved for false prophets and teachers?

10. What do false prophets and teachers promise? What really happens to those who follow false prophets and teachers?

11. Who does Peter say it would have been better for if they had not known the way of righteousness?

**Questions for 2 Peter 3**

1. What is Peter’s purpose of writing **2 Peter** and why?

2. Please make a list of things people frequently forget, that Peter reminds us of in **verses 5-9**?

3. How will the Lord come?

4. What is to happen to the heavens and earth that we know when the Lord comes?

5. Because the Lord will one day come back and there will be a judgment, what manner of persons ought we to be from **verses 11-13**?

6. What does the word “diligent” in **verse 14** mean?

7. How can we be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless, when the Lord returns?

8. What do some do with the epistles of Paul and the rest of God’s Word?

9. What encouragement and warning does Peter leave us with in **verses 17-18**?