

**REMEMBER:** You are a Chosen, Blood-Sprinkled, Work in Progress!

**TEXT:** “Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to those who reside as aliens, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, who are chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, by the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with His blood: May grace and peace be yours in the fullest measure.” (1 Peter 1:1-2)

## I. The Author’s Identity

A. Peter

B. apostle

1. The Greek word means: “*sent one*” or “*one who is sent.*”
2. “*sent one*” → sent by Jesus Christ, Himself.
3. Requirements to be an Apostle, per Acts 1:15-21.

## II. God’s Identity - (“Trinity”)

A. God the Father - (1st Person of the Trinity)

1. c.f. Deuteronomy 6:4 (‘Shema’) - One God, not many gods.
2. c.f. Genesis 1:1 - (‘God’ → ‘Elohim’ - plural form of word)
  - a. God is One God, manifested in Three distinct Persons.

B. the Spirit - (3rd Person of the Trinity)

1. c.f. John 15:26-27; John 16:7-15 - (“Helper”)

C. Jesus Christ - (2nd Person of the Trinity)

1. Co-equal with the Father & the Spirit in all points of deity.
2. c.f. 2 Peter 1:1.
3. The gospel of salvation not only expects Jesus to be God but the gospel DEMANDS the deity of Jesus Christ.
4. **QUESTION:** How did people “get saved” before Jesus was born?  
**ANSWER:** They “believed in God” and it was accounted to them as righteousness. (They believed God and were, therefore, saved.)  
*(James 2:23) “and the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “And Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness,” and he was called the friend of God.”*  
 (also c.f. Genesis 15:6; Romans 4:3; Galatians 3:6)

## III. The Christian’s Identity

A. Resident Aliens - “reside as aliens”

(often translated: sojourners, strangers, exiles, or non-natives)

1. Alien —> Not of this world —> Heaven is our home!
2. c.f. Ruth 1:1, 4 (Elimelech and Naomi sojourned in Moab for 10 years)
3. c.f. Ephesians 2:12, 19.

B. Scattered - ("scattered") - a deliberate positioning by God.

1. 'diaspora' - (dia: "through"; spora: "sowing")  
i.e. "Sowing through: —> God has sown His people (seed) throughout the world...as He sovereignly chose to do so.
2. 1 Peter does NOT use the definite article (general scattering).
3. James 1:1 uses the definite article; refers to a specific dispersion.
4. c.f. Acts 8:1, 4 for first persecution of the church; scattering.
5. God has you where you are at today for a purpose. There are no coincidences in the plan or purpose of God for your life.

C. Chosen - ("who are chosen")

1. c.f. 1 Peter 2:9-10.
2. "according to the foreknowledge of God the Father"  
c.f. Ephesians 1:3-5; John 15:16.  
c.f. Romans 8:28-30 ('Golden Chain of Salvation').
3. Man's Responsibility to Believe  
c.f. Romans 10:9-13; John 3:16.
4. Hell was created for the Devil and the fallen angels (demons).  
*"Then He will also say to those on His left, 'Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels'" (Matthew 25:42).*
5. QUESTION: How do these things work together?  
(Divine Sovereignty vs. Human Responsibility)  
ANSWER: It would be wrong to hold one doctrine over the other, because the Bible clearly teaches both!  
c.f. Romans 11:33-36.

D. Being Sanctified - ("sanctifying") - *consecration, separation, holiness*

1. You are a "Work In Progress."
2. The sanctification process immediately began at the moment of your justification (when God imputed His righteousness to you when you trusted in Jesus as your Savior).
3. Part of your Heavenly Identity is your being molded and shaped into the image of Jesus Christ.

E. Obedient - ("to obey")

1. Obedience to Jesus Christ is the effect or by-product of being

chosen by God and sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

2. c.f. Ephesians 2:10.
3. c.f. Matthew 28:19-20.

F. Blood-Sprinkled

1. c.f. Exodus 24:1-8 - (Jewish people affirming their covenant with God...publicly, with one voice...declaring absolute and total allegiance to all the words which God had commanded.)
2. Part of your Heavenly Identity is that you would be public and vocal about your willingness to identify as a Bible-believing, Christ-honoring Christian!
3. c.f. Hebrews 9:17-22.
4. QUESTION: How have you been doing lately in your willing, blood-sprinkled obedience to God's Word?

G. Recipient - ("*grace and peace be yours*")

1. "*grace*" - unmerited favor; something we don't deserve.
2. "*peace*" - to no longer be an enemy of God.
3. "*be yours in the fullest*" -
  - a. The "fullest measure" means that there is no potential for even more grace and peace —> that God literally gave you every ounce of grace and peace necessary.
  - b. "measure" - God has a very BIG measuring cup!

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Application Questions:

- 1) As an alien (sojourner) in this world, what do you believe is God's plan for you here on earth? What is God calling you to do, and who is He calling you to serve?
- 2) Have you ever thought about why God "scattered" you to live where you live? Does it make you feel more confident to know that God has everything already figured out for your life?
- 3) Does the fact that God chose you from eternity past upset you at all? How do you personally define Divine Sovereignty and Human Responsibility?
- 4) Describe a time when you went through a major "moment of sanctification," when God was maturing you spiritually through a difficult ordeal in your life.
- 5) If Christians are called and made to be obedient, why do we so often fall into seasons of disobedience? What are some things we can do to ensure we live more obediently, going forward?
- 6) What does the imagery of being "blood sprinkled" bring to your mind? Do you need to rededicate your life to God to be fully submitted to Him and His Word?
- 7) If grace and peace are the believer's in the fullest measure, why do our lives so often seem to be out of control and lack peace or mercy?