

I PETER  
HOLY AND  
HOPE-FILLED LIVING  
IN A HOSTILE WORLD

## BACKGROUND OF I PETER

- Written by the Apostle Peter!

With Silas (Silvanus), 5:12

- From “Babylon” (“code” for Rome?), 5:13.
- Date: ~ 63-64 A.D., during the reign of Nero, but possibly before the fire in Rome, summer of 64 A.D., which ignited intense Roman persecution of Christians.

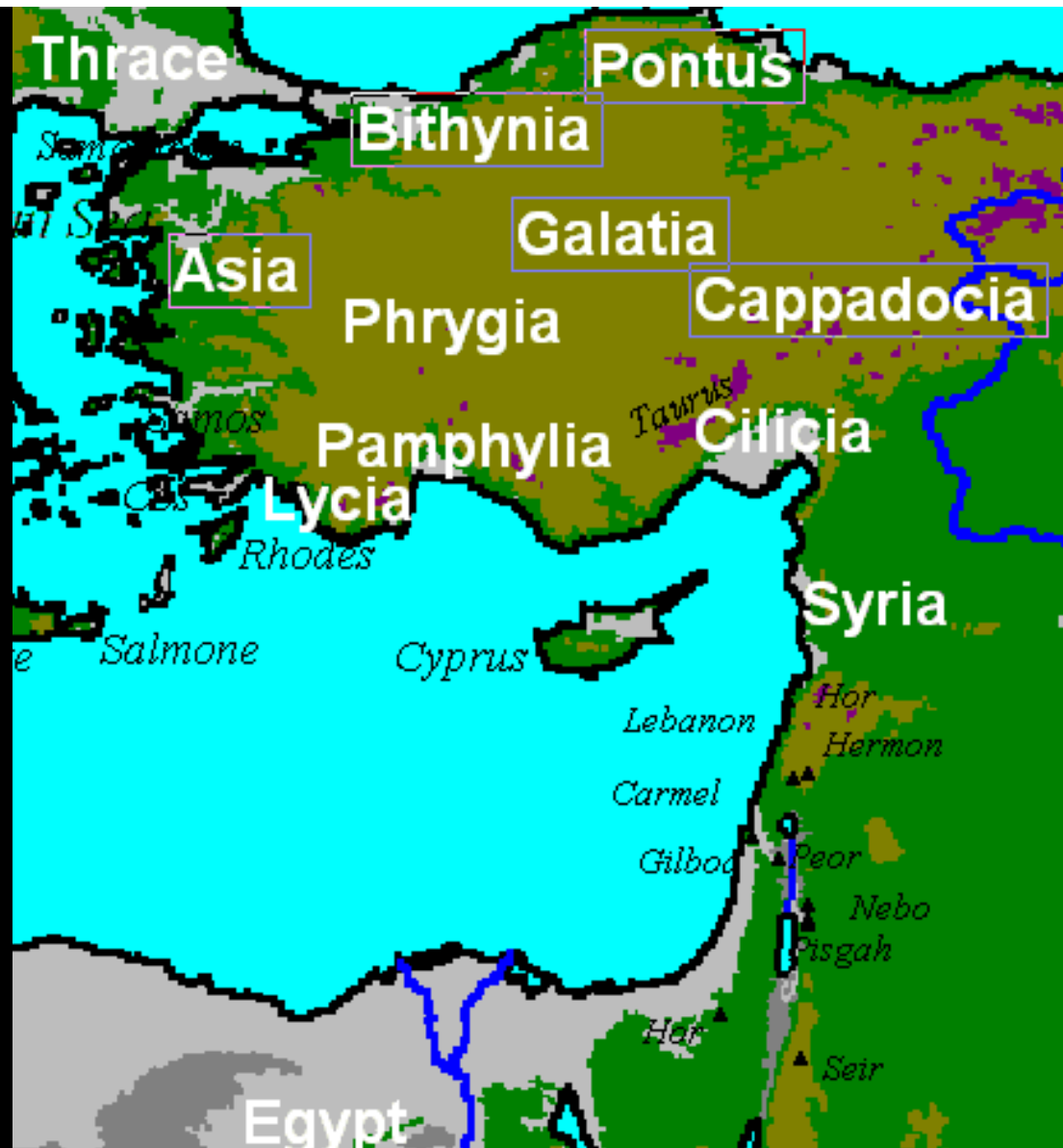
## BACKGROUND OF I PETER

- The Recipients...

“elect sojourners of the diaspora”

“**Diaspora**” was a technical term that was used to describe Jews who were scattered throughout the known world outside of Palestine!

Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia



# I PETER: HOLY AND HOPE-FILLED LIVING IN A HOSTILE WORLD

- **Holiness** (sanctification): 1:2, 15-16; 2:5, 9; 3:5, 15.
- **Hope**: 1:3, 13,21; 3:5, 15
- **Conduct**: 1:15, 18; 2:12; 3:1, 2, 16.
- **Persecution and suffering**: 1:6; 2:12, 20; 3:9, 14, 16, 17; 4:12-14, 16, 19; 5:9-10

## Similarities between 1<sup>st</sup> Century Asia Minor and 21<sup>st</sup> Century USA:

- Christians are a minority!
- The Christian Worldview is in the minority!
- Christianity is in “disfavor.”
- Christians are being persecuted for their faith!

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ.

We are not apostles...  
but we ARE Ambassadors for Christ!  
Which similarly implies...

1. A Sender
2. A “Sendee” ...one who is sent.
3. A message or mission.

So we can “identify” with Peter, the writer, the  
Apostle of Jesus Christ



Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,  
to the elect sojourners

**ELECT:**

We were chosen by God, for salvation, before the  
foundation of the world!

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,  
to the elect sojourners

SOJOURNERS:

We don't "belong" to this world...our citizenship is in heaven, from which we are eagerly awaiting our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ!

Until He comes, we should keep ourselves  
"unstained" by the world!

Titus 2:11-14; James 1:27.

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,  
to the elect strangers

of the Diaspora

- of Pontus,
- Galatia,
- Cappadocia,
- Asia, and
- Bithynia,

- **according** to the foreknowledge of God the Father,
- **in** the sanctification of the Spirit,
- **unto** obedience and the sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ.

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,  
to the elect strangers

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- of Pontus,
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- **according** to the foreknowledge of **God the Father**,
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Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,  
to the elect strangers

of the Diaspora

- of Pontus,
- Galatia,
- Cappadocia,
- Asia, and
- Bithynia,

(who are saved)

- according to the foreknowledge of God the Father,
- in the sanctification of the Spirit,
- unto obedience and the sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ.

## Foreknowledge of God the Father...

It means more than just “to know beforehand” ...THAT would just be omniscience.

“Foreknowledge” speaks of a personal, intimate knowledge. It always describes something that God knows ahead of time because He has decreed it!

- Romans 8:29; 11:2
- I Peter 1:2, 20

God “foreknows” us because He **CHOSE** us!

# Sanctification of the Spirit...

To “Sanctify” means “to set apart as holy.”

At the time of salvation, the Holy Spirit “set us apart” as holy to God!

- I Corinthians 1:1-2.

**Because of this, we are “saints”!!!**

- II Thessalonians 2:13-14

Unto Obedience...

(come back to in a minute!)



# Unto the sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ...

Peter probably has 2 ideas in mind...

1. Allusion to Passover, that not only did the blood of the lamb have to be shed...it had to be APPLIED to the doorpost and lintel!
2. Allusion to the tabernacle, furnishings, and priests, that they were all *cleansed* by having the blood of a lamb sprinkled on them!

**We are both “priests” AND the Temple!!!**

## Unto Obedience...

NOTE that we are not saved BY obedience, but “unto” obedience!

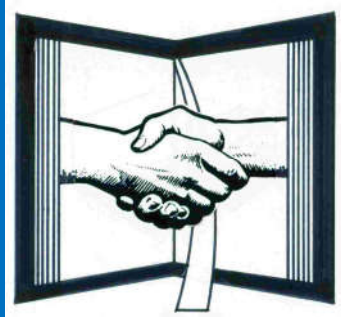
Because we are saved, we are now able... and expected...to obey!

NOTE how this beautifully agrees with Paul in Ephesians 2:8-10.

Like the believers Peter is writing to, we can know that we also have been...

- Chosen and foreknown by God the Father, for salvation, before the foundation of the world!
- Sprinkled with the blood of Jesus Christ!
- Sanctified by the Holy Spirit!
- Saved...to obey!

Because of  
God's work for us  
at salvation,  
we can have grace and peace  
in fullest measure!



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