

1. King. 17. 1.  
eccle. 40. 3.  
luk. 4. 25.

17 \*Helias was a man subiect to like passiōs as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not raine, and it rained not on the earth for thre yerres and six moneths.  
18 And he prayed againe, and the heauen gaue raine, and the earth broght forth her frute.

19 Brethren, if anie of you haue erred fro the trueth, and some man haue conuerted him,  
20 Let him knowe that he which haue conuerted the sinner from going astraye out of his way, shal saue a soule from death, and shal hide a multitude of sinnes.

# THE FIRST EPI- stle general of Peter.

## THE ARGUMENT.

**H**E exhorteth the faithful to denie them selues, and to contemne the worlde, that being deliuered from all carnal affections and impediments, they may more speedely attaine to the heauenlie kingdome of Christ, wherunto we are called by the grace of God reueiled to vs in his Sonne, and haue already receiued it by faith, poss'essed it by hope, and are therein confirmed by holines of life. And to the intent this faith shoulde not faint, seeing Christ contemned and reiected almost of the whole worlde, he declareth that this is nothing els but the accomplishing of the Scriptures which testifie that he shoulde be the strombling stone to the reprobate and the sure fundation of saluation to the faithful: therefore he exhorteth them courageously to go forward, considering what they were, and to what dignitie God hathe called them. After, he entreateth particular points, teaching subiects how to obey their gouernours, and seruants their masters, and how married folkes ought to behaue them selues. And because it is appointed for all that are godlie, to suffre persecutions, he sheweth them what good yssue their afflictions shal haue, and contrarie wise what punishment God reserueth for the wicked. Last of all he teacheth how the ministers ought to behaue them selues, forbidding them to vsurpe autoritie ouer the Church: also that yong men ought to be modest, and apt to learne, and so endeth with an exhortation.

### CHAP. I.

2 He sheweth that through the abundant mercie of God we are elect and regenerate to a liuelie hope. 7 And how faith must be tried, 10 That the saluation in Christ is no newes, but a thing prophecied of olde. 13 He exhorteth them to a godlie conuersation, forasmuche as they are now borne a newe by the worde of God.

a Which were  
1 Jewes to whom  
me he was appointed  
to be an Apostle.  
b The free election  
of God is the efficient  
cause of our saluation,  
the material cause  
is Christs obedience,  
our effectual calling  
is the formal cause,  
and the final cause  
is our sanctification.  
2. Cor. 1. 3.  
ephe. 1. 3.  
c Or, vnto obedience.  
d To wit, of Christ.  
e For it is but dead & vaine  
hope which is without Christ.  
f Therefore they ought  
to looke for no earthly king-  
dome of the Messias.  
g At the day of iudgement



**P**ETER an Apostle of IESVS CHRIST, to the strangers that dwell here and there throughout Pontus, Galacia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia,

2 Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father vnto sanctification of the spirit, through obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Iesus Christ: Grace and peace be multiplied vnto you.

3 \* Blessed be God euen the Father of our Lord Iesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercie hathe begoten vs againe vnto a liuelie hope by the resurrection of Iesus Christ from the dead,

4 To an inheritance immortal and vndefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heauen for you,

5 Which are kept by the power of God through faith vnto saluation, which is prepared to be shewed in the last time:

6 Wherein ye reioyce, though now for a season (if nedes require) ye are in heauines, through manifold tentations,

7 That the trial of your faith, being muche more precious then golde that perisheth (though it be tried with fyre) might be soude vnto your praise, & honour and glorie at the appearing of Iesus Christ:

8 Whome ye haue not sene, and yet loue him, in whome now, though ye se him not, yet do you beleue, and reioyce with ioye vnspeakeable and glorious,

9 Receiuing the end of your faith, euen the saluation of your soules.

10 Of the which saluation the Prophetes haue inquired and searched, which prophecied of the grace that shoulde come vnto you,

11 Searching when or what time the Spirit which testified before of Christ which was in them, shoulde declare the sufferings that shoulde come vnto Christ, and the glorie that shoulde followe.

12 Vnto whome it was reueiled, that not vnto them selues, but vnto vs they shoulde minister the things which are now shewed vnto you by them which haue preached vnto you the Gospel by the holie Gost sent downe from heauen, the which things the Angels desire to beholde.

13 Wherefore

g And nedes  
doeth so requi  
re, when it  
pleaseth God  
to lay his crof  
se vpo his, for  
to drawe the  
from earthlie  
things & make  
them parea.  
kers of his  
heauenlie gra  
ces  
h At his secō  
de comming.

i Their minist  
erie was mo  
re profitable  
to vs then to  
them: for we  
se the things  
accomplished  
which they  
prophecied.

# The price of our redemption. Chap. II. A stone in Sion. 109

*Luk. 12.35.*  
k Prepare your  
selues to the  
Lord.

*1* Vntil his se-  
conde coming.

*m* When you  
were in ignora-  
ce and knewe  
not Christ.

*Luk. 1.75.*

*Leui. 11.44.*  
*& 19.2 & 20.7*

*Deut. 10.17.*

*rom. 2.11.*

*galat. 2.6.*

*n* According to  
y sinceritie of  
the heart.

*o* Read Ezek.  
20.18.

*1* Cor. 6.20.

*& 7.27. ebr.*

*9.14. 1. job. 1.*

*7. xuel. 1.6.*

*rom. 16.25.*

*ephes. 3.9.*

*colof. 1.26.*

*2. tim. 1.10.*

*tit. 1.2.*

*p* When Christ  
appeared vnto  
the worlde, &  
when y Gol-  
pel was prea-  
ched.

*rom. 12.10.*

*ephes. 4.2.*

*ebp. 2.17.*

*q* Therefore  
we must renou-  
ce our former  
nature.

*isa. 40.6.*

*eccl. 1.4. 18.*

*iam. 1.10.*

13 Wherefore, \* girde vp the \* loynes of your minde : be sober, and trust perfectly on the grace that is broght vnto you, by the <sup>1</sup> reuelacion of Iesus Christ,

14 As obedient children, not facioning your selues vnto the former <sup>m</sup> lustes of your ignorance:

15 But as he which hath called you, is holie, so be ye holie in \* all maner of conuersacion,

16 Because it is written, \* Be ye holie, for I am holie.

17 And if ye call him Father, which without \* respect of person e iudgeth accordig to euerie mans <sup>n</sup> worke, passe the time of your dwelling here in feare,

18 Knowing that ye were not redemed with corruptible things, as siluer and golde, fro your vaine conuersacion, receiued by the tradicions of the <sup>o</sup> fathers,

19 \* But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a Lambe vndefiled, & without spot.

20 Which was \* ordeined before the fundacion of the worlde, but was declared in the <sup>p</sup> last times for your sakes,

21 Which by his meanes do beleue in God that raised him from the dead, and gaue him glorie, that your faith & hope might be in God.

22 Seing your soules are purified in obeing the trueth through the spirit, to \* loue brotherly without faining, loue one another with a pure heart feruently,

23 Being borne a new, not of mortal seds, but of <sup>q</sup> immortal, by the worde of God, who liueth and endureth for euer.

24 For all \* flesh <sup>n</sup> is as grasse, and all the glorie of man <sup>n</sup> is as the flower of grasse. The grasse withereth, and the flower fallet a-way.

25 But the worde of the Lord endureth for euer: and this is the worde which is preached among you.

## CHAP. II.

*1* He exhorteth them to laye a side all vice, *4* Shewing that Christ is the fundacion whereupon they buyld. *9* The excellent estate of the Christians. *11* He praieth them to abstaine from fleshlie lustes. *13* To obey the rulers. *18* How seruants shoulde behaue them selues toward their masters. *20* He exhorteth to suffer after the ensample of Christ.

*rom. 6.4.*

*ephes. 4.23.*

*colof. 3.8.*

*ebp. 12.2.*

*a* In this their infancie and new coming to Christ he wil- leth them to take hede lest for y pure milke, which is y first beginings of learning the sincere worde, they be not de- ceived by the

which chop and change it, and giue poyson in stede thereof.  
*o* Or, the milke of vnderstanding which is without deice.

1 Wherefore, \* laying aside all mali- ciousnes & all guile, & dissimu- lacion, and enuie, and all euil speaking,

2 As new borne babes desire \* the <sup>n</sup> sincere milke of the worde, that ye maye growe thereby,

3 If so be that ye haue tasted how bounti- ful the Lord is.

4 To whome ye come as vnto a liuing sto- ne disallowed of men, but chosen of God & precious.

5 And ye as liuelie stones, be made a spiri- tual house, and holie \* Priesthode to offer <sup>rend. 1.6.</sup> vp spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God by Iesus Christ.

6 Wherefore it is contained in the Scrip- ture, \* Beholde, I put in <sup>b</sup> Sion a chief cor- ner stone, elect and precious: and he that beleueth therein, shal not be ashamed.

7 Vnto you therefore which beleue, it is precious: but vnto them which be disobe- dient, the \* stone which the <sup>c</sup> buylders dif- allowed, the same is made the head of the corner,

8 And a \* stone to stamble at, and a rocke of offence, euen to them which stamble at the worde being disobedient, vnto the which thing they were euen ordeined.

9 But ye are a chosen generacion, a <sup>d</sup> royal \* Priesthode, an holie nacion, a <sup>e</sup> peculiar people, that ye shulde shew forth the ver- tues of him that hath called you out of darkenes into his marueilous light,

10 \* Which in time past were not a people, yet are now the people of God: which in time past were not vnder mercie, but now haue obteneid mercie.

11 Derely beloved, I beseeche you, as stran- gers and pilgrims, \* abstaine from fleshlie lustes, which fight against the soule,

12 \* And haue your conuersacion honest a- mong the Gentiles, that they which spea- ke euil of you as of euil doers, maye by your \* good workes which they shal se, glo- rifie God in the day of <sup>e</sup> the visitacion.

13 \* Submit your selues vnto all <sup>f</sup> maner or- dinance of man for the Lords sake, whe- ther it be vnto the King, as vnto the supe- riour,

14 Or vnto gouernours, as vnto them <sup>g</sup> are sent of him, for the punishment of euil doers, and for the praise of them that do wel.

15 For so is the wil of God, that by wel doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of the foolish men,

16 As fre, and not as hauing the libertie for a cloke of maliciousnes, but as the seruats of God.

17 Honour all men: \* loue <sup>h</sup> brotherlie fe- lowship: feare God: honour the King.

18 \* Seruats, be subiect to your masters with all feare, not onely to the good and cour- teous, but also to the <sup>i</sup> s frowarde.

19 \* For this is thanke worthie, if a man for <sup>h</sup> conscience towarde God endure grief suffering wrongfully.

20 For what praise is it, if when ye be buf- fered for your fautes, ye take it patiently: but and if when ye do wel, ye suffer <sup>j</sup> wrong and take it patiently, this is acceptable to God.

21 For hereunto ye are called: for Christ also suffred for vs, leauig vs an ensample <sup>k</sup> EEE. i.

*isa. 28.16.*

*rom. 9.33.*

*b* Meaning, y

God hath ap-

pointed Christ

to be chief &

head of his

Church.

*Psal. 118.22.*

*mat. 21.42.*

*act. 4.11.*

*isa. 8.14.*

*rom. 9.33.*

*c* The Priests,

Doctors & An-

cients of the

people.

*2. cor. 19.6.*

*reuel. 5.10.*

*d* That is par-

takers of Christ

as Priesthode

& kingdome.

*e* Or, giuen by

purchase.

*Hos. 2.23.*

*rom. 9.25.*

*Galat. 3.17.*

*rom. 13.14.*

*Chap. 3.16.*

*Mat. 5.16.*

*Rom. 12.1.*

*e* Your good

conuer- sion

shall be as a pre-

paratiue against

that day that

God shal shew

mercie vnto

them and turne

them.

*f* Or, publicke ge-

uernement.

*Chap. 3.22.*

*rom. 12.10.*

*ephes. 5.5.*

*col. 3.22.*

*2. Cor. 7.10.*

*f* With them

we acknow-

ledge one selfe

ther in heauē

*g* In all obedi-

ence this must

be before our

eyes, that we

obey in the

Lords: for if a-

nie commande

things against

God, then let

vs answer, It is

better to obey

God then me.

*h* Knowing y

God laith

this charge

vpon him.

# Stray shepe.

# I. Peter. Suffer for righteouſnes.

- that ye ſhulde folowe his ſteppes.
- Isa. 53.9.* 22 \*Who did no ſinne, neither was there guile founde in his mouth.
- 1. job 3.2.* 23 Who when he was reuiled, reuiled not againe: when he ſuffred, he threatened not, but committed it to him that iudgeth righteouſly.
- Isa. 53.5.* 24 \*Who his owne ſelf bare our ſinnes in his bodie on the tre, that we being deliuered from ſinne, ſhulde liue in righteouſnes: by whoſe ſtripes ye were healed.
- Mat. 4.12.* 25 For ye were as ſhepe going aſtraye: but are now returned vnto the ſhepherd and biſhops of your ſoules.

## CHAP. III.

- 1 How wiues ought to orde them ſelues toward their houſbands, 3 And in their apparel. 7 The due tie of men toward their wiues. 8 He exhorteth all men to vmitie and loue. 14 And patiently to ſuffre trouble by the example and benefite of Chriſt.

*Col. 3.18.* *epheſ. 5.22.* **L**ikewiſe let the wiues be ſubiect to their houſbands that euen thei which obey not the worde, may without the worde be wonne by the conuerſacion of the wiues,

2 While they beholde your pure conuerſacion, which is with feare.

*1. Tim. 2.9.* 3 \*Whoſe apparelling let it not be outward, as with broyded heere, and golde put about, or in putting on of apparel.

4 But let the hid man of the heart be vn-corrump, with a meke & quiet ſpirit, which is before God a thing muche ſet by.

5 For euen after this maner in time paſt did the holie women, which truſted in God, tier them ſelues, and were ſubiect to their houſbands.

6 As Sarra obeyed Abraham, and \*called him "Syr: whoſe daughters ye are, whiles ye do wel, not being afraid of anie terror.

7 \*Likewiſe ye houſbands, dwel with the as men of knowledge, giuing honour vnto the womā, as vnto the weaker veſſel, euen as they which are heires together of the grace of life, that your prayers be not interrupted.

8 Finally, be ye all of one minde: one ſuffre with another: loue as brethren: be pitiful: be courteous,

*Ex. 20.22.* *Mat. 5.39.* *Rom. 12.* *17. 1. theſ. 5.15* *Pſal. 33.13.* 9 \*Not rendring euil for euil, neither rebuke for rebuke: but contrarie wiſe bleſſe, knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye ſhulde be heires of bleſſing.

10 \*For if anie man long after life, and to ſe good daies, let him refraine his tongue from euil, and his lippes that they ſpeake not guile.

*Isa. 1.16.* 11 \*Let him eſchewe euil and do good: let him ſeke peace, and ſolow after it.

12 For the eyes of the Lord are ouer the righteous, and his eares are open vnto their prayers: and the face of the Lord is vpon

them that do euil.

13 And who is it that wil harme you, if ye ſolowe that which is good?

14 \*Notwithſtanding bleſſed are ye, if ye ſuffre for righteouſnes ſake. Yea, h feare not their feare, neither be troubled.

15 \*But ſanctifie the Lord God in your hearts: and be readie alwaies to giue an answer to euerie man that asketh you a reaſon of the hope that is in you,

16 \*And that with mekenes and reuerence, hauing a good conſcience, that when they ſpeake euil of you as of euildoers, thei may be aſhamed, which blame your good conuerſacion in Chriſt.

17 For it is better (if the wil of God be ſo) that ye ſuffer for wel doing, then for euil doing.

18 \*For Chriſt alſo hath once ſuffred for ſinnes, y iuſt for the vniuſt, that he might bring vs to God, and was put to death concerning the fleſh, but was quickened in the ſpirit.

19 By the which he alſo went, & preached vnto the ſpirits that were in priſon.

20 Which were in time paſſed diſobediēt, when once the long ſuffring of God abode in the daies of \*Noe, while the arke was preparing, wherein fewe, that is, eight ſoules were ſaued in the water.

21 To the which alſo the figure that now ſaueth vs, euen Baptiſme agreeth (not the putting away of the filth of the fleſh, but in that a good conſcience maketh requēſt to God) by the reſurreccion of Ieſus Chriſt,

22 Which is at the right hand of God, gone into heauen, to whome the Angels, and Powers, and might are ſubiect.

## CHAP. IIIII.

1 He exhorteth men to ceaſe from ſinne, 2 To ſpende no more time in vice, 7 To be ſober and apt to praye, 8 To loue eche other, 12 To be patient in trouble, 15 To beware that no man ſuffre as an euil doer, 16 But as a Chriſtian man, and ſo not to be aſhamed.

**F**Or aſmuch then as Chriſt hath ſuffered for vs in the fleſh, arme your ſelues likewiſe with the ſame minde, which is that he which hath ſuffered in the fleſh, hath ceaſed from ſinne,

2 That he henceforward ſhulde liue (as muche time as remaineth in the fleſh) not after the luſtes of men, but after the wil of God.

3 \*For it is ſufficient for vs that we haue ſpent the time paſt of the life, after the luſt of the Gentiles, walking in wantōnes, luſtes, drunkennes, in glottonie, drinkings and in abominable idolatries.

4 Wherein it ſemeth to them ſtrange y ye runne not with the vnto the ſame exceſſe of ryote: therefore ſpeake they euil of you.

5 Which ſhal giue accountes to him, that

*Mat. 5.10.* h That is, whē thei thinke to make you afraid by their threatnings.

*Isa. 8.13.* i Giue him praife & depende on him.

*Chap. 2.12.*

*Rom. 8.15.* *1. Cor. 9.15.*

k By the power of God. l Chriſt being from y beginning head and gouernour of his Church, came in y daies of Noe, not in bodie, w then he had not, but in Spirit, and preached by y mouth of Noe for the ſpace of 120 yeres to y diſobediēt, w wolde not reſpe, & therefore are now in priſon referred to the laſt iudgement.

*Gen. 6.14.*

*Mat. 24.28.*

*Luk. 17.26.*

*Ebr. 1.3.*

*1. Cor. 1.3.*

*1. Cor. 1.3.*

*1. Cor. 1.3.*

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is ready to iudge quicke and dead.

<sup>b</sup> Although the wicked thinke this Gospel newe, & vsee you that imbrace it: yet, bittie it bene preached to them of time past, which now are dead, to the intent: y<sup>e</sup> them might haue bene couened, or dead to sinne in the flesh, & also might God in the spirit, which two are the effe. & of the Gospel. *Thou. 10, 12. Rom. 12, 13. ebr. 13, 2. Rom. 12, 6. post. 2, 14. e* As haue mo ueth vs to reprocure our brother when he offendeth vs: to loue him, & pardoneth the faultes, which he committeth against vs, though they be neuer so manie.

*Ma. 1, 110.*

<sup>d</sup> That is, by the iudges.

*17r. punishment. Iere. 23, 29. luk. 23, 31.*

*Thou. 2, 31. e* As concerning this life where he is punished.

6 For vnto this purpose was the Gospel preached also vnto the <sup>b</sup> dead, that they might be condemned, according to men, in the flesh, but might liue according to God in the spirit.

7 Now the end of all things is at hand. Be ye therefore sober, and watching in prayer.

8 But aboute all things haue feruent loue among you: <sup>a</sup> for <sup>c</sup> loue couereth the multitude of sinnes.

9 Be ye <sup>a</sup> herberous one to another, without grudging.

10 <sup>a</sup> Let euerie man as he hath receiued the gifte, minister the same one to another, as good disposers of the manifolde grace of God.

11 If anie man speake, let him talke as <sup>y</sup> wordes of God. If anie man minister, let him do it as of the abilitie which God ministreth, that God in all things may be glorified through Iesus Christ, to whome is praise and dominion for euer, and euer, Amen.

12 Dearly beloued, thinke it not strange concerning the syrie trial, which is among you to proue you, as though some strange thing were come vnto you:

13 But reioyce, in as muche as ye are partakers of Christs sufferings, that when his glorie shal appeare, ye may be glad and reioyce.

14 <sup>a</sup> If ye be railed vpon for the Name of Christ, blessed are ye: for the Spirit of glorie, and of God resteth vpon you: which on their <sup>d</sup> parte is euil spoken of: but on your parte is glorified.

15 But let none of you suffer as a murtherer, or as a thefe, or an euil doer, or as a bulibodie in other mens matters.

16 But if anie man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed: but let him glorifie God in this behalfe.

17 For the time <sup>is</sup> come, that <sup>a</sup> iudgement must beginne at <sup>a</sup> the house of God. If it first begin at vs, what shal the end be of the which obey not the Gospel of God?

18 <sup>a</sup> And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shal the vngodlie and the sinner appeare?

19 Wherefore let them that suffer according to the wil of God, commit their soules to him in wel doing, as vnto a faithful Creator.

CHAP. V.

<sup>a</sup> The duetie of Pastours is to fede the flocke of Christ,

and what rewardes they shal haue if they be diligent: <sup>5</sup> He exhorteth yong perones to submit them selues to the elders. <sup>8</sup> To be sober, and to wathe that they may resist the enemy.

<sup>T</sup>He <sup>a</sup> elders which are among you, I beseeche which am also an elder, and a witnes of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glorie that shalbe reueiled,

2 Fede the flocke of <sup>c</sup> God, which dependeth vpon you, caring for it not by constraint, but willingly: not for filthie lucre, but of a readie minde:

3 Not as though ye were lords ouer Gods heritage, but that ye may be ensamples to the flocke.

4 And when the chief shepherd shal appeare, ye shal receiue an incorruptible crowne of glorie.

5 Likewise ye yonger, submit your selues vnto the elders, & submit your selues euerie mā, one to another: <sup>a</sup> decke your selues inwardely in lowlines of minde: for God <sup>a</sup> resisteth the proude and giueth grace to the humble.

6 Humble <sup>a</sup> your selues therefore vnder the mightie hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time.

7 Cast <sup>a</sup> all your care on him: for he careth for you.

8 Be sober and watch: for <sup>a</sup> your aduersarie the deuil as a rearing lyon walketh about, seeking whome he may deuoure:

9 Whome resist stedfast in the faith, knowing <sup>b</sup> that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren which are in the worlde.

10 And the God of all grace, which hath called vs vnto his eternal glorie by Christ Iesus, after <sup>y</sup> ye haue suffered a litel, make you perfect, confirme, strengthen and stablish you.

11 To him be glorie and dominion for euer and euer. Amen.

12 By Siluanus a faithful brother vnto you, as I suppose, haue I writen briefly, exhorting and testifying how that this is the true grace of God, wherein ye stand.

13 The Church <sup>y</sup> is at <sup>c</sup> Babylo elected together with you, saluteth you, and Marcus my sonne.

14 Grete ye one another with the <sup>a</sup> kyffe of loue. Peace be with you all which are in Christ Iesus. Amen.

<sup>a</sup> By elders he vnderstandeth all the which preache, teache, or minister in the Church.

<sup>c</sup> Or, Christ. <sup>5</sup> Or, which is committeth you or, as muche as to you lyeth.

*Rom. 12, 10.*

*Iam. 4, 6.*

*Iam. 4, 10.*

*Psal. 54, 23.*

*Wisd. 12, 13.*

*mat. 6, 25*

*luk. 12, 22.*

*Luk. 22, 31.*

<sup>b</sup> Nothing cometh vnto vs, which we se not to appertene to the rest of Christs members: and therefore we ought not to refuse that condition which is commune to all the Saintes.

<sup>c</sup> Which was a famous cite in Assyria where Peter then was the Apostle of the circumcision. *Rom. 16, 16. 1. cor. 16, 20. 2. cor. 13, 13*

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