

Aliens and Strangers: The Life and Letters of Peter

Date	Class	Text	Title	Memory Verse
March 5	Class 1:	Introduction	The Grand Rescue	1 Peter 2:11
March 12	Class 2:	1 Peter 1	Call Yourself an Alien	1 Peter 1:22
March 26	Class 3:	1 Peter 2-3	Walk the Steps of a Stranger	1 Peter 2:21
April 2	Class 4:	1 Peter 4-5	Embrace the Attitude of an Exile	1 Peter 5:8
April 23	Class 5:	2 Peter 1	Grow into Your Destiny	2 Peter 3:9
April 30	Class 6:	2 Peter 2-3	Prepare for Your Departure	Test

EMBRACE TRAINING

Hebrews 5:14 But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have *trained themselves* to distinguish good from evil.

1 Timothy 4:7 Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, *train yourself* to be godly.

1 Corinthians 9:25 Everyone who competes in the games goes into *strict training*. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.

2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and *training in righteousness*.

EXPECTATIONS

- 1) Be on time for each class. (If you miss a class, then listen to recording)
- 2) Take notes.
- 3) Memorize one scripture each week.
- 4) Complete the Test. (Based on scripture memory and questions from lectures)

Class 1: The Grand Rescue

1. Analogy: The Narrow Road

2. Introducing the Johnsons & Zebedees

- Simon, Bar-Jonah (Johnson), Cephas, Peter – the fisherman
- Family: John (father), Andrew (brother), Mother, Wife
- Zebedee (father), Boanerges (Sons of Thunder), John (Apostle of Love), James (Camel Knees)



3. Mark: Peter's Gospel

- The Gospel of Mark (~55 AD)
- "John, also called Mark" (Acts 12:12,25,15:37), cousin of Barnabas (Colossians 4:10)
- "My son, Mark" (1 Peter 5:13)
- Papias (~100 AD) and Iranaeus (~200 AD) attested to Peter's influence on Mark's Gospel

4. 1 Peter: Instructions for Strangers and Aliens

- *Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul.* 1 Peter 2:11
- To the scattered, sanctified, suffering strangers (1:1-2)
 - Scattered across Asia, Bythinia, Cappadocia, Galatia, Pontus (Turkey)
 - Sanctified "elect" "royal priesthood" "holy" (1:1-2; 2:9-10)
 - Suffering "all kinds of trials" (1:8; 2:21; 3:17; 4:1,12-19; 5:9)
 - Strangers, aliens, foreigners, & exiles (1:1,17; 2:11-12; 4:4,12)

- The Bible Knowledge Commentary on 1 Peter
 - “a handbook written for ambassadors to a hostile foreign land”
 - God’s elect not by chance or human design but by God’s sovereign, unconditional choice... (1 Peter 1:1)
 - Chosen as strangers in the world whose citizenship is in heaven
 - Living in a pagan society as aliens and sojourners*
 - **parepidemois* emphasizes both foreign nationality and temporary residence
 - Displaced persons whose thoughts often turn toward their true home
- To specific groups in the church
 - New Christians (1:3)
 - Slaves (2:18)
 - Wives (3:1-6); Husbands (3:7)
 - Elders and the younger (5:1-7)
 - All of you (3:8ff, 5:5ff)

5. 2 Peter: Last Words and Warnings

- Last Words of Peter
 - Slave and apostle of Jesus (1:1)
 - Written ~65 AD, before Peter’s crucifixion
 - Eyewitness of his majesty (1:16-18)
- Warnings that Parallel Jude
 - Don’t stagnate (1:5-11 | Jude 3-4)
 - Avoid false teachers (2:1, 3:3-4 | Jude 4-13)
 - Prepare for the Day of the Lord (3:1-10 | Jude 6)
 - Live a holy life (3:11-15 | Jude 20-23)
 - Be on your guard (3:17-18 | Jude 24-25)



6. Our Pilgrimage

...you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down from our ancestors (1 Peter 1:18)

- Do not grow weary
- Never forget the privilege of pilgrimage (1 Peter 1:3-9; 2:9)
- Fight for our connection with God
 - The Father’s Voice: The Scripture (1 Peter 1:23-25, 2 Peter 1:20-21)
 - The Son’s Steps: Our example – Christ, the Morning Star (1 Peter 2:21)
 - The Holy Spirit’s Work: Our Sustainer (1 Peter 1:2,4:14)
- Peter’s last warning is a wake-up call – Revelation revealed their future
 - Ephesus lost its first love
 - Pergamum and Thyatira tolerated sexual immorality
 - Sardis had a reputation but was dead
 - Philadelphia had little strength
 - Laodicea was lukewarm: arrogant and self-reliant

How will we maintain our zeal, conviction, passion and distinction in the face of all these challenges?

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