

I Peter

Introduction 1:1-2

“Christians are called out of the world before they are sent into the world.”

¹ **Peter**, an apostle of **Jesus Christ**,

to those who **reside as aliens**, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, who are chosen ² according to the foreknowledge of God **the Father**, by the sanctifying work of **the Spirit**, that you may obey **Jesus Christ** and be sprinkled with His blood:

May **grace** and **peace** be yours in fullest measure.

Has Jesus made a difference in your life?

1. Peter (as an Apostle) speaks for (and looks like) Jesus.
2. What would “Peter the social activist” have said in this letter?

Do you reside as an alien or as a native?

1. How and why are they different?
2. How does the work of the Father and the Spirit equip you to follow the Son?

Why would aliens need grace and peace?

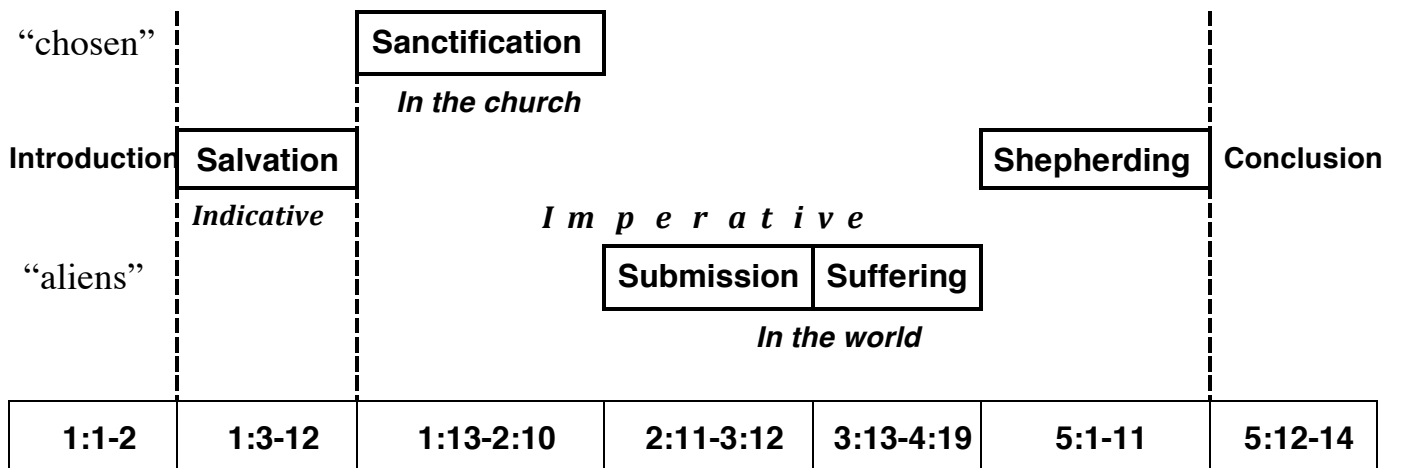
1. Is this the message of the letter?
2. Is the rest of the letter an explanation of what grace and peace look like through us?

“Aliens need to know who they are, where they are, what they are to expect, and how they are to respond.”

Two ways of looking at our involvement in the world

Understanding of:	Model #1	Model #2
Christian basis	The Incarnation	The Crucifixion
Sphere of application	The World	The Church
Justice and peace	Social, Political	Spiritual, Personal
Emphasis in ministry	Social action (body savers)	Evangelism, Discipleship (soul savers)
Political philosophy	Liberal	Conservative
The Kingdom	Economic justice, Political power sharing, World peace.	Regenerate, mature, church community.
Basic problem	Systemic evil	Personal sin
Scriptural Support	Parts of Gospels and OT Prophets	Epistles
Problems	Biblical social ethics focus on covenant community infrastructure not the world.	Over reaction to model #1

Structure of I Peter



“I have written to you briefly, exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it!” (5:12)

***I Peter 1:1-2
provides an insight into the
structure of the book.***

“who are chosen ² according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, by the sanctifying work of the Spirit,”
“As obedient children,” 1:14
<i>Our relationship with God</i>
<i>1:13-2:10</i>

we become

*Prepares us
for*

“1 . . . to those who reside as aliens ,”
“as aliens and strangers” 2:11
<i>Our relationship with the world</i>
<i>2:11-4:19</i>

I Pet.2 “⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous

Phil.3:20 “For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Heb.11:13 “All these died in faith, without receiving the promises, but having seen them

light. 10 for you once were not a people, but now you are the people of god; you had not received mercy but now you have received mercy.”

and having welcomed them from a distance, and having confessed that they were strangers and exiles on the earth.”

The marks of inspiration

Apostolic
origin

Eph.2:20
“having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets,”

Wide
geographic
acceptance

Jn.10:27 “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me;”

Conformity to
oral tradition

Gal.1:9 “if any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to that which you received, let him be accursed.”

Peter

The social activist before Pentecost

Angry

Anxious

Aggressive

The spiritual Apostle after Pentecost

Thankful

Trusting

Temperate

Matt.14:30 “But seeing the wind, he became afraid,”

16:22 “And Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him,”

17:4 “Lord it is good for us to be here; if You wish, I will make three tabernacles here.”

19:27 “Behold, we have left everything and followed You; what then will there be for us?”

26:33 “Even though all may fall away because of You, I will never fall away.” **Vs.74** “Then he began to curse and swear, ‘I

I Pet.1:14 “As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance.”

2:13 “Submit yourselves for the Lord’s sake to every human institution,”

4:12-13 “¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you; ¹³ but to the degree that you share

do not know the man!”

the sufferings of Christ,
keep on rejoicing;”

ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ

apostle (one sent forth)

<i>Apostles of Christ</i>
<i>12</i> <i>Foundation of the church</i> <i>Inspired</i>

<i>apostles of the church</i>
<i>Many</i> <i>Ongoing builders of the church</i> <i>Inspiring</i>

Lk.6:13 “He called His disciples to Him; and chose twelve of them, whom He also named as apostles:”

I Cor.9:1 “Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are you not my work I the Lord?”

II Cor.12:12 “The signs of a true apostle were

I Cor.12:28 “And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers,”

II Cor.8:23 “as for our brethren, they are messengers (apostles) of the churches, a glory to Christ.”

performed among you.”

Eph.2:20 “having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets,”

“We are chosen...”

<p>by the Father</p> <p>“foreknown”</p> <p>God had a plan for us from all eternity.</p>	<p>through the Spirit</p> <p>“sanctified”</p> <p>God set us apart from the world by giving us His Spirit.</p>	<p>in the Son</p> <p>“sprinkled”</p> <p>God covered us with the blood of the cross.</p>
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“that we might obey him”

Two ways of looking at our involvement in the world

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	infrastructure not the world.	
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Two models of Christian involvement in the world

Model #1	Model #2
<p><i>The incarnation is the best model for the Christian's relationship with the world.</i></p> <p><i>Christians should focus their attention on building a better world.</i></p> <p><i>Christians should follow Christ's example by challenging and changing injustice in the world.</i></p> <p><i>Christians should be involved primarily in social justice and reconciliation.</i></p> <p><i>Christians should get their marching orders primarily from the four Gospels.</i></p>	<p><i>The crucifixion is the best model for the Christian's relationship with the world.</i></p> <p><i>Christians should focus their attention on building healthy churches.</i></p> <p><i>Christians should follow Christ's example by suffering injustice for righteousness sake.</i></p> <p><i>Christians should be involved primarily in evangelism.</i></p> <p><i>Christians should get their marching orders primarily from the Epistles.</i></p>