
1 Peter 1:1-9

(Basic Bible in English)

1 Peter was written about 65 A.D. During that time frame, the persecution of the early Christians was from Jews, not the Romans. The Romans just couldn't care less about new religions; they just wanted their taxes. About the time Peter writes this letter, Nero is in power and the Coliseum wasn't built yet. Nero burned Rome down and blamed the Christians. This period of time represents trials and tribulations that these people were going through at that time. Nero was very cruel. He had vast gardens in his palace and he'd put crosses in there and hang Christians on them to die and set fire to them to light his gardens. This is sick, twisted, and evil. That is the context in which Peter wrote his letters. Peter was traveling and came upon Jesus Christ and asked where He was going. Jesus said He's going to be sacrificed, basically. Peter went back to Rome, and they all it Babylon as code for Rome.

1 ¶ Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, All these places listed are in modern day Turkey. These strangers are strangers to the world, i.e., Christians. We are not of this world.

2 Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied. This verse shows the trinity of Christ. God is the Father and knows everything beforehand. Then the Spirit is mentioned, the one who sets us aside and guides us. Then there's Jesus Christ, who shed His blood to save us. Peter tells us we've been given unmerited favor from God and we need to go forward and spread this wonderful gift, spread the word of God.

3 ¶ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, This word Blessed should be translated "Praise to", so Praise to God is a better translation from the Greek. In English: "Praise be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who have begotten us again with a living hope (great expectation) of a living life of Jesus Christ from the dead." We are expecting eternal life since Jesus Christ showed He conquered death

4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, There's no better retirement plan than this verse right here. No safe deposit box could hold this treasure. Money, diamonds, gold all come and go, but eternal salvation / life through Jesus Christ is forever. Your inheritance in heaven will never go away, never fade, is incorruptible, is better than any diamonds or gold you could gather.

5 Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. We as Christians will never see the full extent of our salvation until we reach heaven. This is why the Christian religion demands faith. We just gotta trust God.

6 ¶ Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:

7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: say you are a Jewish convert to Christianity. Most people in those days never traveled more than 30 miles from their home. You become a Christian; the village makes you an outcast. They kick you out of town, take away your income, cut you off from your family...this is the trial of faith at that time. That shows how valuable salvation through Jesus Christ is. It's worth more than anything on the face of this earth.

8 Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: We just continue to live our daily lives in faith and know that God has heaven there for us. It's a spiritual matter, not an earthly matter.

9 Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls. This word 'soul' can be changed to 'life'.