

1 Peter Series

Lesson #001

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Dean Bible Ministries

[www.deanbibleministries.org](http://www.deanbibleministries.org)

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A church steeple is silhouetted against a vibrant sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. The steeple is the central focus of the upper half of the image, with trees and the church roof visible below it.

# 1<sup>ST</sup> PETER

LIVING IN LIGHT  
OF ETERNITY

# 1 PETER: INTRODUCTION

***WHO* wrote 1 Peter?**

***TO WHOM* was the epistle written?**

***FROM WHENCE* was it written?**

***WHY* was it written?**

***WHEN* was it written?**

***WHAT* are the key doctrines, themes, and applications?**

# 1 PETER: AUTHORSHIP

## 1. EXTERNAL EVIDENCE (evidence from outside of the Bible)

**Polycarp (ca. 70–156),**

**Clement of Rome (ca. 88–ca. 97),**

**Ignatius (d. 107),**

**Irenaeus (fl. ca. 175–195),**

**“Epistles of Barnabas” (late 1<sup>st</sup> or early 2<sup>nd</sup> century),**

**Hermas (early 2<sup>nd</sup> century),**

**Clement of Alexandria (ca. 155–ca. 220),**

**Tertullian (ca. 160–225),**

**Theophilus (late 2<sup>nd</sup> cent.)**

# **1 PETER: AUTHORSHIP**

## **2. INTERNAL EVIDENCE (evidence from the Bible)**

**1:1 Identifies himself as “Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ”**

**Statements that are similar to events and instruction specific to Peter in the gospels.**

**John 21:15, “So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, ‘Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?’ He said to Him, ‘Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.’ He said to him, ‘Feed My lambs.’**

**John 21:16, “He said to him again a second time, ‘Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?’ He said to Him, ‘Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.’ He said to him, ‘Tend My sheep.’**

**John 21:17, “He said to him the third time, ‘Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?’ Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, ‘Do you love Me?’ And he said to Him, ‘Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed My sheep.’ ”**

**ποιμαίνω *poimainō* to shepherd, feed**

**1 Peter 5:1, “The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed:**

**1 Peter 5:2, “Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly;**

**1 Peter 5:3, “nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.”**

**ποιμαίνω *poimainō* to shepherd, feed**

**1 Peter 5:5, “Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for ‘God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.’ ”**

**cf., John 13:13–17, humility is the basis for forgiving one another and loving one another**



**Psa. 118:22, “The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.”**

**Matt. 21:42, “Jesus said to them, ‘Have you never read in the Scriptures: “The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This was the LORD’S doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes”?’ ”**

**1 Pet. 2:7, “Therefore, to you who believe, He is precious; but to those who are disobedient, ‘The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.’**

**1 Pet. 2:8, “and ‘A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense.’ They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed.”**

**Acts 4:10, “Let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole.**

**Acts 4:11, “This is the ‘stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone.’ ”**

**God is not a respecter of persons.**

**1 Pet. 1:17, “And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one’s work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear;”**

**Acts 10:34, “Then Peter opened his mouth and said: ‘In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality.’ ”**

# **Christ's resurrection and ascension.**

**1 Pet. 1:21, “who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.”**

**c.f., Acts 2:32–36**

**Christ's death was part of God's plan.**

**1 Pet. 1:20, "He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you."**

**Acts 2:23, "Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death;"**

**1 Pet. 4:5, “They will give an account to Him who is ready to judge the living and the dead.”**

**Acts 10:42, “And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God to be Judge of the living and the dead.”**

**1 Pet. 2:24, “who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.”**

**Acts 5:30, “The God of our fathers raised up Jesus whom you murdered by hanging on a tree.”**

**Acts 10:39, “And we are witnesses of all things which He did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem, whom they killed by hanging on a tree.”**

**ξύλον *xulon* wood, tree**



# 1 PETER: AUTHORSHIP

## 3. THE LIBERALS (evidence from pure rationalistic presuppositions)

The basic presupposition of theological liberalism is *anti-supernaturalism*.

Thus there is no God, unless reason alone can prove it. God, by definition, cannot inspire an inerrant scripture. The human authors of Scripture all made mistakes. The New Testament was authored 150–300 years after the events, thus it was based on legend, and imposed theology.

The testimony of the human authors of Scripture is irrelevant and by definition, unreliable.

# **1 PETER: AUTHORSHIP**

## **3. THE LIBERALS (evidence from pure rationalistic presuppositions)**

- a. 1:1–2 and 4:12–5:1 represent later editions, an anonymous work was made to appear to be a letter authored by the Apostle Peter.**

**EVIDENCE: Absolutely none**

# **1 PETER: AUTHORSHIP**

## **3. THE LIBERALS (evidence from pure rationalistic presuppositions)**

- b. It must have been written after Peter's time since the persecution mentioned is more consistent with that of either Domitian (AD 81–96) or Trajan (AD 98–117).**

**EVIDENCE: Ignores the Neronian persecution**

# **1 PETER: AUTHORSHIP**

## **3. THE LIBERALS (evidence from pure rationalistic presuppositions)**

**C. The Greek is too sophisticated for an uneducated Galilean fisherman.**

**EVIDENCE: Acts 4:13, “uneducated and untrained”**

**REBUTTAL: The context describes someone who did not have rabbinical or Pharisaical training.**

**Silvanus (Silas) who served as Peter’s amanuensis (1 Pet. 5:12) was an educated Roman (Acts 16:36–37).**

# **Peter's Life**

## **A Summary**

**A Galilean fisherman; also known as Simon, or Kephas**

**Son of Jonas, brother of Andrew**

**Born in Bethsaida, lived in Capernaum**

**Married**

**Initially a disciple of John the Baptist**

**Leader of the twelve**

**Present on the Mount of Transfiguration with James and John**

**Called Satan by the Lord for his impetuous, ignorant outburst**

**Leader of the early church (Acts 1–8)**

**Apostle to the “circumcised” (Gal. 2)**

**Traveled with his wife**

**Traveled to Jewish communities**

**Familiar with Paul's writings**

**Late arrival in Rome, did not found the church in Rome**

**Executed upside down on a cross**

# 1 PETER: INTRODUCTION

***WHO* wrote 1 Peter?**

***To WHOM* was the epistle written?**

**JEW or GENTILE???**