

Family Worship

*Exiles With A Living Hope:
A Certain Future (1)*

23.5.2021

Opening Prayer

Our Heavenly Father, thank you for our family.

And thank you for the privilege of coming together for worship.

Help us to understand Your Word and obey it with a joyful heart.

In Jesus name, we pray. Amen.

有一位神
There is a God

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P8Rg_oEFgdg



Catechism Time!

Bible truths for teaching children

Question 45

Q: Is baptism with water the washing away of sin itself?

A: No, only the blood of Christ and the renewal of the Holy Spirit can cleanse us from sin.

This means...

The water used in baptism is only a symbol of God's grace. True cleansing of our sin is by Jesus' blood and the Holy Spirit who renews our hearts.

Bible verse (Luke 3:16)

John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

Let's Open Up the Bible

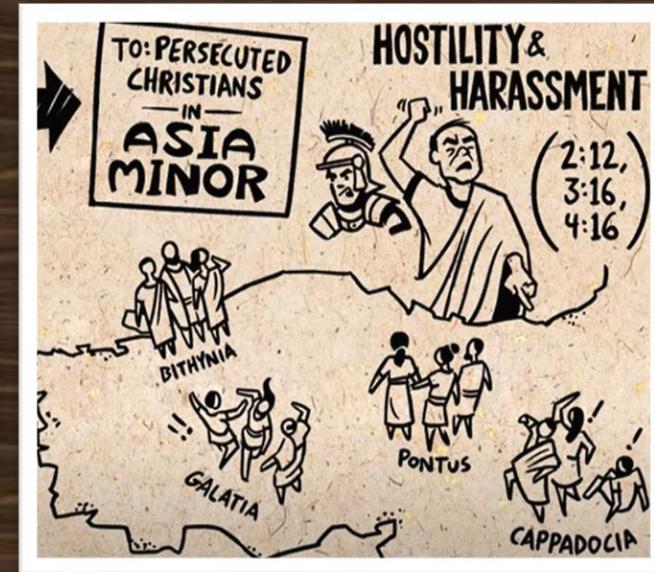
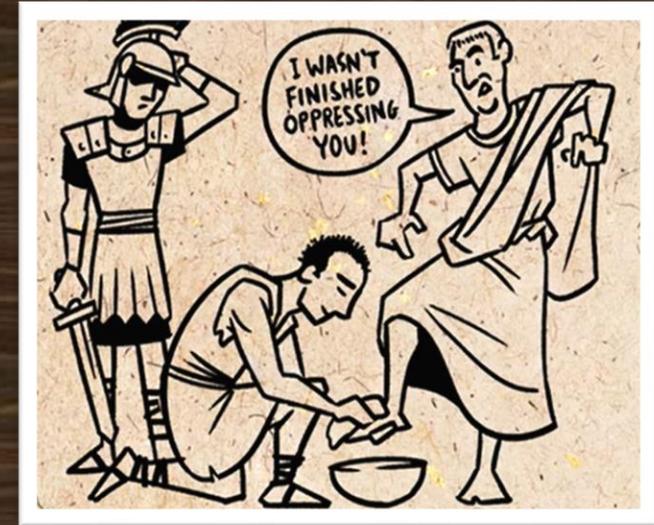
1 Peter 1:1-5

1 Peter

Peter wrote 2 letters in the Bible: 1 & 2 Peters. We are studying the first letter (1 Peter) this season.

Peter wrote to Christians who were suffering for their faith in Jesus.

You see, Christians were not popular because they did not worship the emperor. They lived godly lives when society was immoral, not following God's intentions.



¹ From Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ.

To God's chosen people who are away from their homes ("exiles"). You are scattered all around Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia.

² God the Father planned long ago to choose you by making you his holy people. Making you holy is the Spirit's work. God wanted you to obey him and to be made clean by the blood of the death of Jesus Christ. Grace and peace be yours more and more.

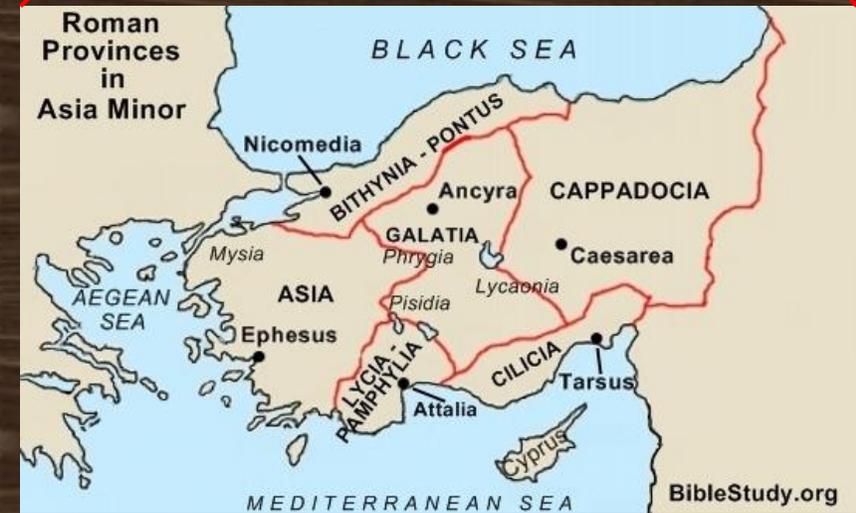
³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has great mercy, and because of his mercy he gave us a new life. He gave us a living hope because Jesus Christ rose from death. ⁴ Now we hope for the blessings God has for his children. These blessings are kept for you in heaven. They cannot be destroyed or be spoiled or lose their beauty. ⁵ God's power protects you through your faith, and it keeps you safe until your salvation comes. That salvation is ready to be given to you at the end of time.

1 Peter 1:1-5

Peter was writing to people living in (nowadays) Turkey. Can you find Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia on the map?

Peter addressed his readers as "chosen people" and "exiles".

Do you know what these words mean?



Chosen People and Exiles

Chosen people means people who believe in Jesus' death and resurrection and acknowledge Jesus as Lord.

Exiles means people living outside their homeland, e.g.

- ❑ After Adam & Eve sinned, they were driven away from Eden. They became **exiles**.
- ❑ God allowed the Israelites to become **exiles** in Babylon because they stubbornly disobeyed Him.
- ❑ Jesus' followers are **exiles** → our permanent home is somewhere else.

"You! Exiles!
Move!"



Chosen People and Exiles

Peter teaches us 2 truths:

1. As God's chosen people, we belong to God.
2. As exiles, we don't belong to the world.

"You! Exiles!
Move!"



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To God's chosen people ("elect") who are away from their homes ("exiles"). You are scattered all around Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia.

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Wow! All 3 Persons of God are involved in giving you a new life!

Can you match the words on the left to those on the right?

Son

Holy Spirit

Father

Chooses you to become holy

Makes you clean by His blood

Makes you holy

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- 1) Which three things has God done for us? (Hint: He gave us two things and kept one thing for us)
- 2) Whose power is protecting you and keeping you safe?

Who am I?

- I am chosen by God.
- I am an exile here on earth.

What do I have?

- I have a new life
- I have a living hope because Jesus rose from death
- I have blessings kept for me in heaven



Now can you help Tommy make up 2 or 3 sentences using the words he just learnt?

God's chosen people

blessings in heaven

new life

living hope

exiles



Tommy

Tommy wrote:

"As God's chosen people, we have received a new life in Jesus. As we live as exiles in this world, our permanent home is in Heaven. We have a living hope and our blessings are in Heaven (not here)!"

So, we set our eyes on Heaven and eternity rather than here and now.



Family Discussion

1. Now you know that you are chosen and loved by God...
 - Do you see yourself precious and loved even if others look down on you?
2. Now you know that you are an exile on earth...
 - How would you look at your wealth or possessions?
3. Now you know that our blessings are kept in Heaven...
 - How does that encourage you to obey Jesus' teachings, e.g. loving your enemies, serving others?

Summary

- ❑ We don't belong to this world, but to the one to come.
- ❑ Exiles don't expect wealth or comfort, or to be popular or have an easy life now. We are passing through. This not our permanent home.
- ❑ Look at the future we have - it's amazing!!! It has so much more to offer than this world possibly could - Perfect love, perfect joy, perfect peace, perfect goodness...

Family Prayer Time

1. Thank God for His Word and help so we may learn from Him.
2. Ask your children to pray for what they have learned just now.
3. Ask your family how you can pray for them specifically.

Because He Lives

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4M-zwE33zHA>

