

Theme: As God's chosen, exile people, we are called to stand in His grace, loving, encouraging and serving one another, as He blesses us with His perfect peace.

## **I. Intro – Encouraging Conclusion**

- A. Final teaching in the series on 1 Peter
- B. A lot of challenging material
- C. Peter is now concluding letter
- D. Ends with some strong encouragement for us

## **II. A Final Reminder- Sojourning Exiles**

- A. Babylon - our status as exiles (v13)
  - 1. She who is at Babylon - exiles
  - 2. Not literal Babylon - spiritual/figurative
  - 3. OT motif - place of exile
  - 4. Probably Rome (Rev 17:5,9; tradition)
  - 5. Key theme in the letter (1:1; 1:17; 2:11)
- B. Chosen - our status as God's elect people (v13)
  - 1. Chosen together with you - elect
  - 2. OT theme - God's chosen people
  - 3. These Gentiles are now the elect nation!
  - 4. Key theme in letter (1:1; 2:9-10)
- C. Ending at the Beginning (1:1; 5:13)

## **III. A Final Command - Stand in True Grace**

- A. True grace - stand fast in it! (v12)
- B. Remember the strong theme of suffering in letter
- C. Key verse in 4:19 - entrust self to God
- D. Called by grace, justified by grace, empowered by grace!

## **IV. A Final Encouragement**

- A. The unity of believers - you are not alone
  - 1. Encouraging you (v12)
  - 2. Others church and Mark send greetings (v13)
  - 3. Show love and unity in the body - kiss (v14)
- B. Encouragement from the example of others
  - 1. Silas (v12)
    - a. Perhaps helped write letter; but mainly carried it
    - b. The career of Silas/Silvanus
      - 1. Carried letter from Acts 15 council (Acts 15:22-23)
      - 2. Chosen by Paul to take Barnabas' place (Acts 15:40)
      - 3. Imprisoned with Paul in Philippi (Acts 16)
      - 4. Helped found many NT churches (Acts 16-18)
      - 5. Helped write NT letters (1 & 2 Thess.)
      - 6. Now chosen by Peter - write/deliver critical letter

## Encouragement for God's Sojourning Exiles

1 Peter 5:12-14  
Romans 5:1-5  
September 5, 2010  
Communion  
Deuteronomy 1:11

### 2. Mark

- a. Had abandoned Paul and Barnabas (Acts 15)
- b. Did further travels with Barnabas (Acts 15)
- c. Later worked with Paul (Col 4:10; 2 Tim 4:11)
- d. Peter's co-worker late in life
- e. Wrote the Gospel of Mark

### C. God uses ordinary people like you & me!

1. He can cause us to stand during persecution
2. He works through us to serve and strengthen others
3. He uses us to spread the Gospel!
4. Even when we have failed - He restores!
5. He grants us His peace (1 Peter 5:14)
6. Not to super saints - all in Christ (v14)

## V. The Lord's Supper - Food for Exiles

- A. We are exiles in this age - but God gives Himself to us
- B. Our strength is not in us - it is from God
- C. We stand by grace - Christ broken and raised for us
- D. Eat and drink grace, strength, encouragement!
- E. Come to the Table!

This title was written on her forehead: **MYSTERY BABYLON THE GREAT THE MOTHER OF PROSTITUTES AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH...** "This calls for a mind with wisdom. **The seven heads are seven hills on which the woman sits.**

Revelation 17:5, 9

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God's elect, strangers in the world, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, 2 who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

1 Peter 1:1-2

Since you call on a Father who judges each man's work impartially, live your lives as **strangers** here in reverent fear.

1 Peter 1:17

Dear friends, I urge you, as **aliens and strangers in the world**, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul.

1 Peter 2:11

But you are a **chosen people**, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who **called** you out of darkness into his wonderful light. 10 **Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.**

1 Peter 2:9-10

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God's elect, strangers in the world, scattered .... She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you, sends you her greetings, and so does my son Mark.

1 Peter 1:1; 5:13

So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.

1 Peter 4:19