

I P E T E R

How Does God Shape His People?

Trinity Dallas Study Notes

1 Peter: How Does God Shape His People?

Part Three – 1 Peter, Chapter 2: God Has Something for Everyone

Overview of the Book of 1 Peter and Chapter 2

1. Salvation – *growing in your **Salvation*** (1 Peter 2:1:2-10)
2. Submission – *a command for **Submission*** (1 Peter 2:11-3:12)
3. Suffering – *the call to and purpose of **Suffering*** (1 Peter 3:13-5:1)

If Peter were to answer a question, it would be: How does God shape his people?

There are Three Key Themes in 1 Peter 2

- Growing in our salvation
- Submission to God, rulers and authorities
- Jesus as our ultimate example

1. 1 Peter 2:1-12 – Growing in Our Salvation

1 Peter 2:1 *“Therefore,”*

- A continuation from Chapter 1
- You have sincere love for others
- You have been born again
- You are a new creation
- THEREFORE...

“...rid yourselves of all malice (evil, wickedness) and all deceit (trickery, deception, manipulation), hypocrisy, envy and slander of every kind”

- “RID” not put in storage, trash, burn them up!
- It’s good to TREAT YOURSELF as long as you RID YOURSELF
- He won’t do it for us
- And don’t try to do it for someone else!

- When we read verses like this, pause and invite the Holy Spirit to convict you and show you if these things are surfacing in your life
- Pray this prayer:
 - Holy Spirit we pause and thank you for your role in our lives. Thank you for convicting us of sin and a righteousness to do what is right. Please speak to us right now and reveal if there is any malice, hypocrisy, deceit, envy, slander of any kind at work in our lives. Please show us. Give us the strength and courage to turn from it and do what's right. We invite you now to do what only you can do. Amen

² *“Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, ³ now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.”*

- Newborn babies eat every 3-4 hours!
- Desperate for sustenance
- Pure spiritual milk is how we grow our salvation
- When newborns aren't hungry, something is wrong

⁴ *“As you come to him, the living Stone (Jesus) –rejected by humans 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.*

- The old sacrificial system is no more
- We are all made priests and ministers of God
- We all bring sacrifices and present them to God

⁶ *“For in Scripture it says: “See, I lay a stone in Zion (the dwelling place of God's people), a chosen and precious cornerstone (Jesus), and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame. ⁷ Now to you who believe, this stone is precious.*

- Jesus is **our precious stone**
- Jesus is **the “Rock Israel”** in Genesis 49:24
- Jesus is the **rock that followed** the Israelites in the desert, 1 Corinthians 10:4
- He is the **rock Moses spoke to** that issued forth water in the desert to refresh God's people
- Jesus is the **“stone” in Daniel 2**, of whom it was prophesied would crush the kingdoms of the World, becoming a huge mountain that filled the entire earth!

- And Jesus is **the cornerstone**, on which God's chosen people are anchored and established
- And He is the **rock that we cling to** for salvation during the trials and storms of this life
- Different kind of rock: Mount Rushmore



Ps. Matthew and son, Daniel, at Mount Rushmore

- Mount Rushmore:
 - Carved in granite which erodes one inch per 10,000 years!
 - Those Presidents will last 7 million years!
- But Jesus is the **Rock Eternal** in Isaiah 26:4

But to those who do not believe, The stone builders rejected has become the cornerstone

⁸and, A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.”

- They stumble because they disobey the message – which is also what they were destined for
- The religious leaders rejected him and their disbelief led to their downfall

⁹ But you (those who embraced Jesus) are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

- We weren't born into this faith, praise God we were brought into it!

- We are God's special possession,
- Just like Jesus is precious to us, we are special to Him!

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.*

¹¹ *Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul.*

- Foreigners, exiles, "aliens" this is not our home
- This is how Peter **began** the chapter

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.*

- "Live such good lives..." this is the transition

2. 1 Peter 2:11-25 – Submission to Rulers and Authorities

¹³ *Submit yourselves, for the Lord's sake, to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, ¹⁴ or to the governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do no wrong and to command those who do right. ¹⁵ For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people.*

- God's will
- Your local and federal leaders
- Your **mayor**
- The **President**
- Honor & submit vs fear & obey

¹⁶ *Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves.*

- We are free and owned at the same time
- He knows how to take care of His stuff

¹⁷ *Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.*

¹⁸ *Slaves, in reverent fear of God submit yourselves to your masters, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh.*

- The Bible doesn't condone slavery
- The antidote for slavery is the Word of God
- Slavery still exists – modern day application = bosses/employees
- **Bow to your sensei!**

- We are called to submit, **for the Lord's sake**

¹⁹ For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are 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.

- Instead of rescuing us from unjust suffering, God commends us for enduring it

3. 1 Peter 2:21-25 – Jesus, Our Example

²¹ *To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving as an example, that you should follow in his steps.*

- Suffering = our calling
- God isn't sending suffering to you, it exists in this evil world, but God does allow it, for us to follow in his footsteps
- Acts 14: 22 prophesies we will endure hardships on the road to Heaven
- Romans 8:28-29, *"More than conquerors.."*

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 cross, 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 the Overseer of your souls*

- We were broken, in need of healing
- Jesus's submission allowed us to be healed
- This was Peter's testimony, panic, fear, hiding

Summary

- The Key Themes of 1 Peter 2
 - Growing in our Salvation
 - Submission to God, rulers and authorities
 - Jesus, our example
- We are being shaped and molded for His purposes and His glory - transformed into His likeness, 2 Corinthians 3:18
- Submission to rulers, authorities and leaders is ultimately submission to God

- Blessed assurance
 - Perfect submission, all is at rest. I rest in my Savior, am happy and blessed. Watching and waiting, looking above. Filled with His goodness, lost in His love

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Have you fully submitted yourself to God by submitting to the authorities and leaders He's allowed in your life? Share an example of where this has been fairly easy for you in the past.**
- 2. Share an example where you have had a hard time in the past (or are currently having a hard time) submitting to the authorities in your life.**
- 3. How do you think God allows the authorities in your life to help shape you?**