

“Love Lifted Me Recovery Ministries”

First Peter Bible Study — I Peter 1:1-4 Lesson #1

**INSTRUCTIONS: Read the entire section of Scripture in First Peter before starting to look up the other Scripture verses and filling in the blanks. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to give you understanding as you read God’s word.

- 1 **PETER, an APOSTLE of Jesus Christ, to the PILGRIMS of the DISPERSION** in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia,
- **James 1:1** “James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are _____ abroad: Greetings!”
 - **Galatians 1:18-19** “Then after three years I went up to _____ to see _____, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other _____ except _____, the Lord’s brother.”
 - **I Peter 1:1** “_____, a servant and _____ of Jesus Christ, to those who have obtained like precious _____ with us by the righteousness of our God and Savior _____.”
 - **John 1:41-42** “He first found his own brother _____, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Christ). And he brought him to _____. Now when _____ looked at him, He said, “You are _____ the son of Jonah. You shall be called Cephas” (which is translated a stone).”
 - **Luke 6:13-16** “And when it was day, He called His _____ to Him; and from them He _____ twelve whom He also named _____: _____, whom He also named _____, and Andrew his brother; James and John; Philip and Bartholomew; Matthew and Thomas; James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon called the Zealot; Judas the son of James, and _____ Iscariot who also became a _____.”

Definition: ‘SIMON PETER, a servant and APOSTLE ’ — Simon, whom Jesus later named Peter (sometimes referred to as “Cephas” - which was the Greek form of Peter) was one of the original twelve disciples of Jesus. Disciple means a “learner” or follower. The original twelve disciples were also called **“apostles” which means “sent ones.”** After Judas Iscariot betrayed Jesus and then hanged himself, the disciples chose another one of the many disciples to make up the number of twelve again. However, God never told them to chose someone on their own, and as you read the New Testament, you see that it is actually the Apostle Paul who is supposed to take the place of the twelfth apostle. Then, where it says, **“He FIRST found his own brother SIMON”** we see Andrew INTRODUCING his brother Simon to Jesus on this occasion, but Peter did not **make the DECISION to FOLLOW Jesus** and “forsake ALL” until later (see Luke 5:1-11). This is like a lot of us - we may KNOW JESUS as our Savior, but it may take a long time before **we really SURRENDER our lives** to Him completely.

- **Matthew 4:18** “Now _____, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, _____ called _____, and _____ his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen.”

Definition: “PILGRIMS of the DISPERSION” and “TWELVE TRIBES which are scattered” — These are both referring to the same thing. “Pilgrims” in this context means people who are wandering far from their home, as the many **Jews of the Dispersion** were wandering far from Israel, their home. **The Dispersion means the Jews who were dispersed (scattered) across the**

Middle East and Europe because of the many times they were taken captive by other nations. The church in Jerusalem was made up entirely of Jewish believers in the beginning. When God's word mentions the "twelve tribes" here, it refers to **Jewish believers in Christ who were scattered throughout the Roman Empire.** The main reason they were "scattered" abroad was because of increasing persecution by the Roman government. As these believers left Jerusalem to escape persecution, and settled all over the world, they took the gospel of Jesus Christ with them, and spread the gospel to other nations.

2 **ELECT according to the FOREKNOWLEDGE of God the Father**, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and **sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ**; Grace to you and peace be multiplied.

• **Romans 9:11 & 23-24** "For the children not yet being _____, nor having done any _____ or _____, that the _____ of God according to _____ might stand, not of _____ but of Him who calls (chooses)" (Verses 23-24) "And that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of _____, which He had prepared _____ for glory, even _____ whom He called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles."

• **II Thessalonians 2:13** "But we are bound to give _____ to _____ always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because _____ from the beginning _____ you for salvation through _____ by the _____ and belief in the truth."

Definition: "ELECT according to the FOREKNOWLEDGE of God the Father" — "Elect" means CHOSEN. "Foreknowledge" means that **God knew ahead of time, BEFORE it happened.**

God already knew how everything would turn out, and knows every detail of our lives. We may think that WE choose to believe in Jesus as our Savior, but it is really God who CHOOSES US, and He even gives us the faith to believe in Jesus. Yes, we still have to make that decision, and sometimes it's hard to know how this all works, but if God Himself didn't give us the ability to choose Him, we couldn't do it on our own. We also see **the word "foreordained"** used in the Bible. Foreordained means **God knew us and has a PURPOSE for us** even before we were born.

• **Acts 2:23** "Him (Jesus), being delivered by the determined _____ and _____ of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death."

• **I Peter 1:20** "He indeed was _____ before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you."

• **Romans 8:29** "For whom He _____, He also predestined to be conformed to the _____ of His _____, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren."

• **Jeremiah 1:5** "_____ I formed you in the womb, I _____ you, and _____ you came forth out of the _____, I sanctified you and I _____ ordained you to be a prophet unto the nations."

• **Ephesians 1:4** "Just as He _____ us in Him _____ the foundation of the world, that we should be _____ and without blame before Him in love."

• **John 15:16** Jesus said, "You did _____ chosen Me, but I _____, and _____ you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain...."

• **John 6:37** "All that the Father _____ Me will _____ to _____, and

the one that comes to Me I will by no means cast out”

• **John 6:65** “And He said, ‘Therefore I said unto you, that _____ can _____ to _____, unless it has been _____ to him _____ My Father.’”

Definition: “Sprinkling of the BLOOD of Jesus Christ” – In the Old Testament, the animal sacrifices were to represent the coming sacrifice of Jesus, the Messiah. **The BLOOD of these animals who were sacrificed was SPRINKLED on the mercy seat of the ark of the covenant.** That was the OLD COVENANT in the Old Testament. We are now in the **NEW COVENANT of grace, and we have REDEMPTION through the BLOOD of Jesus Christ.** Redemption, or the act of redeeming, is **buying back, freeing from captivity** by paying of a RANSOM. **Jesus PAID, with His BLOOD, as He became the sacrifice for our sins,** for us to be FREED from the CAPTIVITY of SIN.

• **Hebrews 10:22** “Let us draw near with a true _____ in full assurance of faith, having our hearts _____ from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.”

• **Hebrews 12:22-24** “But _____ have come to Mount Zion and to the _____ of the _____, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and _____ of the firstborn who are registered in _____, to God the Judge of all, to the _____ of just men made perfect, to _____ the _____ of the _____, and to the _____ of _____ that speaks better things than that of Abel.”

• **Ephesians 1:7** “In Him we have _____ through His _____, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His _____.”

• **Colossians 1:14** “In whom we have _____ through His _____, even the _____ of sins.”

• **Acts 20:28** “Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to feed the _____ of _____, which He has _____ with his own _____.”

• **Leviticus 17:11** “For the life of the flesh is in the _____; and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your _____: for it is the _____ that makes an atonement for the soul.”

• **Hebrews 9:12 & 14** “Not with the _____ of goats and calves (the Old Testament sacrifices), but with His own _____ He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal _____ [for us].”

(Verse 14) “How much more shall the _____ of _____, who through the eternal _____ offered Himself without spot (without sin) to God, purge your conscience from dead works to _____ the living God?”

• **I John 1:7** “But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the _____ of _____ His Son _____ us from all _____.”

3-4 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy **has BEGOTTEN us AGAIN to a living hope** through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to **an INHERITANCE incorruptible and undefiled and that does NOT FADE AWAY, reserved in HEAVEN** for you,

• **James 1:18** “Of His own will He _____ us forth by the _____ of _____, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.”

• **Acts 20:32** “And now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His _____”

grace, which is able to build you up and _____ you an _____ among all those who are sanctified.”

Definition: “Has BEGOTTEN us AGAIN to a LIVING HOPE” – “BEGOTTEN us AGAIN” means BORN AGAIN. In James 1:18 it says “He brought us forth by the WORD of TRUTH.” This is one of those places where the translation is so much better in the original King James Version. The KJV says, “Of His own will **BEGAT He us WITH the word of truth.**” Now, I realize we don’t talk like that any more, and it’s old fashioned, but the word “begat” is so much more descriptive of what God is doing here! Begat means to cause to be conceived and be born, so **God is causing us to be BORN AGAIN by His WORD**, the word of truth. The dictionary says to “beget” means “to procreate as the father”, and the “seed” that the Father uses by which **to bring about our spiritual conception and BIRTH** is His word, the word of God, the word of truth. This is why it is so important for us to either recite Scriptures we have memorized or read Scripture when we are witnessing to someone - **that “seed” of the word of God is what will cause them to be born again** if they just believe it and receive Jesus.

• **I Peter 1:23** “Having been _____, not of corruptible _____ but incorruptible, through the _____ of _____ which lives and abides forever.”

• **John 1:12-13** “But as many as received _____, to them He gave the right to become _____ of God, even to those who believe in His name: who were _____, not of blood, nor of the will of the _____, nor of the will of man, but of _____.”

Definition: “BORN OF GOD” — John 1:13 says we are born, NOT of certain things, but we ARE BORN of GOD. The New Birth (being Born Again) (1.) Does NOT happen “by blood”, which means by inheritance from human ancestors; (2.) Does NOT happen “by the will of the flesh”, which means by human sexual desire; and (3.) Does NOT happen “by the will of man”, which means by human will power or determination. It is a **SUPERNATURAL ACT of GOD** that happens to us when we **BELIEVE** in Jesus and **RECEIVE HIM** as Savior.

Definition: “An INHERITANCE incorruptible and undefiled and that does NOT FADE AWAY, reserved in HEAVEN” – An inheritance is something of value that you receive after someone has died. Jesus had to DIE in order for us to receive our inheritance from God. This inheritance is revealed in the “Last Will & Testament” of Jesus Christ, or in other words, in the New Testament of the Bible, God’s word. The fact that this inheritance is **“incorruptible and undefiled and that does NOT FADE AWAY” means that it is for ALL ETERNITY, and nothing can destroy it.** The location of our inheritance in its entirety is in HEAVEN. Much of our inheritance is available to us while we are here on earth, and as we read God’s word, we discover what those things are that He has given us. Some of it will not be ours until we get to heaven.

• **Colossians 1:5** “Because of the hope which is _____ for _____ in _____, of which you heard before in the _____ of the _____ of the _____.”

• **Matthew 6:20-21** “But _____ for yourselves _____ in _____, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your _____ is, there your _____ will be also.”

• **I Peter 5:4** “And when the Chief Shepherd (Jesus) _____, you will _____ the _____ of _____ that does not _____ away.”

• **II Timothy 4:8** “Finally, there is _____ for me the _____ of _____”

_____, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will _____ to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to _____ who have _____ His appearing.”
•**Hebrews 11:16** “But now they desire a better, that is, a _____ country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a _____ for them.”