#### **BIBLE STUDY ON 1PETER**

#### **BIBLE STUDY 1**

### Read 1Peter chapter 1

- Q1. To whom was the letter addressed? Were they Jews, Gentiles or both (v1)?
- Q2. What is meant by the word 'elect'? What happened to the elect (v2)?
- Q3. Read Leviticus 1.1-5, and Leviticus 17.11. What was the purpose of the sacrifice system? Why was the blood sprinkled before the Lord?
- Q4 Read Hebrews 9.11-28 and 1John 1.7. What does Peter mean by, `And sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ` (v2)? What does this mean for us?
- Q5. What is hope (v3)? Read Hebrews 6,17-20, 1Thessalonians 5.8, Romans 5.3-5 and Hebrews 11.1 What does Peter mean by, `A living hope (v3)?
- Q6. What is our inheritance (v5&6)? Read Galatians 3,20-29.
- Q7. How does Peter view the trials faced by believers (v6&7)?
- Q8. What is the end product of our faith?
- Q9. What do verses 10-12 have to say about the prophets and the process of inspiration from the Holy Spirit?
- Q10. What does Peter mean by, 'Gird up the loins of your mind' (v13)?
- Q11. What advice does Peter give the believers to whom he is writing (v14&15)? Read Romans 12.1&2. How do we go about putting this into practice?
- Q12. We are called to have a 'holy fear of God'. What underpins this (v18-21)? From what state did God's grace rescue us (V18)?
- Q.13 How does Peter say our souls were purified (v22)? What should this lead to (v22)?
- Q14. What does Peter say about the word of God (v23&25)?
- Q15. What does the last part of verse 25 say about the word? Does this mean that the gospel message is also eternal?

## Read 1Peter chapter 2

- Q1. What is Peter's advice for spiritual growth (v1&2)?
- Q2. Jesus is described as a living stone (v4) and a cornerstone (v6&7). What is a cornerstone? See Ephesians 2.18-22.
- Q3. How does Peter view the believer (v5)? What role does Jesus play in this spiritual house? See Ephesians 2.21&22.
- Q4. Today, we have many mainstream churches led by `ordained priests`. What does Peter say about all believers (v9)? What is our function in this role?
- Q5. What do we deduce from verse 11? Where is our true home? Read Hebrews 11.10 and Revelation chapter 21 &22,1-5.
- Q6. Peter calls on believers to, `Abstain from fleshly lusts that war against the soul`(v11). Read 1John 2.15&16. What are these lusts that war against the soul?
- Q7. How should our lives be lived, and why (v12)?
- Q8. How should we respond to those in authority (v13-16)? See also Romans 13.1-7. Are there occasions when we defy those in authority, and how should we do it? See Acts 4.6-31.
- Q9. What attitude does Peter suggest we take when suffering unjustly (v18-20)?
- Q10. How did Jesus react when punished unjustly? Why did He let it happen (V21-25)? See Hebrews 12.2.
- Q11. Read Hebrews 12.3-11. Some suffering is discipline from the Lord. What is its purpose (v11)?
- Q12 Peter describes Jesus as, `The Shepherd and Overseer of your souls` (v25). What does this mean?

### Read chapter 3

- Q1. How should wives behave and why?
- Q2. In verses 3&4, Peter contrasts outward beauty with an inner nature. How does this advice apply today?
- Q3. In verse 7 Peter advises husbands to, `live with them with understanding, giving honour to the wife as the weaker vessel`. What did he mean by this?
- Q4. In the same verse Peter refers to wives being heirs, together with the husbands, of the grace of life. What does this tell us about God's view of marriage?
- Q5. Read Malachi 2.13-16. Why might a husband's prayers be hindered if he treats his wife wrongly (1Peter 3.7)?
- Q6. What advice does Peter have for those in the body of Christ (v8&9)?
- Q7. What does Peter say about persecution (v14)? See also Matthew 5.10-12.
- Q8. In verse 15, we are told to, `Sanctify the Lord in your heart`. What does this mean and how do we do it?
- Q9. We are told, `Always be prepared to give a defence to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear`. How might we do this:
  - 1. Preaching the gospel
  - 2. Sharing about creation
  - 3. Sharing about future events as revealed in scripture
  - 4. The nature of God as revealed in scripture
- Q10. In commenting on Jesus' death and resurrection, Peter goes on to say, 'By whom (the Holy Spirit) He went and preached to the spirits in prison'. What might this mean? Is he talking about fallen angels or the spirits of dead people? See Luke15.19-31, Luke 23.39-43, Jude 6.
- Q11.What does Peter say about Noah's ark and baptism? See also Romans 6.3-5 and Matthew 28.18-

## Read chapter 4

- Q1. Peter makes the extraordinary statement in verse 1: "He who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin." What does he mean by this and what reason does he give?
- Q2. What does this letter reveal about the behaviour of those who live according to the flesh (1Peter 4.3,4,14 & 1Peter 3.16)? Why might the gospel be offensive to them?
- Q3What did Peter mean by; "The end of all things is at hand (V7)?
- Q4. What is the most important aspect of Christian behaviour (v8)? Peter uses the Greek word `Agape`, in this verse, meaning totally self-sacrificing love, as shown by Jesus. How might we do this?
- Q5. Read 1John 4.20. What does scripture say about someone who does not love like this?
- Q6. Verse 10 says: "As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." What gifts is Peter talking about and how do we act as stewards of the manifold grace of God? See 1Corinthians 12.12-26 & 14.26.
- Q7. What was Peter's advice about persecution and suffering (V12-19)?
- Q8. What did Peter mean by: "Judgement begins at the household of God" (v17)? Look again at verse 1. Does this give an explanation?

## Read Chapter 5

- Q1. How does Peter see the responsibilities of leadership in the church (V1-4)? See also Ezekiel 34.1-4, Acts 20.28-31 and Hebrews 13.17. Compare with 3John 9-10. What should be the main aim of elders?
- Q2. What attitude should younger believers display (v5);
  - 1. To the elders?
  - 2. To other believers?
- Q3. How does God respond to this? What place does pride have in the Christian life? See Jeremiah 9.23-24 and 1Peter2.9.
- Q4. Verses 6&7 go together in this chapter. What can we learn from them? See also, Isaiah 26.3, Matthew 11.28-39 and Philippians 4.6-7. Are we too prone to worry?
- Q5 Peter portrays the Devil as, `A roaring lion, seeking who he may devour`. How are we to resist him (v8-9)?
- Q6. Read James 4.6-10 Does this passage teach us more about the devil (V7)? What advice does James give believers?
- Q7. How does Peter pray for the saints (v10)? How can we be made perfect? Does 1Peter 4.1 indicate what He might mean by this?

## Bible Study Notes and Questions on the Second Letter of Peter

**Overview:** This letter was written by Peter shortly before his death in about 67AD (1:14-15). He wrote this letter to remind believers to be grounded in the knowledge of the saving truth in Jesus Christ; and to warn them of the counterfeit teaching at that time.

**Chapter 1:** Peter exhorted the believers to grow in the knowledge of God reminding them of things they already knew. Believers must strengthen their faith to make their calling sure. Peter had been an eyewitness of Christ's glory and had stressed that the prophetic word in scripture had come from God.

**Chapter 2:** Peter warned believers of false prophets and teachers that had led many astray. He has exposed their heretical teaching and morality. There are examples of God having delivered righteous men and the wicked being punished.

**Chapter 3:** Peter reminded believers of what had already been spoken by the holy prophets and of the apostles. God will keep his promises regardless of scoffers who had rejected the word of God. There is the absolute certainty of Jesus Christ returning to earth and the future of a new heaven and a new earth to look forward to. Peter exhorted the believers to holy living.

## **Questions on Chapter One**

# Read chapter 1

- **Q.1)** How did Peter introduce this letter and to which people has Peter addressed? See **1:1-2**.
- Q.2) What has Peter shown that God has given to us in 1:3-4?
- **Q.3)** Show the seven qualities we are to develop in order to grow as believers in Jesus Christ.

See 1:5-7.

- Q.4) What is the result of adding to our faith? See 1:8-11.
- Q.5) What dangers can believers fall in to if they fail to persevere in growing spiritually? Read carefully 1:8-9 & 3:17.
- Q.6) Why did Peter want to remind the readers of things in this letter in 1:12-15?
- Q.7) How did Peter prove he was an eyewitness of the Lord Jesus Christ? See 1:16-18 and also Matthew 17:1-9.
- Q.8) Show that all scripture was given by God in 1:19-21. See 2Timothy 3:14-17.
- Q.9) Read again 1:16-21 and show the infallible proofs of Christianity.

## **Questions on Chapter Two**

## Read chapter 2

- Q.1) What is known of the character of the false prophets and false teachers? Read 2:1-3; 10b-22 and also Deuteronomy 13:1-5; Matthew 7:15-20; Acts 20:28-30; Jude 4-19.
- Q.2) What did the false prophets and teachers teach? See again 2:1-3, 10b-22; 3:3-5; 3:16 and also Jude 4-19. How did Jesus say we would recognise them?
- Q.3) Read carefully 1:2-3, 8; 2:20; 3:17-18 What do we need to do to combat error and deception. See Acts 20:27-31; 2Timothy 2:15; 1John 4:1-6; Jude 3-4.
- Q.4) Who are these angels that sinned, what was their sin and what will be their future? See 2:4 and also

Genesis 6:1-4; Job 38.7, Matthew 25:41; Jude 6;

- **Q.5)** Show how God has dealt with the righteous and unrighteous people as seen in the examples in **2:4-10b**. Note verse 9. Does this shed light on the rapture?
- Q.6) Look carefully at 2:15-16 which refers to Balaam. There is evidence that he had heard clearly from God. Why did Balaam fail to serve the Lord faithfully? It is helpful to read Numbers Chapters 22-25 and also Numbers 31:8; Joshua 13:22; ; Jude 11: Revelation 2:14.
- Q.7) Is there evidence to show that these false prophets and false teachers were never believers in the first place? See 2:1-3; 2:12-19; Matthew 7:15-21; 24:5, 23-26; Jude 19
- **Q.8)** How did the false prophets and false teachers lead people astray to follow them?

See 2:1-3; 2:14-19.

**Q.9)** Read carefully **2:19-22**. Do these verses refer to the spiritual state of believers as a result of being led astray or to people who were never true believers?

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# **Questions on Chapter Three**

# Read chapter3

- Q.1) What did Peter want believers to think as shown in 3:1-2?
- Q.2) What is understood by the scoffers/mockers and how did Peter refute them? See 3:3-7. See also Ps1.1-3 & Proverbs 1.22
- Q.3) Why has God appeared to delay the second coming of Jesus Christ? See 3:3-10 and also Ezekiel 18:23, 32; 33:11.
- **Q.4)** What does Peter reveal of the future of the present world in **3:7-13**?
- Q.5) What is meant by the day of the Lord according to Peter's letter in
- 3:10-12? It is helpful to study the following references: Isaiah 2:12-17;
- 13:6-13,; Joel 1:15-18; 2:1-11,31; Zephaniah 1:14-18; Zechariah

- 14:1-13; 1Thessalonians 5:2,3 2Thessalonians 2:2-4; Revelation 6:12-17.
- Q.6) How are we to live in view of this world coming to an end? See 3:11, 14, 17-18.
- **Q.7)** What is understood by the day of God in **3:12**?
- Q.8) Is it true to say there will be an entirely new heavens and a new earth compared to the one we have at present? See 3:13 and also Isaiah 65:17; 66:22; Revelation 21:1-27; 22:1-5.
- Q.9) Show Peter's attitude to the letters of Paul in 3:15-16.