

## *Standing Fast in the True Grace of God*

I Peter 1:1-2

Introduction: Peter and his Message

Introduction to the Letter: Peter is writing a letter to displaced believers encouraging them and testifying to them concerning the true grace of God in order that they may stand fast in that grace (I Peter 5:12).

Introduction to the Passage: Peter addresses the letter to believers who are resident aliens in northern Asia Minor. Using the Trinity as a foundation, Peter sets forth the position, the progress, and the purpose of the believer.

- I. The Position of the Believer
  - A. Resident aliens
  - B. Chosen by God
  - C. According to God the Father's Foreknowledge
  - D. Peter's Experience (Mark 1:16-17 and John 1:40-42; Mark 3:13-4)
  
- II. The Progress of the Believer
  - A. Being set apart by the Spirit
  - B. Peter's Experience (Mark 3:3-14; Acts 2:1-4; 14)
  
- III. The Purpose of the Believer
  - A. For Obedience to Jesus Christ
  - B. For the Sprinkling with Jesus Christ's Blood (Exodus 24:8)
  - C. Peter's Experience (Mark 8:31-33; 14:29-31; John 21:15-19)

Conclusion: As believers our position should not be based on our place in this world but on our position in Christ. As believers we need to see our lives as a work in progress not through our efforts and plans but through the tender care and power of the Holy Spirit. As believers we are placed and set apart for a purpose.

The Questions and Application: How do you love the Lord Jesus Christ? Is your love based on your own best interests or is your love based on a common interest with God?

