

1 PETER 1

Battlefield Christianity

1 Peter 1 — February 11, 2018, Part 2

1 Peter 1:1

... *Living as exiles...*

— There are three identities non-citizens can assume.

1. Immigrant

2. Tourist

3. Exiles

1 Peter 1:2

— Salvation is described as a Triune event.

— Nothing is of more value than to have assurance of a right standing with God.

... **[Chosen] according to the foreknowledge of God the Father...**

— The Father's initiative in salvation.

— **Romans 5:8** | *God proves his own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.* (CSB)

— **Ephesians 1:4** | *For he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and blameless in love before him.* (CSB)

— The Father's full participation in salvation.

... **Through the sanctifying work of the Spirit...**

— Definition of sanctification...

— Verb form of "holy" (to make holy).

— Definition of holy...

— What do we mean when we say, "Holy God," "Holy Son," "Holy Spirit?"

Perfectly true devotion of each to the other two.

— Holy for us?

Corresponding deeply personal, intense, loving devotion to him.

— The Holy Spirit works to sanctify us.

— Three parts of salvation...

— Verb tenses of salvation...

— Are saved/have been saved...

— **Ephesians 2:8** | *For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from*

yourselves; it is God's gift— (CSB)

— **Ephesians 2:8** | *For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, (ESV)*

— Being saved...

— **1 Corinthians 1:18** | *For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but it is the power of God to us who are being saved. (CSB)*

— Will be saved...

— **Matthew 24:13** | *But the one who endures to the end will be saved. (CSB)*

— Three vocabulary words for aspects of salvation...

— Justification: Declared right with God.

— **2 Corinthians 5:21** | *He made the one who did not know sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (CSB)*

— Sanctification: Process of being made holy.

— **Philippians 2:12** | *Therefore, my dear friends, just as you have always obeyed, so now, not only in my presence but even more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. (CSB)*

— **1 Thessalonians 4:3-4** | *For this is God's will, your sanctification: that you keep away from sexual immorality, that each of you knows how to control his own body in holiness and honor, (CSB)*

— Glorification: Made like Christ in character.

— **Philippians 3:20-21** | *Our citizenship is in*

heaven, and we eagerly wait for a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humble condition into the likeness of his glorious body, by the power that enables him to subject everything to himself.
(CSB)

— **1 John 3:2** | *Dear friends, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet been revealed. We know that when he appears, we will be like him because we will see him as he is.* (CSB)

— How does the Holy Spirit sanctify us?

— Convicts

— **John 16:8** | *When he comes, he will convict the world about sin, righteousness, and judgment:* (CSB)

— Teaches

— **John 16:12** | *“I still have many things to tell you, but you can’t bear them now.* (CSB)

— **John 16:14** | *He will glorify me, because he will take from what is mine and declare it to you.* (CSB)

— Guides

— **Romans 8:14** | *For all those led by God’s Spirit are God’s sons.* (CSB)

— Assures

— **Romans 8:16** | *The Spirit himself testifies together with our spirit that we are God’s children,*
(CSB)

— Intercedes

— **Romans 8:26** | *In the same way the Spirit also helps us in our weakness, because we do not know*

what to pray for as we should, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with unspoken groanings. (CSB)

— Warns

— **Acts 20:23** | *except that in every town the Holy Spirit warns me that chains and afflictions are waiting for me.* (CSB)

— Perfectionism

— John Wesley (1703-1791) taught that Christians could reach moral/ethical perfection in this life.

— Forms of perfectionism can be found it...

— *Contemporary Wesleyanism*

— *Keswick*

— *Deeper Life*

— *Higher life*

— *Victorious Life Theologies*

— *Holiness Theologies*

— *Second Blessing Theologies*

— Danger of perfectionism...

— Robs some true Christians of assurance.

— **Romans 8:1** | *Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus,* (CSB)

— **2 Timothy 1:12** | *That is why I suffer these things. But I am not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that he is able to guard what has been entrusted to me until that day.* (CSB)

— **Hebrews 10:22** | *let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed in pure water.* (CSB)

— It leads some to a radical overestimation of their moral performance.

— It leads some to underestimate the requirements of God's law.

— Basic Scriptural arguments against perfectionism...

— Daily confession of sin is a common New Testament command.

— **Matthew 6:12-14** | *Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. "For if you forgive others their offenses, your heavenly Father will forgive you as well.* (CSB)

— **1 John 1:8-9** | *If we say, "We have no sin," we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.* (CSB)

— **James 5:16** | *Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is very powerful in its effect.* (CSB)

— The Bible clearly teaches the presence of sin in the lives of believers.

— **1 John 1:10** | *If we say, "We have not sinned," we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.* (CSB)

— **James 3:1-2** | *Not many should become teachers, my brothers, because you know that we will receive a stricter judgment. For we all stumble in many ways. If anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is mature, able also to control the whole body.* (CSB)

— **Romans 7:15-25** | *For I do not understand what I am doing, because I do not practice what I want to do, but I do what I hate. Now if I do what*

I do not want to do, I agree with the law that it is good. So now I am no longer the one doing it, but it is sin living in me. For I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do what is good is with me, but there is no ability to do it. For I do not do the good that I want to do, but I practice the evil that I do not want to do. Now if I do what I do not want, I am no longer the one that does it, but it is the sin that lives in me. So I discover this law: When I want to do what is good, evil is present with me. For in my inner self I delight in God's law, but I see a different law in the parts of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and taking me prisoner to the law of sin in the parts of my body. What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with my mind I myself am serving the law of God, but with my flesh, the law of sin. (CSB)

— Spiritual growth is presented as a key part of the Christian experience.

— **2 Peter 3:18** | *But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. (CSB)*

— **Romans 12:2** | *Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God. (CSB)*

... to be obedient and to be sprinkled with the blood of Jesus Christ.

— Old Testament metaphor for three things.

1. Cleansing and forgiveness (Leviticus 14:1-7)
2. Inaugurating the book of the Covenant (Exodus 24:3-8)
3. Installment into a new position (Exodus 29:20-22)

— More specifically, this refers to **Exodus 24:3-8**.

— The blood sprinkled on the altar symbolizes the people's commitment to obedience.

— The blood sprinkled on the people symbolizes the promise and provision of God.