

## **Stick to What You Know**

*Strangers and Aliens*

1 Peter 1:1-12

**January 5, 2020**

### **THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE**

*Context:*

Any person who truly lives for Jesus, will be in conflict with culture. It's unavoidable and it's hard. It's like swimming upstream. But you're not alone and there is hope. You can not only learn to exist, but you can thrive.

In this passage, the Apostle Peter encourages believers who are being persecuted and feel like they don't belong. He will tell them that trials lead to a stronger faith and that a vast inheritance awaits them if they stick to what they know.

### **Key Scripture -**

**1 Peter 1:1-12:**

#### **Greeting**

1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,

To those who are elect exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, <sup>2</sup>according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood:

May grace and peace be multiplied to you.

#### **Born Again to a Living Hope**

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup>to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven

for you, <sup>5</sup>who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup>In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, <sup>7</sup>so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, <sup>9</sup>obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

<sup>10</sup>Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully, <sup>11</sup>inquiring what person or time the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glories. <sup>12</sup>It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look.



## **DISCUSSION & APPLICATION**

- 1. What are the situations in your life that make you feel the most alone and at odds with culture because of your faith? How do you handle these moments? What could you do differently?**
  
- 2. Peter tells us that trials build a strong faith. What trials are you going through now? Do you see faith being built? How about trials that you've gone through before. Look back and describe what God did during those times in your life.**
  
- 3. Knowing that an inheritance awaits, consisting of a future with Christ and a share of his vast kingdom, can help us get through difficult times. What are some ways that you can focus on what's ahead and not get bogged down in where you are now? Can you help others do the same?**

## **NEXT WEEK'S TOPIC**

1 Peter 1:13-21 - Persevering in hope.



