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The Chapters of 1 Peter

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1 Peter

SECTION OUTLINE ONE (1 PETER 1)

Peter opens his first letter with an overview of some glorious facts concerning salvation.

- I. THE SOURCE OF OUR SALVATION (1:1-2)
 - A. **We have been chosen by the Father** (1:1-2a).
 - B. **We have been made holy by the Spirit** (1:2b).
 - C. **We are cleansed by the blood of the Son** (1:2c).

- II. THE GUARANTEE OF OUR SALVATION (1:3-5)
 - A. **The proof** (1:3): It is guaranteed by the resurrection of Christ.
 - B. **The permanence** (1:4): It is kept in heaven for us.
 - C. **The power** (1:5): God's mighty power assures us that we will safely arrive in heaven.

- III. THE JOY OF OUR SALVATION (1:6-9)
 - A. **The promise** (1:6): This joy can be ours even in the midst of trials.
 - B. **The products** (1:7-9): Our trials produce a twofold fruit.
 - 1. They increase our faith in God (1:7).
 - 2. They increase our love for God (1:8-9).

- IV. THE OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS AND OUR SALVATION (1:10-12a)
 - A. **What they did not understand** (1:10-11): They could not fully comprehend all their prophecies concerning the future work of the Messiah.
 - 1. In regard to his grief (1:10-11a)
 - 2. In regard to his glory (1:11b)
 - B. **What they did understand** (1:12a): They knew that their prophecies would not be fulfilled until after their deaths.

- V. THE ANGELS AND OUR SALVATION (1:12b): They long to know more about this wonderful subject.

- VI. THE RESPONSE TO OUR SALVATION (1:13-17)
 - A. **In regard to ourselves** (1:13): We are to be self-controlled.
 - B. **In regard to our Savior** (1:14-17)
 - 1. We are to be holy before God (1:14-16).
 - 2. We are to be respectful toward God (1:17).

- VII. THE COST OF OUR SALVATION (1:18-21)
 - A. **The price** (1:18-19)
 - 1. Negative (1:18): It was not purchased with silver or gold.
 - 2. Positive (1:19): It was bought by the precious blood of Jesus.
 - B. **The planning** (1:20-21): Christ was chosen before the foundation of the world to do this.

- VIII. THE VEHICLE OF OUR SALVATION (1:22-25)
 - A. **The new birth** (1:22-23a): One must experience regeneration to be saved.
 - B. **The old book** (1:23b-25): It is God's Word that brings this about.

SECTION OUTLINE TWO (1 PETER 2)

Peter speaks of renouncing, relationships, respect, and a role model.

I. THE RENOUNCING (2:1-3, 11)

A. What we are to renounce (2:1, 11b): We are to rid ourselves of deceit, hypocrisy, envy, slander, and worldliness.

B. What we are to receive (2:2-3): We are to crave pure spiritual milk.

II. THE RELATIONSHIPS (2:4-12)

A. What Christians are (2:5, 9a, 10-11a)

1. We are living stones (2:5a).
2. We are royal priests (2:5b).
3. We are a chosen people (2:9a, 10).
4. We are strangers on earth (2:11a).

B. What Christ is (2:4, 6-8, 9b, 12)

1. He is the living foundation (2:4a).
 - a. He is a precious foundation for believers (2:4b, 7a).
 - b. He is a stumbling block for unbelievers (2:8).
2. He is the cornerstone (2:6, 7b).
3. He is the chosen one (2:4c).
4. He is the judge (2:12).
5. He is the light (2:9b).

III. THE RESPECT (2:13-20): For the Lord's sake, we are to show respect (and submission) to the following parties:

A. Civil authorities (2:13-16)

B. Employers (2:18-20)

C. Everyone (2:17)

IV. THE ROLE MODEL (2:21-25)

A. Who he is (2:21-22): He is our sinless Savior, Jesus Christ.

B. What he did (2:23-24a): He died on Calvary's cross.

C. Why he did it (2:24b-25)

1. That his wounds might heal ours (2:24b)
2. That we might turn to the Shepherd (2:25)

SECTION OUTLINE THREE (1 PETER 3)

Peter talks about appropriate conduct for believers in light of what Christ has done for us.

I. THE CONDUCT OF BELIEVERS (3:1-17)

A. Responsibilities of wives (3:1-6)

1. Peter's exhortation (3:1-5)
 - a. Concerning their behavior (3:1-2): Wives should depend upon their lives more than their lips in witnessing to unsaved husbands.
 - b. Concerning their beauty (3:3-5): Inner beauty is far more important than outer beauty.
2. Peter's example (3:6): He uses Sarah of the Old Testament as a role model.

B. Responsibilities of husbands (3:7)

1. What they are to do (3:7a): Husbands must be considerate of their wives and respect them.
2. Why they are to do it (3:7b): If they fail here, their prayers will not be answered.

C. Responsibilities of all (3:8-17)

1. Live in loving harmony (3:8).
2. Reward both good and evil with good (3:9-14).
3. Worship Christ as Lord, and always be ready to explain your faith (3:15).
4. Be ready to defend your faith (3:16-17).

II. THE CHRIST OF BELIEVERS (3:18-22): Peter describes a fourfold ministry accomplished by the Savior.

A. His death (3:18)

1. The permanence (3:18a): He died for our sins once and for all.

- 2. The purpose (3:18b): He died to reconcile sinners to God.
- B. His journey to the spirit world (3:19-20)**
 - 1. The transgression (3:19): Jesus preached against the sins of these evil spirits.
 - 2. The time (3:20): They committed their wickedness in the days of Noah.
- C. His resurrection (3:21)**
 - 1. The salvation (3:21a): Jesus' resurrection guarantees our redemption.
 - 2. The symbol (3:21b): Water baptism.
- D. His ascension and exaltation (3:22)**

SECTION OUTLINE FOUR (1 PETER 4)

Peter writes, about suffering.

I. THE PURPOSE OF SUFFERING (4:1-11, 15, 17-18)

A. To cleanse and purify the spiritual believer (4:1-11)

- 1. The triumph (4:1-3): Suffering causes sin to lose its power.
- 2. The testimony (4:4-6): The unsaved friends of a new Christian marvel that he does not desire to share their wicked lifestyle as he once did.
- 3. The tenderness (4:7-9): Suffering should develop our love for other believers.
- 4. The talents (4:10-11): We should faithfully employ all of our God-given spiritual gifts.

B. To chasten and punish the carnal believer (4:15, 17-18): God will judge his people.

II. THE PRIVILEGE OF SUFFERING (4:12-14, 16)

A. It is to be expected (4:12): All believers will be allowed to suffer.

B. It is to be esteemed (4:13-14, 16)

- 1. To suffer for Christ means to share his past grief (4:13a, 14a, 16a).
- 2. To suffer for Christ means to share his future glory (4:13b, 14b, 16b).

III. THE PATIENCE IN SUFFERING (4:19): We are to do two things in the hour of pain.

A. We are to commit ourselves to God (4:19b).

B. We are to continue to do good (4:19a).

SECTION OUTLINE FIVE (1 PETER 5)

Peter gives advice for elders and other church members and sends his final greetings.

I. THE APPEAL BY PETER (5:1-11)

A. He writes to the elders in the church (5:1-4).

- 1. The role model (5:1): Peter himself is an elder in his church.
- 2. The responsibilities (5:2-3)
 - a. Feed the flock of God (5:2).
 - b. Lead the flock of God (5:3).
- 3. The reward (5:4): To receive a crown of glory from the head Shepherd himself.

B. He writes to the other members of the church (5:5-11).

- 1. Live as a servant (5:5-7).
 - a. Be in subjection to your superiors (5:5).
 - b. Be in subjection to your Savior (5:6-7).
- 2. Live as a soldier (5:8-9).
 - a. Recognize the enemy (5:8).
 - b. Resist the enemy (5:9).
- 3. Live as a sufferer (5:10-11).
 - a. The duration (5:10): It only lasts for a short time.
 - b. The dynamics (5:11): It makes one strong, firm, and steadfast.

II. THE ASSISTANCE TO PETER (5:12-14): Silas, whom Peter considers a faithful brother, has helped Peter write this letter.