

Is Peter Writing to You? **1 Peter 1:1–2 (NKJV)**

1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To the pilgrims of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, 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.

So then Peter writes to those who are pilgrims here in this world.

He addresses them as elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father.

But that is not all that is necessary. God must bring us to Himself and then accomplish in us the salvation of our souls.

God continues to work in us until we are right with God through His mercy and grace.

2 Thessalonians 2:13 (NKJV)

13 But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth,

Philippians 1:6 (NKJV)

6 being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;

The outworking of God's choice of the elect made in eternity past begins in time by the sanctifying work of the Spirit. **The sanctifying work encompasses all that the Spirit produces in salvation:** faith (Eph. 2:8), repentance (Acts 11:15–18), regeneration (Titus 3:5), and adoption (Rom. 8:16–17). Thus election, the plan of God, becomes a reality in the life of the believer through salvation, the work of God, which the Holy Spirit carries out. *John F. MacArthur Jr., 1 Peter, MacArthur New Testament Commentary (Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2004), 21.*

So let us look at not only what God has done for us but what He has done in us.

I. Those Sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

A. Peter has already addressed what the Father has done for us and now he moves on to what the second Person of the Trinity does.

B. He Sanctified us.

1. What does sanctified mean.

a. The Sanctifying work (hagiasmo) refers to separation, consecration, and holiness. *John F. MacArthur Jr., 1 Peter, MacArthur New Testament Commentary (Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2004), 21.*

- b. 38 ἁγιασμός [hagiasmos /hag·ee·as·mos/] n m. From 37; TDNT 1:113; TDNTA 14; GK 40; 10 occurrences; AV translates as “holiness” five times, and “sanctification” five times. 1 consecration, purification. 2 the effect of consecration. 2a sanctification of heart and life. James Strong, *Enhanced Strong’s Lexicon* (Woodside Bible Fellowship, 1995).
- c. Hagiasmos (ἁγιασμός, 38), “sanctification,” is used of (a) separation to God, 1 Cor. 1:30; 2 Thess. 2:13; 1 Pet. 1:2; (b) the course of life befitting those so separated, 1 Thess. 4:3, 4, 7; Rom. 6:19, 22; 1 Tim. 2:15; Heb. 12:14.¶ “Sanctification is that relationship with God into which men enter by faith in Christ, Acts 26:18; 1 Cor. 6:11, and to which their sole title is the death of Christ, Eph. 5:25, 26; Col. 1:22; Heb. 10:10, 29; 13:12. W. E. Vine, Merrill F. Unger, and William White Jr., *Vine’s Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words* (Nashville, TN: T. Nelson, 1996), 545.

(1) 1 Corinthians 6:11 (NKJV)

- (a) 11 And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

- d. The sanctifying work encompasses all that the Spirit produces in salvation: faith (Eph. 2:8), repentance (Acts 11:15–18), regeneration (Titus 3:5), and adoption (Rom. 8:16–17). *John F. MacArthur Jr., 1 Peter, MacArthur New Testament Commentary (Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2004), 21.*

2. In a very real way the Holy Spirit has set us apart from what we once were.

3. 1 Peter 2:9–10 (NKJV)

- a. 9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; 10 who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

4. He sanctifies our hearts and minds.

- a. He takes away the love for the world and gives us a love for God and others.
- b. He takes our minds off the mundane things of our temporal existence and set it on things above.

5. Titus 3:5 (NKJV)
 - a. 5 not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,
6. He quickens us since we were dead in trespasses and sins.
 - a. He brings life out of death.
 - b. He brings peace out of depression.
 - c. He brings hope out of hopelessness.
 - d. He brings the incorruptible out of corruption.
 - e. He brings truth out of falsehood.
 - f. He brings morality out of wickedness.
 - g. He brings sight to those spiritually blind.
 - h. He gives the deaf ears that can hear the things of God.
7. Ephesians 2:1 (NKJV)
 - a. 1 And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins,

II. Those obedient to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

A. Man's response

1. Man will always respond to genuine grace.
2. Repentance and faith is what we call obeying the gospel.
 - a. Acts 2:38–39 (NKJV)
 - (1) 38 Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.”
 - b. Romans 10:16 (NKJV)
 - (1) 16 But they have **not all obeyed the gospel**. For Isaiah says, “LORD, who has believed our report?”
 - c. 2 Thessalonians 1:8 (NKJV)
 - (1) 8 in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those **who do not obey the gospel** of our

Lord Jesus Christ.

d. 1 Peter 4:17 (NKJV)

(1) 17 For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of **those who do not obey the gospel** of God?

III. Those sprinkled by the blood of Jesus Christ.

A. Now Peter brings in the second Person of the Trinity.

B. What the Father planned, the Son provided for and the Holy Spirit accomplishes.

C. Jesus provided the perfect sacrifice, the shedding of His blood.

1. In the Old Testament the sprinkling of blood was very significant.

a.

D. Jesus fulfilled that type when He willing became God's perfect Lamb as a sacrifice for our sin.

E. The significance of sprinkling of blood is seen in Hebrews 9:19–22 (NKJV)

1. 19 For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water, scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, 20 saying, "This is the blood of the covenant which God has commanded you." 21 Then likewise he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle and all the vessels of the ministry. 22 And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.

2. All of that in the Old Testament pointed to Jesus, the ultimate sacrifice to take away sins.

a. John 1:29 (NKJV)

(1) 29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

What a marvelous description of all that God has done for us.

We should never be cast down or discouraged.

For if God be for us who can be against us.

Romans 8:28–34 (NKJV)

28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. 29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be

conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. 30 Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified. 31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? 33 Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

Praise be to God.