

A Study of the General Epistles

(NT Survey Lesson 197--1 Peter 1)

Introduction: Peter begins his epistle with exuberant praise for God who has made us a part of his family and endowed us with a wonderful inheritance. He tells us why we should rejoice in our salvation (1:3-12). Then he focuses on the responsibilities of our spiritual family life (1:13-2:3). As God's children we have a responsibility to grow in holiness, to revere and obey him and to love our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Lesson aim: To know both the blessings and the responsibilities of being a member of God's family.

Introduction and praise for inclusion in God's family--1 Pet. 1:1-12

1. How does Peter describe the Christians to whom he writes? Where did they live?
2. Peter describes the salvation of his readers: " _____ according to the foreknowledge of God, by the _____ of the Spirit, that you may _____ Jesus and be _____ with his blood." (v. 2)
3. What does Peter say God did in v. 3? Unto what? How did he do this?
4. What does God plan to give to his children? (v. 4) Describe it.
5. How does God protect his people that they may receive their inheritance?
6. What were Peter's readers experiencing? (v. 6) What purpose did Peter say these served? (v. 7)
7. What did Peter say about his readers? (v. 8)
8. Who spoke of the salvation that had come to the Christians to which Peter writes? (v. 10) What did they do? What did they want to know? What did God reveal to them?

9. How had Peter's readers heard about God's salvation? (v. 12)

Responsibilities of God's children--1 Pet. 1:13-2:3

1. In verse 13 Peter compares the Christian to a soldier. What three things is the Christian to do?
2. What must we do to be obedient children? (v. 14-16)
3. With what attitude should we conduct ourselves as God's children? (v. 17) What facts should encourage us to do this? (v. 18-20)
4. For what do Christians purify their souls? (v. 22) How do they do this? What then are they to do?
5. Why should they do this? (v. 23)
6. What should Christians lay aside? (2:1) Instead, what should they do?
7. Could we say that everything that a parent has a right to expect of his children, God has a right to expect of us?