

Outline of the First Epistle of St. Peter

I. Salutation (1:1-2)

II. The Identity of the People of God (1:3–2:10)

A. A Precious Salvation (1:3-12)

1. Salvation as Hope (1:3-5)
2. Salvation as Joy (1:6-9)
3. Salvation as Privilege: Witnessed by Prophets and Angels (1:10-12)

B. A New Way of Life (1:13-25)

1. A Life of Holiness (1:13-16)
2. A Life of Reverence (1:17-21)
3. A Life of Love (1:22-25)

C. A Chosen Priesthood (2:1-10)

1. Craving the Word (2:1-3)
2. Coming to Christ in Worship (2:4-5)
3. Biblical Argument (2:6-8)
4. An Identity Affirmed (2:9-10)

III. The Responsibilities of the People of God (2:11–4:11)

A. Summary: The Mission of God's People in the World (2:11-12)

1. Negatively Stated (2:11)
2. Positively Stated (2:12)

B. Respect: The Key to Living in the World (2:13–3:12)

1. Respect for Everyone (2:13-17)
 - a. Respect for Authorities (2:13-14)
 - b. Result: Silencing Fools (2:15)
 - c. Posture: As Free Men (2:16)
 - d. Summary (2:17)
2. Servants: Submit to your Masters (2:18-25)
 - a. The Admonition to the Servants (2:18-20)
 - b. The Example of Christ (2:21-25)

Outline of the First Epistle of St. Peter

- 3. Wives and Husbands (3:1-7)
 - a. Wives: Submit to your Husbands (3:1-6)
 - 1) The Admonition to the Wives (3:1-4)
 - 2) The Example of Sarah (3:5-6)
 - b. Husbands: Honor your Wives (3:7)
- 4. Respect for Everyone (Theme Repeated) (3:8-12)

C. Doing Good: The Promise of Vindication (3:13–4:6)

- 1. Suffering for Doing Good (3:13-17)
- 2. The Vindication of Christ (3:18-22)
- 3. Living for the Promise (4:1-6)
 - a. The Example of Christ (4:1-2)
 - b. The Former Lifestyle (4:3)
 - c. The Future Judgment (4:4-6)

D. Mutual Love: The Key to Christian Community in the End Times (4:7-11)

IV. The Responsibilities of a Church and its Elders in the Midst of Trials (4:12–5:11)

- A. The Fiery Trial (4:12-19)
 - 1. Suffering and Glory (4:12-14)
 - 2. Suffering as a Christian (4:15-19)
- B. The Responsibilities of a Church in the Midst of Trials (5:1-11)
 - 1. The Elders (5:1-4)
 - 2. The Rest of the Church (5:5)
 - 3. Humility and Trust in God (5:6-7)
 - 4. Warfare against the Devil (5:8-11)
 - a. Admonition: Facing the Devil (5:8-9)
 - b. Benediction: Trusting God (5:10-11)

V. Concluding Remarks (5:12-14)

- A. Purpose of Epistle (5:12)
- B. Final Greetings (5:13-14)