

# Bible Study Questions on 1 Peter by David E. Pratte

# A workbook suitable for Bible classes, family studies, or personal Bible study



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Introduction:

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Questions labeled "think" are intended to encourage students to apply what they have learned.

I also **strongly** urge teachers to use other Scriptures, questions, applications, and comments to promote productive in-class discussion. Please, do **not** let the class period consist primarily of the following: "Joe, will you answer number 1?" "Sue, what about number 2?" Etc. Instead, let the questions be assigned as homework so students come to class prepared. Then let class time consist of **discussion** that focuses on the Scriptures themselves, not just reading the questions to see whether they were answered "correctly."

I also urge the class to emphasize the **Bible** teaching. Please, do not become bogged down over "What did the author mean by question #5?" My meaning is relatively unimportant. The issue is what the Bible says. Concentrate on the meaning and applications of Scripture. If a question helps promote Bible understanding, stay with it. If it becomes unproductive, move on. (Note: My abbreviation "b/c/v" means "book, chapter, and verse.")

Finally, I encourage plain applications of the principles studied. God's word is written so souls may please God and have eternal life. Please study it with the respect and devotion it deserves!

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For whatever good this material achieves, to God be the glory.

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Read 1 Peter then answer these questions:

1. Tell who wrote this book, and list four facts you know about him.

2. To whom was it written (locate on a *map*)? (Think: From where was it written, and what does this mean? Cf. 5:13.)

3. *Define:* elect, foreknowledge, and sanctification.

4. List other *passages* where one or more of these terms are used.

5. *Special Assignment:* Is God's election of people conditional or unconditional? Explain.

6. *Define* "hope" and explain the sense in which we have a "living" hope.

7. Explain the connection between our hope and Jesus' resurrection.

8. Describe 3 characteristics of our inheritance.

9. List two other **passages** about heaven as our reward.

10. When will we ultimately receive salvation, and what does God's power have to do with it? (Think: Does this mean we cannot be lost? Explain.)

11. In what should Christians rejoice (v6), and what may nevertheless cause grief? (Think: Is it wrong to grieve in trials? How long do they last?)

12. Why can we rejoice in trials? Explain the illustration.

13. Are our joy and love based on faith or sight (v8)? Explain. (Think: How can you love someone you have not seen?)

14. Toward what ultimate goal does our faith lead, and what effect does this goal have on us now?

15. Who formerly wanted to understand God's plan for man's salvation, and what, in particular, did they want to know (vv 10-12)?

16. What had been predicted regarding Christ? (Think: Give some examples of these predictions.)

17. Why was this information not given to these people, and to whom was it given? (Think: Did inspired men always understand their messages? What does this tell you?)

18. Since the gospel is now ours, what attitude should we have (v13)? (Think: Explain "gird up the loins of your mind.")

19. How should we *not* live (v14)? Explain.

20. *Define* "holy," and explain how our place as children of God requires us to be holy (v14-16). (Think: What Old Testament *passages* are quoted here?) 21. How will God judge us, and how should that affect our lives? (Think: What are meant by "respect of person" and "fear" - KJV?)

22. *Define* "redeem," and explain from what we need to be redeemed.

23. By what are we redeemed, and by what are we *not* redeemed?

24. *Special Assignment:* Explain several similarities between Jesus and a lamb.

25. List two other *passages* about redemption.

26. In what sense was Jesus "foreordained" and then "manifested" (v20 - KJV)? (Think: What is the consequence of this for the doctrine that Jesus' death was unexpected by God?)

27. How are souls purified, and what other *passages* teach similarly (v22)?

28. How should we love our brethren, and where else does the gospel discuss brotherly love?

29. Explain the illustration of seed and the new birth (v23). (Think: What other *passages* discuss the new birth?)

30. How long will God's word live, and how did Peter illustrate this? (Think: Why is this important to our salvation?)

Read 1 Peter 2 then answer these questions:

1. **Define** these words from v1 (KJV): malice, guile, hypocrisies, envies, evil speakings. (Think: What applications should we make from these?)

2. Explain the illustration of the baby and the milk.

3. *Special Assignment:* List two other *passages* showing Christians should grow, and explain how a Christian's life resembles a child growing.

4. Who is the living stone of v4, and how does man's view of Him differ from God's?

5. Who are the living (lively - KJV) stones of v5, and what is the house they make up (see cross-references).

6. What passage is quoted in v6, and in what sense is Jesus like a corner stone?

7. *Special Assignment:* List the verses here that say Jesus is "precious," and explain some ways in which He is precious.

8. What passage is quoted in v7, and where else is it quoted in the New Testament?

9. Who were the builders, how did they reject Jesus, and how did He still become cornerstone? (Think: What does this show about God's power?)

10. In what sense is this cornerstone also a stumbling block? (Think: Is it always wrong to be a stumbling block? Explain the contrast between the cornerstone and the stumbling block.)

11. List and explain 5 terms for Christians in vv 9,10. (Think: In what sense are we a "peculiar" people - KJV?)

12. State the purpose for which we were called, and explain some applications. (Think: In what sense had we "not obtained mercy"?)

13. From what should we abstain and why (v11)? (Think: Where else are we called sojourners or pilgrims?)

14. How should we act, and what reason is given (v12)? (Think: What other *passages* teach similarly?)

15. To whom should we submit according to vv 13,14, and where else is this taught?

16. What are the purposes of civil government?

17. *Application*: List some specific applications these verses have for citizens and for rulers.

18. What purpose is served by well-doing (v15)? (Think: Cf. vv 11,12, and explain some specific applications.)

19. Explain how we are free, yet still bondservants (v16).

20. List and explain 4 brief commands in v17.

21. What authority relationship is discussed in v18, and what is taught about it?

22. *Define* "froward" (v18 - KJV), and explain what applications we should make.

23. What kind of suffering is pleasing to God, and what kind is not?

24. *Application*: Give examples that illustrate these kinds of suffering.

25. What did Jesus leave us, and what should we do about it?

26. Why does Jesus deserve to be imitated (v21), and what other *passages* teach this?

27. How did Jesus act when suffering? (Think: What lessons should we learn?)

28. Explain the sacrifice Jesus made for us (v24).

29. List other *passages* that teach as does v24.

30. How are we like sheep, and how is Jesus like a shepherd?

Read 1 Peter 3 then answer these questions:

1. Who should be subject to whom in these verses, and where else does the Bible so teach? (Think: What is the significance of "likewise" - KJV?)

2. How should a woman deal with a husband who disobeys God? (Think: Does this justify disobedience on her part? What lessons should wives learn?)

3. *Define* "chaste" (v2) and "meek" (v4).

4. List a similar passage to vv 3,4, and explain the meaning of these verses.

5. *Special Assignment:* Are the item(s) in v3 absolutely forbidden, and how do you know? (Hint: Study other "not…but" passages. Do they always absolutely forbid the "not" item?)

6. Describe and give examples of how a "meek and quiet" woman will and will not act.

7. Who demonstrated the proper conduct of women, and how did she act (vv 5,6)? (Think: Give some examples from her life that illustrate her conduct.)

8. *Application*: Explain what it means for a husband to dwell with his wife according to knowledge ( $v_7 - KJV$ ). Give illustrations and applications.

9. *Define* "honor" and explain how a husband should honor his wife. (Think: In what sense is she a "weaker vessel"?)

10. What does it mean for husband and wife to be "joint heirs"?) (Think: How might these matters lead a man's prayers to be hindered?)

11. *Define* these terms in v8 (KJV): compassion, pitiful, courteous.

12. What does v8 teach about our relations with our brethren? (Think: List some specific applications.)

13. How should we act when mistreated (v9)? What other *passages* teach this?

14. List 3 things we should do to "see good days" (vv 10,11), and tell what Old Testament passage is quoted here.

15. List 2 other *passages* about the importance of proper speech.

16. *Application*: Give examples of things we should and should not be willing to do to achieve peace. (Think: With whom should we seek peace?)

17. List 2 other *passages* that show whose prayer God will or will not hear.

18. Explain v12 in your own words. (Think: What applications should be made?)

19. What is the point of v13?

20. If we do right and suffer, how should we respond (v14)?

21. What does it mean to sanctify Christ (v15)?

22. When and how should we give answer to those who question us (v15)? (Think: What is meant by "answer" and "reason"?)

23. What benefit will a good conscience accomplish (v16)? (Think: Where else have we studied similar verses?)

24. For what should we suffer, and for what should we not suffer (v17)?

25. How often, for whom, and for what reason did Jesus suffer?

26. *Case Study:* V19 has been used to teach that people can hear and obey the gospel after death (spirits in prison). List *passages* that show we must obey God in this life, and our fate is sealed at death. (Think: When and how did Jesus preach to these people? Note vv 18-20; 1 Peter 1:10,11; 2 Peter 2:5; 2 Tim. 2:26. Explain the passage.)

27. How many people were saved in the ark, and what can we learn?

28. What saves us according to v21, and in what sense is this not putting away the filth of the flesh? (Think: How is this similar to the flood?

29. List 3 other *passages* showing baptism is necessary to forgiveness of sins. (Think: Explain the importance of Jesus' resurrection in this.)

30. Describe Jesus' position now (v22).

Read 1 Peter 4 then answer these questions:

1. What effect should Jesus' suffering for us have on our lives (vv 1,2)?

2. How should the life of a Christian differ from his past life (v2)?

3. *Define* each of the sins people "walked in" (v3).

4. Choose at least three of these terms (above) and list other *passages* that discuss them.

5. What applications can be made from the term "lasciviousness" (KJV)? (Think: Note the progression of the terms "excess of wine, revelings, banquetings" - KJV. What applications should be made to alcoholic beverages?)

6. How will people act when we leave our past life of sin (v4)?

7. List other *passages* regarding the influence our associates or friends may have. (Think: What lesson should we learn?)

8. What awaits the people who so treat Christians (v5)?

9. Does v6 say people can hear and obey the gospel after they are dead (note the tenses of the verbs)? Explain. (Think: See notes on 3:19. When must people hear and obey the gospel to be saved?)

10. How does God's judgment of these people differ from man's (v6 cf. v4)?

11. What does it mean to be sober and watch, and why should we do so? (Think: What things were about to end?)

12. How does prayer help us in this?

13. Where else have we studied love of the brethren? Why is it important in a time of suffering?

14. How does love relate to sin (v8)?

15. *Define* "hospitality," and give other *passages* about it. (Think: Give some examples of what hospitality involves.)

16. *Define* "steward" and "manifold."

17. *Special Assignment:* Explain how stewardship relates to God's gifts to us.

18. *Define* "oracle," and explain how we should use God's oracles. (Think: In what ways do people sometimes fail in this?)

19. *Define* "minister," and explain what should be the goal of our work. (Think: Who gives us strength, and what is the point?)

20. What might Christians think when trials come, and what benefit do trials give? (Think: Why might people think suffering is strange?)

21. How do Christians partake in Jesus' suffering?

22. How can we have joy in our suffering?

23. Why do Christians view suffering differently from other people? (Think: In what sense do the spirit of glory and Spirit of God rest on us?)

24. What are some things for which we should *not* suffer? (Think: What other verses distinguish suffering for evil from suffering for good?)

25. *Define* "busybody" (KJV), and list other verses about it.

26. Where else is the word "Christian" used?

27. *Application*: What should be our attitude toward suffering as a Christian?

28. According to vv 17,18, is it easy to serve God and be saved? Explain. (Think: Should people be told the hardships of serving God before they become Christians? Explain.)

29. Explain the point of vv 17,18.

30. When we suffer for God's will, what should we do according to v19, and what does this mean?

Read 1 Peter 5 then answer these questions:

1. What positions did Peter occupy (v1)? (Think: Why not mention being Pope? If Peter was an elder, could he have been the first Pope? Cf. Titus 1:5-9.)

2. List 3 other *passages* about elders in the church. (Think: What other terms are used for elders referring to their work of tending a flock or overseeing it?)

3. Summarize the work of elders (vv 2,3). (Think: Do elders supervise the church? Explain.)

4. What should and should not motivate elders in their work? (Think: What does it mean to "lord it" over the flock?)

5. *Case Study:* Some churches have sponsoring elderships who supervise the work of several churches or funds pooled to do a centralized work on behalf of many churches. What would the Bible say about this practice? Explain and prove your answer.

6. What reward awaits faithful elders (v4)? (Think: Who is the "Chief Shepherd"? The Pope?)

7. How should other members relate to elders (v5)? (Think: What other *passages* discuss the duty of members to elders?)

8. *Define* "humility," and give other *passages* regarding it.

9. Explain why humility is needed in a local church.

10. What should we do with our cares? Why? (Think: What other *passages* show God's care for His people?)

11. List 3 other *passages* about the devil.

12. *Application*: List and explain ways in which the devil is similar to a lion.

13. How should we deal with the devil?

14. What comfort is there in knowing other Christians suffer? (Think: Can the devil capture those who properly withstand him? Explain.)

15. What will God do for those who suffer (v10)? (Think: What means does He use to accomplish this?)

16. **Define** "dominion" (v11).

17. Who is Silvanus, and what else do we know about him?

18. What must we do to benefit from God's grace (v12)? (Think: What does this prove about "once in grace, always in grace"?)

19. Where apparently was Peter when he wrote this?

20. Who was with him? (Think: What other *passages* refer to a kiss of love or a holy kiss? What is meant?)

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