

## I Peter 1:1-2

EMC Wednesday Night Bible Study - 3-14-18

### Peter, the Rock

Vv. 1-2a - note the contrast: so much about them, so little about himself

- No claim to be the \_\_\_\_\_ apostle, nor any need to \_\_\_\_\_ his office
- Matthew 16:13-18 → He is no rock apart from his confession
  - Cf. v. 23 - "Satan!"
- Does not stand apart from the other 11
  - Matthew 18:18 - keys to the kingdom granted to all
  - Ephesians 2:20; 3:5 - Kingdom is built upon the foundation of the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ with Christ as the \_\_\_\_\_.
    - The church is only "apostolic" today insofar as it remains committed to their teachings/doctrinal foundations
- Cannot separate the confession from the \_\_\_\_\_
  - Christ's kingdom is not built on a confession in the abstract, but on one who is confessing
  - The Rock bears witness to the cornerstone of God's spiritual temple (I Pet. 2:5-8)

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### The Supreme Pontiff?

- Roman Catholics → Peter = the first bishop/pope of Rome
  - Pope = Vicar of Christ ("one serving as a substitute/agent")
    - Has "full, supreme, universal power over the whole Church, a power which he can always exercise unhindered." (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*)
    - Speaks "ex cathedra" ("from the chair") infallibly on issues pertaining to faith and morals
    - Uninterrupted passing of papal authority from Peter to Francis
  - Scripture gives \_\_\_\_\_ indication that Peter was supreme over the other disciples: Luke 22:24-30; 2 Cor. 12:11; Acts 8:14; 13-28; 15:13-35; Galatians 2:11-14
  - Apostles did not transmit their authority to other "apostles"
    - Apostolic office = unique and unrepeatable
    - The authority of the apostolic \_\_\_\_\_ have replaced the apostolic \_\_\_\_\_
  - We don't submit our understanding of God's word to an organization (I Thess. 5:21; I John 4:1; Acts 17:11)
    - Scripture is our guide and the HS is our teacher (John 14:18, 26)
    - No doctrinal free-for-all. God has given the church pastors and teachers to assist in the understanding and interpretation of scripture (Eph. 4:11-16)
    - We must handle the word rightly (II Tim. 2:15; II Cor. 4:2; II Pet. 3:16)
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## A Greeting With a Blessing

- Words become blessings by the working of the \_\_\_\_\_
- V. 2b - "May **grace** and **peace** be yours in the fullest measure."
  - Come from God
  - Grace = the very extension of God's \_\_\_\_\_ toward us.
  - Peace = not \_\_\_\_\_ of conflict, suffering, or pain, but the \_\_\_\_\_ of God in the midst of it all
    - Numbers 6:26
    - Pronounced by Jesus in the shadow of the \_\_\_\_\_ (John 14:27)
    - Absence of \_\_\_\_\_ with God
  - V. 2 summarizes the whole message of the letter

## The True People of God

- Writing to Gentiles?!
- From Acts 10 to "they are God's chosen and holy people"
  - "Chosen of the Father"
    - No afterthought. Not second class citizens. They belong to God!
  - Foreknown = Christ and his people were the objects of God's loving concern since before time.
  - "The God and Father of the Lord Jesus Christ" (v. 3) is now their Father
- How? The Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ
  - By Christ's blood that we are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
    - "Sprinkled" evokes Old Testament image (Exodus 24:8)
    - New Covenant = blood of Christ, heavenly altar (Heb. 12:24; 9:11-12, 23-24)
  - By the Holy Spirit that we are born anew from above, filled with the life of God, and empowered to be holy as he is holy

## The People of God in the World

- Writing to Gentiles?!
- V. 1 - "those who reside as aliens, scattered throughout (Asia Minor)"
  - The new \_\_\_\_\_
    - The people of God scattered throughout the world
    - Citizens of another kingdom
    - Moses→Egypt / Jesus→heaven
- Key to his letter: Peter is writing a \_\_\_\_\_ for Christian pilgrims.
  - Peter's concern is with their \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
  - Presenting the sure hope of the Christian pilgrim of salvation in Christ, a future reality and present possession