

# I Pet 1:1-2

## I Author

- A Peter
- B Apostle
- C Of Jesus Christ

## II Recipients

### A Who they are – Gentiles addressed as Jews – Christians are the people of God

“He regards the church as the true Israel...Israel’s place has been taken by the church, who are ‘a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation’ ...[this] is further supported by the fact that Peter applies to the church words that in their Old Testament context refer to the future conversion of literal Israel (Hos. 1:10)” Ladd p. 599-600.

#### 1 Relationships

##### a To God – elect

##### 1) Not to position, but commission

“The people of Israel were warned against supposing that they were God’s favorites, for there was no partiality in Israel’s God. If their privileges as God’s chosen people were so great, their responsibilities were proportionally great; wickedness in Israel was dealt with more severely than wickedness in other nations, because Israel had better opportunities of knowing what was right...Since He selected Israel for Himself, Israel must be a holy people: ‘You shall be holy, for I, Yahweh your God, am holy’” Bruce NT developments p. 59-60

Relationship and responsibility – Jn 15:16

##### 2) Not basis for pride – Dt. 7:6-8; I Cor. 1:26-29

##### 3) Election involves purpose – Eph. 1:4-5; Rom 8:29-30

##### 4) Goal of election is God’s glory – Eph 1:6, 12

##### b To world – strangers (someone not at home, not comfortable, not a sense of total identification or belonging – Phil 3:20, I Jn 2:15

“The greater part of 1 Peter helps the reader to understand how Christians ought to live in a world which does not provide congenial soil for the cultivation of Christian graces.” Bruce, Message p. 91.

“Christians are in a foreign land, in which they live as exiles...living in the world and yet not of the world; hated by the world and yet seeking to overcome it...’The Christians dwell in their own countries, but only as sojourners. As citizens they share all things with others, and yet endure all things as if foreigners. Every foreign land is to them as a native country, and every land of their birth as a land of strangers.’ In other words the Christian life is one of pilgrimage to another and better country.” Tasker, The OT in the NT pp. 132-3

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Cf. Abraham and Israel – Gen. 12:1, 4-5; 15:13; 17:8; Heb. 11:9-10, 13-16

#### 2 Place

- a Dispersion – scattered away from homeland
- b Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, Bithynia

B Why they are

- 1 Reason – according to the foreknowledge of God the Father  
– Rom. 8:29-30, Eph 1:4, cf. Dt. 7:6-8
- 2 Means – by sanctifying work of the Spirit – 2 Thes. 2:13
- 3 Purpose –
  - a Into obedience
  - b And sprinkling of the blood of Christ –  
Signifying consecration into new community and covenant and relationship to God  
-cf. Ex. 24:3-8

III. Greeting

- A. Grace
- B. Peace
- C. Be multiplied to you