

**Finding Our Purpose:
In Suffering
1 Peter 1:1-9**

- I. Peter Is Writing To Aliens (1)
 - A. Peter starts with an immediate problem: they are aliens
 - 1. They are strangers in a strange land
 - 2. Have you ever had the experience of being a stranger?
 - B. Why are they aliens? They have been scattered from their homes
 - 1. Persecution has forced them away from their lands and homes
 - 2. They are on the run for their faith
- II. These “Aliens” Are Friends of God (1-5)
 - A. They have been chosen by God! But, for what purpose?
 - 1. Chosen in God’s foreknowledge
 - 2. Chosen by the sanctifying work of the Spirit
 - 3. To obey Jesus
 - B. God has given these aliens many blessings
 - 1. New birth (from being dead in sin to alive in Christ)
 - 2. A living hope (life abundantly – even as aliens)
 - 3. An everlasting inheritance (hope for today and tomorrow)
 - 4. And protection by God’s own power
 - C. Peter is encouraging them – to trust what they know

- 1. During your times as a stranger, how did you find comfort?
 - 2. These aliens found their hope in Jesus...
 - III. Even Though They Are Blessed, Yet They Still Suffer (6-9)
 - A. They rejoice in their salvation, yet they face trials
 - B. If God’s people are so blessed, why do they have to suffer?
 - 1. To purify our faith (7)
 - 2. To produce greater praise of Jesus (7)
 - 3. To enhance our faith (8)
 - 4. To receive the promise of salvation (9)

Example: Charles Haddon Spurgeon