

# 1 Peter 1:1-2

## “Elect Exiles”

**Intro –** One day . . . I got into a fit of musing in my room and stood resting my elbows on the bureau. Looking into the glass, it struck me what an ugly man I was. The fact grew on me and I made up my mind that I must be the ugliest man in the world. It so maddened me that I resolved, should I ever see an uglier, I would shoot him on sight. Not long after this, Andy (lawyer friend) came to town and the first time I saw him I said to myself: "There's the man." I went home, took down my gun, and prowled around the streets waiting for him. He soon came along. "Halt, Andy," said I, pointing the gun at him, "say your prayers, for I am going to shoot you." "Why, what's the matter? What have I done?" "Well, I made an oath that if I ever saw an uglier man than I am, I'd shoot him on the spot. You are uglier, surely; so make ready to die." "Sir, do you really think that I am uglier than you?" "Yes." "Well, Sir," said Andy deliberately and looking me squarely in the face, "if I am any uglier, fire away." Abraham Lincoln

Its important to know your author and audience.....

Peter's big idea is that Christians are "exiles" on mission for Jesus in a world that is not their home. Consequently, their life is filled with trial. God uses trial for much good in us, for us, and through us. Lets meet the Author and Audience of our study...

### I. The Author – 1:1a

Peter – *Kephas* - Simon, Jesus changed his name

- a. Apostle .....
- b. Bold, brash, foolish
- c. Broken, humbled, spirit filled, Shepherd!

Events in Peters life – Called at the waters edge

Invited by his brother Andrew.....walked on water

Became 1<sup>st</sup> Apostle.....Christ got into his boat

Spoke the words of God.....Pentecost

Denied the Lord.....Matt.26:29

Restored by Christ.....John 21:15

### II. The Audience – 1:1a-2

- a. Elect Exiles of the Dispersion (Northern Turkey)
- b. The Elect: - *eklektos* ... don't let this word scare you.....
  - i. Means Chosen – this term is most often used to describe God's own
    1. it's an encouragement
    2. it's a reassurance of God's love

(Listen to Ezekiel describe this beautiful truth)

“And as for your birth, on the day you were born your cord was not cut, nor were you washed with water to cleanse you, nor rubbed with salt, nor wrapped in swaddling cloths. No eye pitied you, to do any of these things to you out of compassion for you, but you were cast out on the open field, for you were abhorred, on the day that you were born. "And when I passed by you and saw you wallowing in your blood, I said to you in your blood, 'Live!' I said to you in your blood, 'Live!' I made you flourish like a plant of the field. And you grew up and became tall and arrived at full adornment. Your breasts were formed, and your hair had grown; yet you were naked and bare. "When I passed by you again and saw you, behold, you were at the age for love, and I spread the corner of my garment over you and covered your nakedness; I made my vow to you and entered into a covenant with you, declares the Lord GOD, and you became mine. Then I bathed you with water and washed off your blood from you and anointed you with oil. I clothed you also with embroidered cloth and shod you with fine leather. I wrapped you in fine linen and covered you with silk. And I adorned you with ornaments and put bracelets on your wrists and a chain on your neck. And I put a ring on your nose and earrings in your ears and a beautiful crown on your head. Thus you were adorned with gold and silver, and your clothing was of fine linen and silk and embroidered cloth. You ate fine flour and honey and oil. You grew exceedingly beautiful and advanced to royalty. And your renown went forth among the nations because of your beauty, for it was perfect through the splendor that I had bestowed on you, declares the Lord GOD. Ezekiel 16:4-14

Although born helpless & hopeless and vulnerable they were given life through God's electing love

- c. Exiles – parepidemos (sojourners by the side of native) ..of the Dispersion – exiles of a different sort – “normative state of any follower of Jesus, so long as he or she remains in this world.”

This world is not our home

In salvation we are awakened to the truth that we no longer belong to this dying world....yet we are in this world....

Dispersion diaspora ..(scattered)– scattering of God's people after the stoning of Steven. God's strategy to get going

John 7:35 – Where is he going to go? (Jesus said I wont be here long) in the dispersion with the Greeks?

C.S Lewis – At present we are on the outside of the world, the wrong side of the door. We discern the freshness and purity of morning, but they do not make us fresh and pure. We cannot mingle with the splendors we see. But all of the leaves of the New Testament are rustling with the rumor that it will not always be so. Some day, God willing, we shall get in”

Ah Peter is truly speaking about our Identity in Christ!

“Our soul rises in praise and falls in sorrow on the same afternoon “according to the foreknowledge of God the Father.” We became God's beloved and yet are carried off into exile like Daniel of old “in the sanctification of the Spirit.” We remain outside of the world in which we live “for

obedience to Jesus Christ." And we are all these things as a fragrant offering in Christ's blood.  
Kent Hughes

Peter's big idea is that Christians are "exiles" on mission for Jesus in a world that is not their home. Consequently, their life is filled with trial. God uses trial for much good in us, for us, and through us. In particular, Peter gives us four guiding principles for Christian trial:

Peter uses three concrete nouns to lay a solid foundation for the entire letter

- ◆ Elect
- ◆ Exiles
- ◆ Of the Dispersion

He then explains how these concrete nouns came to be.....

ELECT

According to  
The foreknowledge  
Of God the Father

EXILES

in the sanctification  
of the Spirit

DISPERSION

for obedience to Jesus Christ and  
for sprinkling with his blood

Peter's mortars his thoughts in the ingredients of a Trinitarian formula

We are this way

- ◆ According to the foreknowledge of God the *Father*
- ◆ In the sanctification of the *Spirit*
- ◆ For obedience to *Jesus Christ* and for the sprinkling with his blood."

The Cross- Heb. 9:13

In the strongest way possible, Peter has told us: The Lord God, the Creator of the heavens and the earth, is behind all of this. The hidden counsel of the Eternal Trinity has planned for us to be known as his "elect exiles" And he has done all of this through the sprinkling of the blood of Jesus.

So take heart....be encouraged....Christians are those who are chosen by God and called to live in this world.