

1 Peter 1:1-12 **Greeting to the Dispersion – Living Hope Revealed**

Greeting to the Elect Pilgrims

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.

Begotten to a living Hope

³ 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, ⁴ to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵ who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Power to rejoice in tribulation – Hope for the Salvation of your Souls

⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷ that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, ⁸ whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, ⁹ receiving the end of your faith — the salvation of your souls.

Prophets and Angels Desire to Understand

¹⁰ Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, ¹¹ searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.

Revealed to us

¹² To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven — things which angels desire to look into.

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Facts Revealed:

Greeting to the Elect Pilgrims [1 Peter 1:1-2]

✠ Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ. [1 Peter 1:1]

✧ Peter was called and named an Apostle by Jesus Himself. [Luke 6:13-16]

✠ To the pilgrims of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia. [1 Peter 1:1]

✧ Jews had been scattered through all the Roman empire from the time of the Greek and Roman conquest called the Dispersion. Churches had spread across the territory from the ministry of Paul, Barnabas, and Silas who always went to the Jews first in every area.

✧ **Pontus** is a Roman province on the south shore of the Black Sea.

✧ **Galatia** is a Roman province south of Pontus.

✧ **Cappadocia** is a Roman province east of Galatia.

✧ **Asia** was the western most portion of Asia Minor along the east shore of the Aegean Sea.

- ✧ **Bithynia** is the Roman province located along the south shore of the Black Sea west of Pontus.
- ✧ These are all in the western half of today's Turkey, among which are all the churches addressed in chapters 2 & 3 of Revelation.
- ✧ 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. [\[1 Peter 1:2\]](#)
 - ✧ All the Believers are called "Elect."
 - ✧ They became the Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the father, it was His plan before the beginning of creation.
 - ✧ They are Elect in the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit.
 - ✧ They were sanctified by the cleansing power of the blood of Jesus Christ.
 - ✧ They were Elect for the purpose of obedience to the commandments of Jesus.
 - ✧ Grace to you and peace be multiplied. A very common greeting of the Saints.

Begotten to a living Hope [\[1 Peter 1:3-5\]](#)

- ✧ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
 - ✧ God demonstrated His great mercy when He begot us to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.
 - ✧ Hope for our own resurrection sprang to life when Jesus was raised from the dead, giving us confidence that the promise of our resurrection will certainly be fulfilled as stated.
 - ✧ We will be raised to an incorruptible inheritance that is undefiled and cannot fade away.
 - ✧ Our inheritance is reserved in Heaven for us.
 - ✧ By the power of God we are kept through faith for Salvation which will be revealed in the last time.

Power to rejoice in tribulation – Hope for the Salvation of your Souls [\[1 Peter 1:6-9\]](#)

- ✧ We greatly rejoice in our Salvation, even while we are grieved by various trials.
 - ✧ The genuineness of our faith though tested by fire is more valuable than gold that perishes.
 - ✧ The goal of the test of our faith is that it may result in praise, honor, and glory at the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - ✧ We endure the testing by faith in Christ whom we can not see, yet the knowledge of His Salvation causes us to endure out of love for what He has done to provide it.
 - ✧ Though we don't see Him now, because we believe His Word, we rejoice with inexpressible joy filled with glory, knowing the reward we will receive in the end because of our faith. That reward is the Salvation of our souls.
 - ✧ Jesus set the example;

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto **Jesus**, the author and finisher of our faith, **Who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.** [\[Hebrews 12:1-2\]](#)

Prophets and Angels Desire to Understand [\[1 Peter 1:10-11\]](#)

- ✧ When prophets of old received messages concerning our Salvation in Christ Jesus, they searched Scriptures carefully to ascertain what manner and time the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when He testified beforehand of the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.
 - ✧ The message of Salvation in Christ Jesus was revealed to the prophets of old.

- ✧ The gospel message was veiled in the context of other pertinent messages of their time and following.
- ✧ The Holy Spirit Who gave them the messages was the Spirit of Christ.
- ✧ They were filled with the Spirit because the Spirit was in them.
- ✧ The messages they received regarding our Salvation were accompanied with revelations about the Kingdom of God and the eternal New Heaven and Earth yet to come.
- ✧ Because the messages of our Salvation in Christ Jesus was veiled, the prophets sought diligently to understand the time and people to whom the messages applied.

Revealed to us [1 Peter 1:12]

- ✧ To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven — things which angels desire to look into.
- ✧ Even the angels desired to understand what was then being written through the prophets of old, but was veiled, regarding Salvation through Christ.
- ✧ The prophets of old understood that the message of the Gospel was not for their time, but for some future time not then revealed.
- ✧ By the life, death, and resurrection of Christ, it is revealed to us by the Holy Spirit, confirming the words of the prophets.
- ✧ This Gospel message has been reported to us by those who preached to us by the Holy Spirit sent from Heaven.
- ✧ Those who wrote the Gospel messages were eye witness of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, or they received their information directly from known eye witnesses as in the Gospel of Luke. [Acts 1:21-22, Luke 1:1-2]