

Translation of 1 Peter by Tony A. Bartolucci

[Completed in February, 2010]

1:1 Peter, an Apostle of Jesus Christ, to the chosen strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, 2 [chosen] according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, with the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling with His blood. May grace and peace be multiplied to you.

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to an inheritance [that is] incorruptible and undefiled and unfading which is kept in heaven for you 5 who are being guarded by the power of God, through faith, for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, 7 in order that the testing of your faith, being more precious than fine gold which is perishable, being purified through fire, might pass the test and be found [true] to the praise and glory and honor of Jesus Christ at his coming. 8 Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory, 9 obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

10 Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that [would come] to you sought out and carefully inquired, 11 they sought for what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories to follow. 12 It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves, but you, in these things which now have been announced to you through those who preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels desire to look.

13 Therefore, having girding up the loins of your mind, with sober-mindedness, set your hope fully on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. 14 As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance. 15 But like the holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; 16 because it is written: "You shall be holy, for I Am Holy." 17 And if you call upon the Father as the One who judges with impartiality according to each one's work, conduct yourselves with fear during your time of exile, 18 knowing that you have been redeemed from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things like silver and gold, 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, like an unblemished and spotless lamb. 20 He was foreknown from before the foundation of the world, but He has appeared in these last times for your sake, 21 who through Him are believers in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

22 Having purified your souls by obedience to the truth for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love each other from a pure heart. 23 You have been born again not out of perishable seed, but imperishable: through the living and enduring Word of God. 24 FOR ALL FLESH IS LIKE GRASS AND ALL OF HER GLORY IS LIKE A FLOWER OF GRASS. THE GRASS WITHERS AND THE

FLOWER FADES, 25 BUT THE WORD OF THE LORD REMAINS FOREVER. And this is the Word which was preached to you.

2:1 Therefore, putting aside all malice, and all deceitfulness, and hypocrisy and envy and all slander, 2 Like newborn babies, long for the pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow with respect to salvation— 3 if indeed you have tasted the kindness of the Lord.

4 And coming to Him as the Living Stone, having been rejected by men—but chosen by God and precious [to Him]. 5 You also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 6 For it is contained in Scripture: BEHOLD, I LAY IN ZION A CHOSEN STONE, A PRECIOUS CORNERSTONE; AND THE ONE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NEVER BE PUT TO SHAME. 7 This honor, therefore, is for you who believe. But for those who disbelieve: THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS BECAME THE CHIEF CORNER. 8 And: A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE. They stumble because they are disobedient to the word, unto which [ends] they were appointed. 9 But you are an ELECT RACE, A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR [GOD'S OWN] POSSESSION SO THAT YOU MIGHT PROCLAIM THE EXCELLENCIES OF HIM who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. 10 Once you were not a people, but now [you are the] people of God; [once you were] those who had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

11 Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers, to abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul. 12 Keep your behavior excellent among the pagans, so that in whatever they accuse you as evildoers, they may see your good works and glorify God in the day of visitation.

13 Submit yourselves to every human institution, for the Lord's sake, whether to a king as one in authority, 14 or to governors as those sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and the praise of those who do right. 15 For this is the will of God, that by doing right you might silence the ignorance of foolish men. 16 [Act] as free men, but not as those using their freedom as a cover for evil, but as servants of God. 17 Honor everyone. Love the brethren. Fear God. Honor the King.

18 Servants, submit yourselves to your masters with all fear. Not only to those who are good and gentle, but also to those who are perverse. 19 For this [finds] favor, if out of consciousness toward God, one endures pain when suffering unjustly. 20 For what good would it be if, when you sin and are roughly treated, you endure it? But if you should suffer for doing good and endure it, this finds favor with God. 21 For you have been called for this [purpose], since Christ also suffered on your behalf, leaving for you an example so that you might follow in His steps. 22 WHO COMMITTED NO SIN, NEITHER WAS DECEIT FOUND IN HIS MOUTH. 23 Who while being reviled, was not reviling in return; while suffering was not uttering threats, but he kept entrusting [Himself] to the One who always judges righteously. 24 He who bore our sin in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wound you have been healed. 25 For you were straying like sheep, but now you have been turned back by the shepherd and overseer of your souls.

3:1 In the same way, you wives, be subject to your own husbands so that if any [of them] are disobedient to the Word, they may be won without a word through the behavior of their wives, 2 as they observe your pure behavior in fear [of God]. 3 And do not let your adornment be [simply] external— braiding the hair and wearing gold— or the wearing of dresses. 4 But [let it be] the hidden person of the heart, with the imperishable nature of a gentle and quiet spirit which is precious in God's sight. 5 For in this way in former times the holy women whose hope was in God used to adorn themselves by submitting to their own husbands. 6 Thus Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, and you have become her children if you do what is right without being frightened by any fear.

7 Husbands, likewise, live with [your wives] according to knowledge, as with a weaker vessel—since she is the woman—and grant her honor as a co-heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers might not be hindered.

8 Finally, in everything be of one mind, sympathetic, brotherly love, tenderhearted, humble. 9 Not returning evil for evil or insult for insult, but on the other hand, giving a blessing; for you have been called for this purpose: so that you might inherit a blessing. 10 For,

HE WHO WISHES TO LOVE LIFE AND SEE GOOD DAYS KEEP HIS TONGUE FROM EVIL AND HIS LIPS FROM SPEAKING DECEIT. 11 AND LET HIM TURN AWAY FROM EVIL AND DO GOOD; LET HIM SEEK PEACE AND PURSUE IT. 12 FOR THE EYES OF THE LORD ARE UPON THE RIGHTEOUS AND HIS EARS [OPEN] TO THEIR PRAYER. BUT HIS FACE IS AGAINST THOSE WHO DO EVIL.

13 And who is there to harm you if you should be zealous in pursuing good? 14 But even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, [you are] blessed. AND DO NOT FEAR THEIR INTIMIDATION AND DO NOT BE TROUBLED. 15 But sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you the reason for the hope in you—yet with gentleness and fear; 16 having a good conscience so that in the thing in which you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. 17 For it is better, if the will of God should so desire, that you suffer for doing what is right than for doing what is wrong.

18 For even Christ suffered once for all concerning sin, the just for the unjust, in order to reconcile us to God—He who was put to death in the flesh, but made alive by the Spirit. 19 By which also He went and made proclamation to the spirits in prison. 20 who formerly were disobedient, when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, while the ark was being built, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. 21 And corresponding to that, baptism now saves you; not a removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal for a good conscience to God through the resurrection of Jesus Christ— 22 who is at the right hand of God, having been taken into heaven, after angels and authorities and powers had been subjected to Him.

4:1 Therefore, since Christ has suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, **2** for as to live the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for the lusts of men but for the will of God. **3** For the time already past is sufficient [for you] to have carried out the desires of the pagans, while having pursued licentiousness, lusts, drunkenness, partying, drinking binges, and lawless idolatries. **4** In this they are ever surprised that you do not run with [them] into the same flood of debauchery, [and] they blaspheme [you]. **5** But they will give an account to Him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. **6** [The Gospel] for this purpose has been preached even to the dead: that although they are judged according to the flesh like men, they may live by the Spirit according to [the will of] God.

7 The end of all things has come near; therefore, be of sound and sound mind for the purpose of prayer. **8** Above all, remain fervent in your love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. **9** Be hospitable to one another, without complaint. **10** As each one has received a [spiritual] gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. **11** If anyone speaks, [let him speak] as the utterances of God; if anyone serves, [let him serve] out of the strength supplied by God; so that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory and power forever and ever. Amen!

12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you. **13** But in the degree you share in the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation. **14** If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. **15** Let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evil doer or a busybody. **16** But if [any of you suffers] as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but in that name let him glorify God. **17** For [it is] time for judgement to begin from the house of God; and if [it begins] with us first, what will [be the] end of those who are disobedient to Gospel of God? **18** And, IF IT IS WITH DIFFICULTY THAT THE RIGHTEOUS IS BEING SAVED, WHAT WILL BECOME OF THE UNGODLY AND THE SINNER? **19** Therefore, let those also who suffer according to the will of God entrust their souls to a faithful Creator in doing good.

5:1 Therefore, I exhort the elders among you, as [your] fellow-elder and witness of the sufferings of Christ, and a partaker of the glory which is about to be revealed: **2** shepherd the flock of God among you, [exercise] oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to [the will of] God; yet not in fondness of dishonest gain, but willingly; **3** neither lording it over those allotted to your care, but being examples to the flock. **4** And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

5 You young men, likewise, be subject to your elders. And all of you clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, FOR GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE.

6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that He may lift you up in time: **7** casting all your anxiety upon Him, for He cares for you. **8** Be sober, be alert; your

adversary, the Devil prowls about like a roaring lion seeking someone to devour. 9 Resist him, firm in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are being accomplished by your brethren in the world. 10 And the God of all grace, the One who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, He will perfect, confirm, strengthen, [and] establish [you]. 11 To Him be the dominion for all eternity. Amen!