

12/1/19

1 and 2 Peter

NT #46 Rejoice with Joy Unspeakable and Full of Glory



Shimon = Simon

→ Thou art Christ, the son of the living God → renamed Cephas (Kephos)

Became a missionary

Calls Rome "Babylon"

Epistles to the Christians in Asia Minor - Roman province where they're facing persecution

1 Peter

1:1-2 Identify recipients w/ Abraham → God's people are ① chosen & ② exiles or wanderers like Abraham was.

We are born again into a new hope - when we accept Christ persecution burns away false hopes and reminds us of our true home

Three main parts of this epistle:

1:13-2:10 1) Old testament support for the idea that these new Christians, though they are not Jews nor are they descended from Abraham, are God's people - New family identity - that of persecuted Christians - They are living a new exodus, by leaving behind a spiritual Egypt, or an unholy way of life.

1:13 - girding their loins - Ex. 12:11

1:15-16 - holy nation wandering in wilderness - Lev. 11:44

1:17-21 - redeemed by Jesus - Ex. 12-15

1:22-25 - his salvation is like that of the passover lamb - Ex. 14

~ they are the foretold people of the "new covenant" Jeremiah 31 Isaiah 40

2:1-8 - they are the new temple of Isaiah 28:16, Psalm 118

2:9 to the new priesthood - Ex. 19:4-6

2:5-10 stones - the chief cornerstone ^{had been} ~~was~~ rejected

eben = stone in Hebrew

Matt. 21:33-44 parable of vineyard - son is killed by wicked husbandman

ben = son in Hebrew

2:11-4:11

2) Resist evil the way Jesus did - by showing love & generosity - suffering is a witness of Jesus

2:13-17 submit to Roman rule though unjust

- Jesus loved his enemies

2:18-3:7 treat your wives as equals worthy of honor & respect (unlike Romans)

your patience now will have a future vindication

3:8-4:11 Jesus is exalted as king - followers are exalted by baptism - Noah imagery

3:18-20 scriptures that inspired D&C 138 - Redeeming the dead

4:12-5:9

3) focus their hopes on Jesus' future return

Rejoice when you are persecuted for my name's sake (Matt. 5:11-12)

5:6-9 It's not just Roman power we fight against but real evil - dark spiritual forces

5:10-14 Calls Rome "Babylon" - further OT imagery the archetype of a corrupt nation - places persecution in context

2 Peter 1:14 he knows he will die soon - farewell speech

His final challenge is to never stop growing

1:1-11 God invited us to share his divine nature by acquiring Christlike attributes

v7 virtues are crowned by "love" (charity)

v10 calling & election made sure

1:12-15 addressing accusations of false leaders - accusation #1 - made up ("cleverly devised fables") ^{this isn't}

proof: ① baptism → they heard the voice of the Father

② Mount of Trans. → (Mark 9) heard his voice & saw OT prophets - fulfilled OT prophecies

v.20 no prophecy is of private interpretation - means the original prophets didn't make it up

2:1-3 There is no final judgment/accountability - accusation #2

2:4-11 3 counterexamples where God pronounced judgment

The Nephilim from Gen. 6, 1 Enoch

The Flood → Gen 6-8 (Noah was delivered)

Sodom & Gomorrah → Gen 19 (Lot was delivered)

2:12-22 These teachers distort Paul's message of freedom to justify sin.

This isn't what Paul meant

He disagrees with the lifestyle of these teachers - their theology is merely ^{dressing to cover} not worth debating

ch. 3 Jesus will delay his coming, perhaps indefinitely - accusation #3

Now Peter engages with their theology

- look at our world; at some point it was created, proving God does act

- our concept of time & our perspective are too limited

- the delay serves everyone - we need time to repent

3:10-13 BUT the day of the Lord will come ... Isaiah 34, Zeph. 3

"elements" (στοιχεῖα) will melt by fire → "stars" in Isaiah 34

these are "heavenly bodies", metaphor for "sky being poked back" i.e. secret evil exposed and all things revealed. This is the true Christian hope.)

3:14-18 Don't misinterpret John's, Paul's, or my (Peter's) epistles. They all say this is the true Christian hope. God loves this world & is determined to redeem it by confronting sin

3:15 Be ready to give an "apologia" - Articulate advocacy is needed. - Neal A. Maxwell, Notwithstanding My Weakness

1 Peter 4:12 Think it not strange when confronted with a fiery trial - Neil L. Anderson, "Trial of Your Faith" Oct. 2012