

21S15 1st Peter 1:1-5 Bible Study

Hello everyone. Thank you for joining me today @ the PUNLA Coffee Table. So, get comfortable, get your coffee or tea or water and settle in for our talk.

I hope everyone is doing well.

Today we are going to begin a new series on 1st Peter.

The author is the Apostle Peter. Most scholars believe this letter was written sometime in AD60-64. The main theme of 1st Peter is Holy Living for those suffering persecution. This letter was written to Christians living in the Roman Empire and facing persecution because they follow Jesus.

Think about this as we read 1st Peter. I'm reading from the International Children's Bible (ICB) today, I like the plain English in this translation. Let's read 1 Peter 1:1-5 (ICB). ¹ *From Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ. To God's chosen people who are away from their homes. You are scattered all around Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia.* ²*God the Father planned long ago to choose you by making you his holy people. Making you holy is the Spirit's work. God wanted you to obey him and to be made clean by the blood of the death of Jesus Christ. Grace and peace be yours more and more.*

³ *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has great mercy, and because of his mercy he gave us a new life. He gave us a living hope because Jesus Christ rose from death.* ⁴ *Now we hope for the blessings God has for his children. These blessings are kept for you in heaven. They cannot be destroyed or be spoiled or lose their beauty.* ⁵ *God's power protects you through your faith, and it keeps you safe until your salvation comes. That salvation is ready to be given to you at the end of time.*

Why are the people Peter is writing to "away from their homes"? other translations say they are exiles? Well, they are not necessarily away from their homes. Peter is telling them their true homes are in heaven, they are away from their true home which is with Jesus in heaven. We need to recognize this is not our home, heaven is. We are only here for a while; our destination is our true home in heaven.

What is Hope? Hope is defined as a feeling of expectation or desire for a certain thing to happen. Looking forward to something good. Peter is reminding us we have hope, hope for more than we currently have. Hope despite the things we are going through right now.

Where does our hope come from? Hope can only come from God. And what we hope for is a new life with Jesus forever. We hope for our messy life here to be replaced by a perfect life in heaven. This hope helps us to endure whatever we face in life, knowing there is more, better to come. If we trust Jesus, then we face our troubles today with the confidence of the promised tomorrow with Jesus in Heaven.

Peter talks about us being God's "holy people". How do we become holy? Well, we can't do it ourselves. Peter says it's the holy spirit's work.

What are these blessings? Peter is talking about. Some translations use "inheritance". Peter is reminding us; our home and all real possessions are in heaven. What we have now is not all there is. As Children of God, we have "real" property in heaven. And it is priceless, imperishable, it will never spoil or lose its beauty. Can you imagine living in God's house and nothing gets old, nothing wears out. Everything stays perfect and beautiful.

Peter goes on says we are protected by God. So why do bad things happen all the time to followers of Jesus. I mean bad things happen to me. I get sick, I have trouble with other people. Christians all around the world face persecution. And In fact, the apostle Peter was crucified. Peter says, we protected by God, but not necessarily from physical harm in this world. We cannot be truly harmed our soul is secure in Jesus. Because we have confident assurance in Christ. We know we have salvation.

Something that saves us is called.... Our salvation. Salvation is the free gift of God, but Peter wants us to be ready when our end comes. The word translated as salvation comes from the Greek word (sōtērian) (so-tay-ree'-an) meaning deliverance, salvation. The root word is sōtēr (so-tare') meaning a savior, deliverer, preserver. So can think about how Peter is stressing that Jesus is our deliverer, He preserves us for eternal life. He is our savior.

Last Peter talks about "the end of time" what does he mean? The day when God sets everything right. Our final Hope is that God will make everything new and right again. We have confidence that those who do evil in this world will face justice. We can count on the Character of God, in who we have our Hope.

Next time we will be studying 1st Peter 1:6-9.

One last thing I want to share with you. All of us face troubles and trials in this life. The world is broken, and broken people hurt each other. God wants us to be confident we have living hope in the risen living person of Jesus. He paid the price for our sins; He took the punishment we each deserve. Now we have salvation through our faith in Him. We are safe in Him. Maybe not from our temporary troubles here but we are safe from the Big Trouble at the end of time if we keep relying on the Mercy of God and follow King Jesus.

Let's Pray.

I hope you enjoyed the start to our study of 1st Peter. I truly love this letter of Peter's. I hope you will join me for the rest of this series

Thank you for joining me for Students @ the PUNLA Coffee Table. If you liked the message, please select like. And Please Subscribe to our channel. Leave comments here, or our website or mail me at kip@punla.org. I appreciate your feedback. Until next time @ the PUNLA Coffee Table. God bless.