

I Peter 5:12-14

Written Exhortation And Salutations

I. Introduction:

A. This letter to the saints, strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, etc. (**I Peter 1:1-2**) is wrapping up.

1. We have seen that they were suffering in the flesh and that they had more of such to come (**I Peter 1:6-7**, **I Peter 1:20**, **I Peter 3:14-17**, **I Peter 4:1-5**, **I Peter 4:12-19**, and **I Peter 5:8-10**).

2. Through this letter, we have learned many things. Such as, when life in the flesh is miserable our true hope is very much alive (**I Peter 1:3**, **I Peter 1:13**, **I Peter 1:21**, and **I Peter 3:15**).

B. Through the lessons in this epistle we are reminded that even when suffering, God expects us to remain faithful as did our Savior (**I Peter 2:21-23**).

1. We saw that to be faithful and receive the end reward (**I Peter 1:9**), we must abstain from fleshly lusts (**I Peter 2:11**).

2. Even at the height of persecution, wherein saints must live under harsh conditions with proper submission (**I Peter 2:13-19**; **3:1-6**) - be holy as God is holy (**I Peter 1:13-19**).

II. Body: *“By Silvanus, a faithful brother unto you, as I suppose, I have written briefly, exhorting, and testifying that this is the true grace of God wherein ye stand. The church that is at Babylon, elected together with you, saluteth you; and so doth Marcus my son. Greet ye one another with a kiss of charity. Peace be with you all that are in Christ Jesus. Amen”* (**I Peter 5:12-14**).

A. Whether in writing, delivery, or both; Silvanus is involved in this letter as he was even in letters from Paul (**I Thessalonians 1:1** and **II Thessalonians 1:1**).

1. We know Silvanus preached the Gospel (**II Corinthians 1:19**).

2. He was a faithful brother which is language we see used for others too (**Ephesians 6:21** and **Colossians 4:7-9**).

3. Such was seen in his work towards those to whom this letter was written (**Colossians 1:7**; cf. **I Timothy 4:12-16**, **Titus 2:7-8**, and **III John 1:5**).

B. This was a letter of exhortation as such is a work of evangelists (**Acts 2:40**, **Acts 11:23**, **Acts 14:22**, and **II Timothy 4:2**) and all saints (**I Thessalonians 5:14**).

1. The word translated “exhorting” here [παρακαλέω] is also translated as “comforted” or “comfort” as well as other terms (**Acts 16:40**, **II Corinthians 1:4**, **II Corinthians 7:6-7**, **I Thessalonians 5:11**, etc.).

2. The word translated “exhorting” here [παρακαλέω] is also translated as “beseech” as well as other terms (**Romans 12:1**, **Romans 16:17**, **I Corinthians 1:10**, **I Corinthians 4:16**, etc.).

C. This letter was a testimony of the true grace (**Acts 14:1-3** and **Acts 20:20-24**).

1. The grace wherein they [we] stand (**Romans 5:1-2**).

2. Standing (**I Corinthians 10:12, Galatians 5:1, Ephesians 6:10-13, Philippians 1:27, and Philippians 4:1, and II Thessalonians 2:15**).

D. Greetings given from Babylon by those elect with these saints (**Philippians 4:21**).

1. Elected [chosen; **I Peter 2:9**] together which is about the present and future (**Ephesians 3:15, Hebrews 12:22-23, and II Thessalonians 2:1**).

2. As Gentiles (**I Peter 2:10**) who were once outsiders (**Ephesians 2:11-17**), it was important for them to realize they were not alone in their being elect through the Gospel (**I Thessalonians 1:1-6 and II Thessalonians 2:13-15**) or in what they were suffering as saints (**I Peter 5:9**).

3. Marcus [aka Mark; John] (**Acts 12:12, Acts 12:25, Acts 15:37-39** [cf. **Acts 13:13**], **Colossians 4:10, II Timothy 4:11, and Philemon 1:24**).

4. Peter calling him his son was descriptive of a teacher/student relationship in the Scriptures (**I Corinthians 4:14-17, Philippians 2:19-22, I Timothy 1:2, and Titus 1:4**).

E. The kiss (**Romans 16:16, I Corinthians 16:20, II Corinthians 13:12, and I Thessalonians 5:26**).

1. There were customs that, in regions and areas, saints abode by for the furtherance of the Gospel (**I Corinthians 9:16-23**).

2. We know this instruction is not one expected to be carried out in cultures that do not practice it for we have no instructions detailing exactly what this kiss is (**I Thessalonians 4:1-2**).

3. When God wants something done, as a command, He gives a pattern to follow (**Exodus 25:8-9, I Chronicles 28:9-19, and Hebrews 8:5**; cf. **II Timothy 1:13**).

a. For example, the Lord's Supper (**Luke 22:14-20, Acts 20:7, I Corinthians 10:16, and I Corinthians 11:23-33**).

b. Another example, singing (**Mark 14:26, I Corinthians 14:15, Ephesians 5:19, and Colossians 3:16**).

III. Conclusion: Peace (**Acts 10:36**) to all that are in Christ Jesus (**Galatians 3:26-27 and Ephesians 6:23**) which is not a carnal peace (**John 16:33**).