

Purpose of 1 Peter

To teach the readers how to handle their unjust suffering by showing them their identity, their future, and God's supremacy, and by exhorting them to persevere in godliness.

Message of 1 Peter

When you suffer unjustly, trust God, set your hope on Judgment Day, and be steadfast in holy living, fearing God, not men, following the example of Christ. Through faith in Christ, be humble toward the world and pursue harmony in the church, the household/temple/priesthood for worship and for publishing God's praises. Elders, serve eagerly and humbly. Love one another deeply. Wives obey and husbands be considerate.

Peter's Method

38% of the book is direct commands or instructions on how to live. 53% is information about our salvation, the church, and what God has done, and 9% is information about what God is like¹. The latter two categories seem to mostly serve as motivation or instruction for the commands (this are the facts about God and salvation, therefore obey these commands). So the whole of the book is focused on bringing believers to live right.

¹ The breakdown is seen in the color coding of the text at the end of this document.

Scripture Text	Paragraph Summary	Section Summary
Chapter 1	The New Birth	
<p>Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God's elect, strangers in the world, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, 2 who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance.</p>	<p>From Peter to those scattered in NW Asia Minor who were chosen for obedience.</p>	<p>1:1-2:3</p>
<p>3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade-kept in heaven for you, 5 who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. 7 These have come so that your faith-of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire-may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. 8 Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, 9 for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.</p>	<p>Bless God for new birth into hope, inheritance & shielding – causing <u>rejoicing</u> in today's little suffering which proves and purifies your faith in Christ, whom you love and trust without seeing.</p>	<p>Bless God for new birth into hope that overrides suffering, and live in light of what's coming (reward and punishment) – hope, holiness, fear, love, and craving.</p>

<p>10 Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, 11 trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. 12 It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things.</p>	<p>The prophets searched and found that this privileged Gospel was only for you.</p>	
<p>1:13 Therefore, having prepared your minds for action; being self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed.</p>	<p>Therefore, obey these 5 commands: 1) Hope in the coming grace</p>	
<p>14 As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. 15 But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; 16 for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."</p>	<p>2) resisting the old desires in holiness & obedience.</p>	
<p>17 Since you call on a Father who judges each man's work impartially, live your lives as strangers here in reverent fear. 18 For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. 20 He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. 21 Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.</p>	<p>3) Live in fear of the judgment because you were redeemed from the worthless old life by precious blood so that you hope in God.</p>	
<p>22 Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart. 23 For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. 24 For, "All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, 25 but the word of the Lord stands forever." And this is the word that was preached to you.</p>	<p>4) Having purified yourselves through obedience resulting in love, love deeply, because you were born again eternally through the eternal word</p>	

Chapter 2		
2:1 Therefore, have rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. 2 Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow toward your salvation, 3 now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.	5) Having rid yourself of evil, crave spiritual nourishment from God.	
Our Church God's Home		
2:4 As you come to him, the living Stone-rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him- 5 you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 6 For in Scripture it says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame." 7 Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, "The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone," 8 and, "A stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the message-which is also what they were destined for. 9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.	Through coming to him you are being made household/temple/priesthood to offer sacrifices. Capstone Christ crushes unbelievers and is precious to believers, who now have Israel's privileges and task of publishing God's praises.	2:4-10 You are God's people for worship and praise, through faith in the unassailable capstone
The Christian & Culture		
11 Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. 12 Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.	Living among them, separate morally for the sake of your soul and witness, so unbelievers will glorify God at the Second Coming	

<p>2:13 Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every authority instituted among men: whether to the king, as the supreme authority, 14 or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. 15 For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish men. 16 Live as free men, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as servants of God. 17 Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honor the king.</p>	<p>Obey & honor the government to silence the critics for God's honor</p>	<p>2:11-25 Be morally separate and submissive among the world for your soul and God's honor, suffering unjustly like Christ</p>
<p>18 Slaves, submit yourselves to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh. 19 For it is commendable if a man bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because he is conscious of God. 20 But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God.</p>	<p>Slaves obey and respect even harsh masters (suffering for doing good is good).</p>	
<p>21 To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. 22 "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." 23 When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. 24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. 25 For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.</p>	<p>You were called to unjust suffering (because Christ suffered unjustly as an example for us, achieving salvation for us)</p>	

Chapter 3	Wives & Husbands	
<p>3:1 Wives, in the same way be submissive to your husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, 2 when they see the purity and reverence of your lives. 3 Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as braided hair and the wearing of gold jewelry and fine clothes. 4 Instead, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight. 5 For this is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to make themselves beautiful. They were submissive to their own husbands, 6 like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her master. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear.</p>	<p>Wives obey husbands, winning the unbelieving ones through beautiful silent respect & purity</p>	<p>3:1-7 Wives obey with respect and purity, husbands be considerate.</p>
<p>7 Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.</p>	<p>Husbands be considerate so your prayers aren't hindered.</p>	
Harmony in the House		
<p>3:8 Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble. 9 Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.</p>	<p>Within God's house, be harmonious through loving attitudes, repaying good for evil, which is your calling for blessing.</p>	<p>3:8-12 In the church – harmony, not evil speech, for God's blessing</p>
<p>10 For, "Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech. 11 He must turn from evil and do good; he must seek peace and pursue it. 12 For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."</p>	<p>Reject revenge and pursue peace because God only listens to/blesses the righteous</p>	

Suffering for Doing Good		
<p>3:13 Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? 14 But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear what they fear; do not be frightened." 15 But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, 16 keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. 17 It is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">And even hardship for righteousness = blessing – so don't fear suffering – fear God, by making Christ Lord in your heart through hope in His promises of life and good days and favor for those who do right – silencing the slanderers.</p>	<p>3:13-4:19 When they inflict suffering on you, keep your focus on God and Judgment Day where they will be judged and you rewarded. Adopt Jesus' attitude about suffering and trust your Creator. Fear God, not them, hope in Christ, and, above all, keep loving one another by distributing grace through gifts.</p>
<p>18 For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit, 19 through whom also he went and preached to the spirits in prison 20 who disobeyed long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, 21 and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also-not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 22 who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand-with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Jesus was raised in spirit (to the glorious, imperishable life of spiritual realities), and in that condition proclaimed victory over the angels who sinned with women, resulting in the flood. Jesus is exalted above all those powerful spirits, so just as Noah was rescued from the hostile world by the flood, so Jesus rescues us from our persecutors through the clean conscience of baptism.</p>	

Chapter 4		
4:1 Therefore, since Christ suffered IN FLESH , arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because he who has suffered IN FLESH is done with sin. 2 As a result, he does not live the rest of his IN FLESH for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God 3 For you have spent enough time in the past doing the gentiles' will -living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry.	Adopt his attitude about suffering & God's will that put him on the cross (that God's will is better than disgusting temporal pleasures), because suffering helps decrease your sin.	
4 They think it strange that you do not plunge with them into the same flood of dissipation and they heap abuse on you. 5 But they will have to give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead.	The world judges you for not joining them, but God will judge them.	
6 For this is the reason the gospel was preached even to those who are now dead, so that they might be judged according to the pattern of men in IN FLESH , but live according to God IN SPIRIT .	Since Judgment Day is near, God sent preachers so that those condemned by the world for following Christ will be granted life.	
7 The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray.	Since the end is near, avoid agitated thinking (about suffering) and dull thinking (getting bogged down with trivia) so you can properly pray.	
8 Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. 9 Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. 10 just as each has received a gift serving each other as good stewards of the multifaceted grace of God. 11 If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.	Above all, love each other with hospitality and good stewardship of grace through gifts, for Christ's glory	

<p>12 Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. 13 But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. 14 If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. 15 If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. 16 However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name.</p>	<p>Rejoice in your suffering for Christ (not evil), because it's normal, it proves association with Christ, brings future joy & indicates blessedness.</p>	
<p>17 For it is time for judgment to begin with the family of God; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God? 18 And, "If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?" 19 So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.</p>	<p>For suffering for Christ is a judgment that shows us to be his. Their judgment will be far worse. So keep doing good and trust your Creator.</p>	
<p>Chapter 5</p>	<p>Shepherding God's Flock</p>	
<p>5:1 To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder, a witness of Christ's sufferings and one who also will share in the glory to be revealed: 2 Be shepherds of God's flock that is among you, serving as overseers-not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; 3 not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. 4 And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.</p>	<p>Elders, oversee & shepherd willingly and humbly with right motives and you will be rewarded.</p>	<p>5:1-4 Elders, lead eagerly and humbly</p>
	<p>Humility, Peace & Strength</p>	
<p>5 Young men, in the same way be submissive to those who are older. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." 6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. 7 Having cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.</p>	<p>Young men obey elders. Everyone be humble, and God will exalt and care for you.</p>	<p>5:5-14 Be humble, resist Satan, greet one another, stand fast!</p>
<p>8 Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings. 10 And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. 11 To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.</p>	<p>Beware of and resist the devil and the suffering from him and God will super-strengthen you</p>	

<p>12 With the help of Silas, whom I regard as a faithful brother, I have written to you briefly, encouraging you and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand fast in it.</p>	<p>All this is true – stand fast in it!</p>	
<p>13 She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you, sends you her greetings, and so does my son Mark. 14 Greet one another with a kiss of love. Peace to all of you who are in Christ.</p>	<p>Greet each other warmly</p>	

Text of 1 Peter

- Red = information about our salvation, the church, and what God has done (53%)
- Black = commands and instructions on how to live (38%)
- Blue = information about what God is like (9%)

The red and blue sections seem to mostly serve as motivation or instruction for the black sections. So the whole of the book is focused on bringing believers to live right.

1 Peter 1:1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God’s elect, strangers in the world, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, 2 who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance. 3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you, 5 who through faith are shielded by God’s power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. 7 These have come so that your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. 8 Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, 9 for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls. 10 Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, 11 trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. 12 It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things.

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1:18 For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. 20 He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. 21 Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

1:22 Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart.

23 For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. 24 For, “All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, 25 but the word of the Lord stands forever.” And this is the word that was preached to you.

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Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. 7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. 8 Be self-controlled and alert. **Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.** 9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith, **because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.** 10 **And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.** 11 **To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.** 12 **With the help of Silas, whom I regard as a faithful brother, I have written to you briefly, encouraging you and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand fast in it.** 13 **She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you, sends you her greetings, and so does my son Mark.** 14 Greet one another with a kiss of love. **Peace to all of you who are in Christ.**