

Outline of 1 Peter

Theme: The believers' good public conduct and patience in the midst of trials will mature the believer, edify the Church, and is a witness of God's grace and salvation to the world.

- I. (1:1-2) Those in Christ, who have been dispersed among foreign lands, have been chosen by God and sanctified by the Holy Spirit so that they may be obedient to Christ and experience grace.
- II. (1:3-2:3) The believers' salvation, which has been given by God and made possible by Christ, is tested by trials and should be responded to with reverence towards God and good conduct by believers.
 - A. (1:3-12) Salvation, made possible by Christ's resurrection, is a gracious gift from God that is perfected by God through trials.
 - 1. (1:3-6) God's mercy has provided a sure and eternal inheritance, made possible Christ's resurrection, which has been given to Peter's readers and is protected by God causing them to rejoice though they suffer trials.
 - 2. (1:7-9) Trials have come to Peter's readers so that their faith can be made genuine resulting in their eventual salvation and praise and deep love for Christ.
 - 3. (1:10-12) The gracious gift of salvation experienced by Peter's readers, which even angels have desire to understand, was revealed before their time by the Spirit of Christ and spoken of by the prophets.
 - B. (1:13-17) Self-control, holiness and fearful reverence is encouraged in Peter's readers as they are called to prepare their minds and become obedient to God the Father who judges each man impartially.
 - C. (1:18-21) Christ is the source of salvation through whom believers hope in God.
 - 1. (1:18-19) The sacrifice of Christ, not the traditions of men, is the source of salvation.
 - 2. (1:20-21) Christ's preordained status was revealed in Peter's time so men would believe and hope in God through him.
 - D. (1:22) Sincere love towards one another is encouraged by Peter as the believers have been obedient to the truth.
 - E. (1:23-25) The eternal word of God, which has been preached to Peter's readers, is the foundation of their new birth.
 - F. (2:1-3) The eternal word of God, which has been preached to Peter's readers, is the foundation of their new birth.
- III. (2:4-4:19) Believers', united by God in Christ, are encouraged to endure suffering with joy knowing that salvation is prepared for them, be compassionate, and understanding with one another and by so doing silently witness to unbelievers both of God's grace towards the believer and his judgement towards the unbeliever.
 - A. (2:4-10) God's people have been build upon the cornerstone by God and thus made one people when once they were not one.
 - 1. (2:4-8) The cornerstone is the basis upon which God, builds believers, into a spiritual house, but is a stumbling block to unbelievers and is rejected by them.
 - 2. (2:9-10) God's chosen people, who were once separate, have been brought together by God's mercy to declare praises to God.
 - B. (2:11-18) The believer's public conduct will testify to the unbeliever and silence those who slander God's people.

THIS IS AN EXAMPLE OF
A GOOD STUDENT OUTLINE
LONGER METHOD

1. (2:11-12) Good conduct and abstinence from evil is encouraged by Peter so that unbelievers' may also glorify God when they see the good works of believers.
 2. (2:13-18) Submission to earthly authorities, both good and harsh, and a life of servitude is God's will for the believer because by doing good the believer will silence the foolish.
- C. (2:19-25) Suffering for righteousness sake, as Christ did, is commendable because one is made to be reliant on God.
1. (2:19-21) Suffering for doing good is commendable because a person who suffers under such circumstances is conscious of God and has Christ as the supreme example, but if one endures suffering for committing wrong, he deserves his punishment.
 2. (2:22-25) Christ's sufferings were the supreme example of Godly suffering because, though he was sinless and pure, he did not seek vengeance but instead entrusted himself to God and bore our sins on the cross so that we might live for righteousness and return to God.
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- D. (3:1-12) Submission, respect, peace, and understand is encouraged amongst all believers.
1. (3:1-6) The submissive behavior of wives towards their husbands is encouraged by Peter so that even an unbelieving husband might be converted words as their beauty must be inward not outward.
 2. (3:7) The consideration and respect of husbands for their wives is encouraged so that the husband's prayers will not be hindered.
 3. (3:8-12) Harmony and peace amongst believers is encouraged because God hears the prayers of the righteous but is against the evil.
- E. (3:13-14) Suffering for righteousness is not to be feared, as unbelievers fear suffering, because one will be blessed by God.
- F. (3:15-17) A ready defense for the faith on the part of the believer is encouraged by Peter so that those who accuse the believer of wrongdoing will be put to shame and if it is God's will that they suffer for righteousness then they will be blessed.
- G. (3:18-22) The salvation provided by Jesus through his death and resurrection was provided not only for Peter's readers but also for those who were disobedient before Christ's coming.
- H. (4:1-6) The attitude of believers is modeled after Christ's holiness while the attitude of unbelievers is against holiness and for sin.
1. (4:1-3) An attitude of holiness modeled by Christ is brought about by suffering because those who suffer in the flesh no longer seek earthly desires, but the will of God.
 2. (4:4-6) The attitude of unbelievers towards believers concerning sin is such that they cannot understand why believers do not pursue unrighteous behavior, but they will give an account for their own actions and the message of the gospel condemns them for practicing evil.
- I. (4:7-11) The act of ministering to and loving fellow believers, made possible by God's provision and strengthening, is encouraged by Peter because the end is near so believers must be loving, self-controlled and kind to one another so they can pray and that Christ may be praised.
- J. (4:12-19) Expected and occasionally providential suffering may currently afflict the innocent believer, but he is blessed in that God will ultimately save him as he patiently endures while eternal judgement awaits the unbeliever.
1. (4:12-16) Praise and rejoicing in the midst of suffering is encouraged because such persecution should be expected and seen not as shameful, but as a mark of glory, but one does not receive such glory for suffering for doing evil.
 2. (4:17-19) Judgement has begun among believers who are persecuted but God's judgement will be very harsh for unbelievers.
- IV. (5:1-11) Peter's appeal to the men in his audience encourages them to pursue proper conduct and resist temptation so that they may learn to rely on God.

- A. (5:1-4) Peter's appeal to elders focuses on the willingness to serve, abstaining from greed for money and not controlling but being servants and examples, when Christ comes they will receive glory.
- B. (5:5-11) Peter's appeal to young men focuses on their humble submission to the elders, self-control, resistance of demonic temptation and anxiety free reliance on God so that he can strengthen them even through trials.
- V. (5:12-14) Peter's closing remarks focus on the fact that it is his intention to encourage his readers and testify of God's grace as well as send the greeting and well-wishes of other believers to them.