

1 Peter 1:1-5

Birthright: New Birth & Union With Christ

Introduction

1. Date of the Letter: 60 BC, Nero is Emperor
2. Occasion for Writing the Letter: Encouragement to Suffering Christians – God is Merciful to You!
3. How precious is your salvation to you?
4. Would it have been Just for God to leave us in our Sin?
5. Is Salvation something you are owed? Are you good, and therefore God must save you?
6. Did you take the initiative and seek God, or Did God take the initiative and seek you as His own?
7. Did you do something to cause your new birth, or Did God cause your new birth? Was it all of God or did you cooperate with Him to get you saved?
8. What is the Aim of our New Birth?

Main Idea of 1 Peter 1:1-5

Our New Birth is a Work by the Triune God in Order for Us to be Obedient Now, have Solid Hope, Enjoy a Heavenly Inheritance, and Realize Salvation at the End of Time.

Peter, the Apostle (v 1a)

1. Authority to Minister from Jesus Christ
2. An Elder in the Church (**1 Peter 5:1**)
3. An Eyewitness of Jesus' Sufferings
4. A Participator in Future Glory

God's Election Connected to Our Exile In This World (v1b)

1. The Elect Exiles in the Letter: Christians in Turkey
2. *Elect, Chosen* – The First Word of the Letter in Greek
3. *Exiles* – Rejected by the World, Elected by God
4. Christians belong to a Different Kingdom
5. Election by God is Connected to our Exile (**1Peter 2:9**)

God's Election Worked by the Whole Godhead (v 2)

1. The Root: The Father's Foreknowledge of Believers
 - a. God's Election – Occurred before Creation (**Ephesians 1:4**)
 - b. Knowledge = Love and Favor (**Ps 1:6, Amos 3:2, 1 Peter 2:9, Deut 7:6, Gen 18:19**)

2. The Evidence: The Sanctification of the Spirit; Exile
 - a. **See 2 Thessalonians 2:13**
 - b. Do you trust God and are you growing in Holiness?
3. The Purpose: Obedience to Jesus Christ, Profiting from His Atonement (Glorifying God in Christ!)
4. Worship... Then the Greeting...

God's Glory In His Work In New Birth: Worship! (v 3)

1. Worship: Blessed BE Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ
2. We are Born Again Because of His Mercy
 - a. This Means We do NOT Deserve New Birth
 - b. The Spirit Regenerates Our Heart (**John 3:6**)
 - c. And Evidence of this New Birth = Faith!
3. We are Born Again with a Living Hope
4. We are Born Again because Jesus Rose from the Dead by the Power of God (**1 Peter 1:21**)
5. His Resurrection Guarantees Our Resurrection!!!

God Keeps Our Birthright In Heaven For Us (v 4)

1. Our New Birth Gives Us an Inheritance
2. This Birthright is Imperishable – No Rust or Moth!
3. This Birthright is undefiled – Pure!
4. This Birthright is Unfading – Everlasting!
5. This Birthright is Kept for Us! – No Thief Can Steal!
6. What is this Birthright, Inheritance?

God Guards This Inheritance, Revealed At The End (v 5)

1. God's Power Guards and Keeps You – It takes God's mighty strength to preserve you from falling away
2. Your Birthright/Inheritance is Future Salvation!
3. Already, Not Yet Principle: The Salvation You Enjoy Now is Still Future
4. This Salvation Will Be Revealed at Christ's Second Coming
5. This Salvation Will Be Realized at Our Glorification
 - a. History Will End
 - b. We will Gain Our Reward
 - c. We will Enjoy God Forever
 - d. We Will Partake in this Future Glory

AMEN!