

THE FIRST BOOK OF PETER

Peter offers hope to persecuted Christians and guides them with practical instruction on living life consistent with following Jesus.

OT/NT: New Testament

SECTION: General Letters

TRADITIONAL AUTHOR: Peter

KEY PEOPLE: John Mark, Peter, Silas.

SUMMARY: Canonically, the First Book of Peter is the sixtieth book of the [Holy Bible](#) (1), the second of seven [General Letters](#) (2) and the twenty-first book of the [New Testament](#) (3). Its purpose was to [encourage](#) (4) suffering Christians and to call them to personal [holiness](#) (5); Peter's central focus is [persecution](#) (6) (a).

1 Peter gives persecuted Christians a powerful reminder that they have [hope](#) (7) in the midst of their suffering. From the time of Abraham, God's people were a misunderstood minority and should expect to face hostility because they live under [King Jesus'](#) (8) rule.

However, they are chosen by God, and their persecution is actually a gift because it offers them a chance to show others the surprising generosity and [love](#) (9) of Jesus, which is fueled by hope in His return and victory over evil. Peter is hopeful that their imitation of Jesus and demonstration of His upside-down kingdom, which includes baptism and service, will give power to their words as they bear witness to God's mercy and show people the beautiful truth about Jesus (b).

COMING UP: Next up is the Second Book of Peter (10). Click [HERE](#) to explore!

FOOTNOTES:

- (1) <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/the-word-of-god>
- (2) <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/general-letters>
- (3) <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/new-testament>
- (4) <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/encouragement>
- (5) <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/holiness>
- (6) <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/trials-tribulations>
- (7) <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/advent-hope>
- (8) <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/jesus-christ>
- (9) <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/advent-love>
- (10) <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/2-peter>

PAGE SOURCES:

- (a) http://biblehub.com/summary/1_peter/1.htm
- (b) <https://thebibleproject.com/explore/1-peter/>

<http://www.downriverdisciples.com/1-peter>