

III. Persevering in Suffering (4:12- 5:11)

A. The Joy of Suffering (4:12- 19)

B. Shepherding in Exile (5:1- 11)

IV. Final Greetings (5:12- 14)

14-Apr-24	2 Peter
21-Apr-24	Letters of John
28-Apr-24	Jude
5-May-24	The Old Testament in the New Testament
12-May-24	Revelation
19-May-24	Our Future Hope

New Testament Survey

Class 28: 1 Peter

Title: The Blessing and Riches of Suffering

Theme: Call to persevere in faith as an exile, elected by God

Purpose and Occasion:

- Christians are dispersed in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia
- Most scholars agree that the language suggests a Gentile audience (“former ignorance”, “futile ways inherited from your forefathers”), but Jewish Christians are likely, many of these regions are represented at pentecost
- Living under the general oppression, not likely the empire-wide persecution of the Roman empire that later emerged

Outline:

- I. Elect Exiles
 - A. A Praise of Salvation (1:1- 12)
 - B. Prepare for Christian Life (1:13- 21)
 - C. Love the People of God (1:22- 2:10)
- II. Exiles Bringing Glory to God Amidst Hostility (2:11- 4:11)
 - A. Conduct Among Gentiles (2:11- 12)
 - B. Submission to Authority(2:13- 25)
 - C. Wives and Husbands (3:1- 7)
 - D. Suffering for Righteousness’ Sake (3:8- 4:11)
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Authorship¹:

Recent scholars suggest that 1 Peter is falsely ascribed to Peter

Objection to Authorship	Response
1. The Greek used in the letter could not have been written by a Galilean Fisherman.	1. Peter was a middle-class fisherman, from Galilee. Greek would have been very common and he likely knew it. Furthermore, Silvanus (1 Peter 5:12) could have assisted in writing the letter.
2. Theology is too much like Paul's.	2. Paul and Peter share the same theology - though they emphasize different themes.
3. OT citations come from the Greek OT (Septuagint), Peter would have cited the Hebrew OT.	3. Peter's audience read Greek, OT Hebrew wouldn't have been appropriate.
4. Background of the letter reflects that of Domitian (AD 81 - 96) or Trajan (AD 98 - 117) who both reigned after the death of Peter.	4. There is really no clear evidence that the letter was written under either of these emperors.
5. The "genuine" Peter would have referred more to the historical Jesus.	5. It is risky to say that an author would or would not do something. Peter alludes to many sayings of Jesus (Luke 12:35 in 1 Pet 1:13; Matt 5:16 in 1 Pet 2:12; Matt 5:10 in 1 Pet 3:14)

Above all, the author claims apostleship (1 Pet 5:1) and the early church did not reject Peter as the author. The church didn't accept pseudonymous books.

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¹ Adapted from the ESV Study Bible, Crossway, 2008.