1 Peter

- Purpose: “This is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it!”
- Plan:
  - The doctrine of salvation with emphasis upon the “living hope”
  - The place of trials in the life of a Christian
  - Encouragement to stand firm in the true grace of God.
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Lesson 1: A Living Hope (1:1-2:12)

- Salvation, the Divine provision (1:1-5)
  - Chosen according to the foreknowledge of God
  - Sanctified by the Spirit
  - To obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with His blood (forgiveness)
  - Grace and peace be multiplied
  - From new birth to living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ
  - Protected by the power of God through faith

- Salvation, the human experience (1:6-2:10)
  - Aliens and strangers (1:1 and 2:11)
  - Various trials
  - The mystery age
  - The response of faith
    - Be holy as God is holy
    - Live in the fear of God
    - Love the people of God
    - Desire the word of God
  - The great work of God in images (2:4-10)

- Final exhortation: keep your behavior excellent (2:11-12)
Lesson 2: Submitting in Hope (2:13-3:12)

- Citizens – submit to every human creation – the will of God
- Slaves – submit to master with respect, whether good or bad
- Christ – called to follow His example – entrusting Himself to the righteous Judge
- Wives – submit to husband in the hidden person of the heart
- Husbands – honor wife as a fellow heir of the grace of God
- Give blessing for you were called to inherit a blessing – the living hope
Lesson 3: Suffering in Hope
1 Peter 3:13-4:19

- No harm (3:13-17)
- Lessons from Christ, the flood, and baptism (3:18-22)
- Suffering in the flesh (4:1-11)
- The fiery ordeal (4:12-19)
No Harm (3:13-17)

- “Who . . .?” Events – Enemies – Satan – God
- “. . . prove zealous for what is good”
  - Called to obey Jesus Christ (1:1b-2)
  - Called to follow the example of Jesus Christ’s suffering (2:22)
- The will of God for us to suffer
  - We are blessed (3:14)
  - God is good (Rom 8:28, 31)
- Sanctify Christ in your heart
  - Elevated above all else in your heart (Col 3:1-4)
  - The governing principle
- Keep a good conscience – good behavior
Christ, the Flood, and Baptism (3:18-22)

- Christ died for our sins, once for all . . . to bring us to God
- His death was the judgment of God, once for all, so we do not duplicate that fact
- His life of suffering in submission to the Father led to our salvation
- We share His life of suffering, even to death, because we trust in Him
- Saving faith is not embarrassed by suffering, but blessed through it
- We are made alive in the Spirit – ultimately, new flesh and new spiritual life
Christ made proclamation to the spirits in prison

When?
- Likely, after the resurrection
- “. . . made alive in the Spirit . . . in which also He went . . .”

What proclamation?
- This is the true grace of God – victory through death in Christ

To whom?
- Those who died in the flood
- Implication: They rejected Noah, the preacher of righteousness, who offered the ark for deliverance

The wisdom of man v. the wisdom of God
Christ, the Flood, and Baptism (3:18-22)

- Corresponding to – the flood depicts what is seen in baptism
- The main point: Salvation is through our union with Christ – His death and resurrection
- In enduring suffering, even to the point of death, we are affirming our faith in Christ
- We look to our living hope – resurrection life in Jesus Christ and His kingdom eternally
Suffering in the Flesh (4:1-11)

- Suffer in the flesh . . . cease from sin
  - Union with Christ . . . newness of life and no longer slaves to sin (Rom 6:1-7)
  - Live no longer by human desires, but the will of God (4:2)
- The notable change in the believer’s life (4:3-4)
- Accountable to the Judge of the living and the dead
- Deliverance proclaimed by the Gospel of the true grace of God
- How shall we live?
  - Sound mind and free from intoxicants for the purpose of prayer – joint heirs of God (3:7)
  - Fervent love for the brethren
  - Hospitable to one another
  - Minister to one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God
  - By the word of God, in the strength of God, to the glory of God
- Suffering in the flesh is an aid, not an obstacle, to the life of faith in Christ
The Fiery Ordeal (4:12-19)

- Do not be surprised, as if this is something strange to the true grace of God
  - Necessary for our faith
  - Following the life of Christ
- Rejoice in future hope
- This is the blessing of God and brings glory to God
- The fiery ordeal is a part of God’s judgment – but not His personal wrath on us
- God’s judgment is used for believers to enrich their experience of His grace
- “Therefore, those also who suffer according to the will of God shall entrust their souls to a faithful Creator in doing what is right.” (4:19)