



February 19th, 2023 • 1 Peter 1:13-21
Standing Firm in the Grace of God • The Book of 1 Peter
Message #2 • by Pastor Marcus Johnson



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Hope, Holiness & Our Holy-Heavenly Father

1. Set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you: at the revelation of Jesus Christ

- in light of being born again into a living hope thru Christ’s resurrection

- by preparing your minds for action & being sober-minded

2. Be holy in all your conduct:

- as obedient children
- as He who called you is holy

- calling on your impartial Father & conducting yourselves with fear

- knowing that you were ransomed with the precious blood of Christ

Some Highlights of 1 Peter

Sources: 1 Peter by Karen H. Jobes (ECNT); NIV Zondervan Study Bible (NIVZSB)

Peter’s purpose for writing: exhorting us to stand firm in the grace of God (5:12). Peter writes pastorally to believers needing guidance in the trials they face as elect (chosen by God) exiles (foreigners). While some of them are literal sojourners & exiles, dispersed throughout parts of the Roman Empire, all believers are spiritual exiles & sojourners (1:1; 2:11). 1 Peter encourages & guides believers in how to understand and live out our Christian faith in a pagan world, in which we are of a minority status, because God has chosen us and given us new birth and called us to holy living and a faithful gospel witness that proclaims His excellencies.

Christ and the Christian: “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. Jesus’ resurrection is the source of the believer’s new life (1:3). His willingness to suffer unjustly to fulfill God’s purpose is the exemplar [the supreme, perfect example] to which Christians are called as they live out their lives in faith, following in his footsteps (2:21)” (Jobes, 1).

Christ and the Christian Life (taken from NIVZSB) – “The letter of 1 Peter highlights two important topics: (1) what Jesus accomplished by his undeserved suffering and (2) what this means for the life of a Christian.” **Christ’s Power:** “Those who have accepted God’s offer of reconciliation and new birth through Christ can live out their faith with the sure confidence that sin and evil will not have the final say. This means both that sin and evil within the believer can be overcome and that the one who follows Christ will not be destroyed by whatever sin and evil may come against them.” **Christ’s Example:** “The believer’s willingness to suffer insult and mockery rather than falling into sin follows the example set by Jesus himself (2:21-23) and is a powerful testimony to the reality of God’s transforming grace. Peter calls his readers to understand rightly who Jesus is and what he has done, and to live confidently in that faith, for the letter he has written testifies to “the true grace of God” (5:12).”