

The Christian Life

(1 Peter 1)

In the Bible, we find the first letter that the Apostle Peter wrote, we call it 1st Peter, or the 1st epistle of Peter. The Christians that he wrote to needed a lot of encouragement. He wrote the letter because those who received it were experiencing persecution and trials, and hardships, and Peter had to find the words to encourage their faith and their life in Jesus Christ. It's a blessing whenever we receive a word of encouragement from a letter, card or text. The Apostle Peter did just that. No matter where we are in our Christian life, and whatever we are going through, Truth is, we all need to hear this letter too. Your trials and troubles may be different from what these early Christians were going through, but this letter is for us today. "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver" (Proverbs 25:11).

1. _____.

The Apostle Peter begins his letter writing the blessings we have as Christians. We can experience God's grace, peace, and mercy. We are elected by God and born again. We have a living hope that does not fade away, and we are protected by the power of God. All these blessings come by way of God's grace. We are saved by grace (Ephesians 2:8), God blots out our transgressions (Isaiah 43:25), and buries our sins in the depths of the sea (Micah 7:19). These are gifts of His grace. We live under grace (Romans 6:14), and we stand in grace before God (Romans 5:2). We can find grace in times of need (Hebrews 4:16). In our weaknesses we find that God's grace is enough (2 Cor. 12:9-10) and as we humble ourselves before God, He gives more grace (James 4:6).

2. _____.

In all gifts and grace that God gives us, what is our response? We respond with our minds sober and set fully of His grace (1 Peter 1:13), we resolve to be holy as He is holy (v. 14), we give to God the reverent fear (worship) that He deserves (v. 17-19) – knowing Jesus gave His precious blood. We obey His command to love one another with fervent and pure love. (v. 22) We live a life of thanksgiving, (thanksgiving), gratitude and gratefulness. The Christian living is who we are in Christ. We are living in Christ and being a Christian is a verb. We live, act, move, we do all things for the glory of God, but that's the point, we do.

Conclusion

2 Peter 1:1-4, Titus 2:11-14