

Strangers in the world



1 Peter 1:1-9

¹ Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God's elect, strangers in the world, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, ² who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. ⁷ These have come so that your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

1. We are travelers

▲ *We are strangers, scattered*

¹ Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God's elect, strangers in the world, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia,

▲ *We've been selected for salvation*

² who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

2. We are transitioning

▲ *Hope is alive*

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

▲ *Heaven is ahead*

⁴ and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you,

▲ *Help is always available*

⁵ who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation

▲ *Heaven is approaching*

⁵ who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you greatly rejoice,

3. We are tested and tried

▲ *Trials are tough but fleeting*

⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials.

▲ *Trials are tests of our faith and faithfulness*

⁷ These have come so that your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may be proved genuine

▲ *Trials are future testimonies*

⁷ These have come so that your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

4. We are triumphant

▲ *We are persuaded about Jesus*

⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him

▲ *We are possessed with a powerful joy*

⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy,

▲ *We are progressing in our journey*

⁹ for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

▲ *We are passionate about praising Jesus*

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

- ▼ In the midst of worldly assignments and agendas, don't lose sight of the endgame—establish heavenly priorities.
- ▼ When the journey becomes junky, don't let the earthly eclipse the eternal—maintain a heavenly perspective.
- ▼ In seasons of spiritual slump and stagnation, stir up the gifts of hope and joy through praise and thanksgiving.