

# **2 Peter 1.16-21 - The Ranked, Manifold Witness of our Lord Jesus Christ**

04/09/2025

Peter's testimonies of Jesus' Divinity and being Messiah are each precious and confirming, but not to the same degree of rank. How does the Bible rank each of them with the others

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# **1 Peter 5.1-11 - Addressing the Shepherds of God's Flock**

04/09/2025

There is an economy in God's Kingdom that sits upon His perfect Order. This economy is of rewards - both positive and negative. 1Peter 5 is written to guide and encourage the Shepherds, reminding them of this economy

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# **The Dispensations of God's Covenants**

04/09/2025

As with the consequences of a literal vs allegorical approach to prophetic Scripture

arrives at very different conclusions, so too are Dispensations and Covenants a great rudder to the eschatological ship.

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## **Is the Bible you have today true to the original writings, or to the Spirit's Intent?**

04/09/2025

Is the Bible you have today an exact copy of the original writings, or more so, is It true to the Spirit's Intent? Perhaps a good answer is while not a flawless reproduction, it is by God's Volition, sufficient towards Salvation and edification.

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## **If you are new to a Saving faith in Jesus, this is written for you.**

04/09/2025

If, in a full belief (faith) you've said (prayed) to God that you know you've disobeyed (sinned) against Him, and you've asked Jesus His Son Who died and came back from the dead to forgive you, the Bible says God has now adopted you into His family.

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# **Berean Prophecy Study - Larkin & Benware**

04/09/2025

Our Men's discipleship group meets weekly to discuss our current study of the Word. We're considering Larkin's and Benware's thoughts on Prophetic Scripture and the Book of Revelation.

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## **What Did Jesus Do Between His Death and Resurrection?**

04/09/2025

Jesus' total domination and Authority given by Father would be settled. As He already demonstrated His being the perfect Prophet, and is now exercising the office of High Priest, we await His return as King of all Kings ushering in the end of the kingdoms of Man.

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## **Life Under Grace in Christ the Victor - 1 Pet 3:8-22**

04/09/2025

**1 Pet 3:8-22**

[1 Peter 3.8-22 - Life Under Grace in Christ the VictorDownload](#)

### Period of Grace – 1 Pet 3:8-9a

Peter concludes his instructions to Believers, explaining life in this present time of Grace. This period we're currently in following the Cross will continue until He retrieves (snatches up, **1 Thess 4:13-18**) His Church, beginning the time of Wrath. Until then, Peter explains grace towards others as we "were called for the very purpose that (we) might inherit a blessing." **1 Peter 3:9**

This blessing is the Holy Spirit given to us in Salvation, through faith - "...in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we would receive the promise of the Spirit through faith." **Galatians 3:14**

### Harmony with Others – 1 Pet 3:9b-12

Citing **Psa 34:12-13**, Peter explains how to employ a blessed and Saved life while we still live amongst sin, with a reminder that the LORD watches and hears the righteous and opposes those doing evil. The same is taught by James, "The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much." **James 5:16b**

Paul wrote this same declaration to Titus:

*"<sup>11</sup> For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, <sup>12</sup> instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age, <sup>13</sup> looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus, <sup>14</sup> who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds." **Titus 2:11-14***

### Stand Firm under Christ, Suffer as He did – 1 Pet 3:13-17

Living in the reality of being reborn in God through Jesus - while still assailed by the sin that envelops us - Peter urges grace, grace, grace. Emulating the same Grace as Jesus when suffering unrighteousness, we like Him shall strive to tamp down wrath and make as much way possible for the Spirit to do the work only He can do. Our response should act in support of Him as we would be "ready to make a defense to

everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in” us, even patiently suffering wrongs against us “if God should will it so”. The whole of the equation in this Period of Grace rests in making the case for Christ to sinners and staying out of the way to let Him do His Work. When the Time closes, no one will be ignorant of the opportunity.

### Christ's Work/Actions Between Bodily Death and Resurrection, Ascent - **1 Pet 3:18-22**

Christ's Work on the Cross was not the end of His Work. What was seen on this side of the Creation:

*<sup>50</sup> And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit. <sup>51</sup> And behold, **the veil of the temple was torn** in two from top to bottom; and **the earth shook and the rocks were split.** <sup>52</sup> The **tombs were opened**, and **many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised;** <sup>53</sup> and **coming out of the tombs after His resurrection** they entered the holy city and appeared to many. **Matthew 27:50-53***

On the other side of Creation unseen, while between His Body's death and His Ascent to the Throne, Jesus in Spirit preached the Word to the most disobedient spirits in the underworld prison called Tartarus (**2 Peter 2:4**). These are not the fallen angels of Satan but the 'sons of God' in pre-flood Genesis 6 who fathered the Nephilim giants. They will be taken straight to the White Throne Judgement. (**Jude 6-7, Rev 20:11-15**)

The Gospel is vital and relevant to all, both the Quick (for Salvation) and the Dead (for Judgement). Jesus also preached to the disembodied souls of Hades (not the final place of eternal torment, the Lake of Fire) emptying the Paradise side (Abraham's Bosom/Lazarus) to bring them to the Heaven that still awaits us who sleep in the grave before the Rapture. Post-Cross, the souls of the Saints proceed to the same place immediately to the Lord (**2 Cor 5:8**)

<sup>7</sup> But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. <sup>8</sup>

Therefore it says,

*“WHEN HE ASCENDED ON HIGH, HE LED CAPTIVE A HOST OF CAPTIVES, AND HE GAVE GIFTS TO MEN.”* <sup>9</sup> (Now this expression, “He ascended,” what does it mean except that He also had descended into the lower parts of the earth?

<sup>10</sup> *He who descended is Himself also He who ascended far above all the heavens, so that He might fill all things.)* **Ephesians 4:7-10**

Jesus’ total domination and reclamation of all Authority given by Father would be settled. As He already demonstrated His being the perfect Prophet, and is now exercising the office of High Priest, we await His return as King of all Kings ushering in the end of the kingdoms of Man.

<sup>17</sup> *When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man. And He placed His right hand on me, saying, “Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last,”* <sup>18</sup> *and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades.* **Rev 1:17-18**

### Baptism in Allegiance to Him – 1 Pet 3:21-22

“Corresponding to that”, the chapter closes out with the reasoning for a Believer’s Baptism. While a physical act, it no more enacts a spiritual outcome than does fasting or a shorn head (**Acts 18:18**). Instead, it reflects an inner conduct of the heart that God recognizes. Baptism is a show of surrender to Christ the Lord. Fasting demonstrates a devotion to Him and a denial of the flesh to amplify the spirit’s focus. A vow is in devotion and obedience to God despite protests in ourselves.

The only Ordinances given by Moses – Circumcision and Temple Sacrifice – have been rendered obsolete and unnecessary by the New Covenant, entered through our death in Christ and so a release from the Law.

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# **Is Man's sin intended or unintended?**

04/09/2025

Is our sin intended or unintended? I believe it depends on the circumstances.

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## **Thoughts on Avarice**

04/09/2025

Avarice is to withhold and keep such things as thou hast, without rightful need.  
(Chaucer)

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## **On the topic of Atonement**

04/09/2025

Forgiveness must come from that Someone greater than me, or else it is just one thief forgiving his peer.

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# **The sinful Human Heart is a fortress**

04/09/2025

Perhaps we could consider the Human Heart - in its current, 'natural' state - to be a locked up fortress. Only the occupant can unlock the door and open it from the inside.

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## **Thoughts in Considering Anger - Expanded**

04/09/2025

Anger is a difficult and potentially confusing topic for followers of Christ. It's especially problematic because, handled incorrectly, we can be unknowingly committing sin. Anger is largely unavoidable, and in many cases it is right.

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## **Is God at Fault for Bad Behavior From His Church?**

04/09/2025

A Christian or a Pastor who misrepresent God is in error, and the recipient will have to choose to judge whether the God they describe is fair or is unfair. If we simply accept any representation of the God we have not investigated ourselves, we're

likely to be missing out on the most important issue any of us will face. It is always better to judge God first hand, for ourselves.

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## **Know Your Place**

04/09/2025

Of the difficulties facing society, social media has emerged as one of the main opiates of our vanity. Like anything else, it can be used rightly, but it's wrong exercise breeds all degrees of sin.

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## **Headwaters of the Generations**

04/09/2025

Christ brought a New Covenant that requires us to die and be reborn in His Line. The only way we can be released of the Law as an Adamic descendant is to be spiritually removed from the original Covenant

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## **What is Worry?**

04/09/2025

We lack peace if we are afraid of the outcome under the Sovereign God - be it that we don't know what to expect from Him, or are afraid of His response, or believe

that He isn't paying attention.

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## **God is Holy**

04/09/2025

God's Holiness cannot be underestimated or underemphasized. This (RE)Cap installment will not be an attempt to consider God's Holiness, but instead thoughts on why reconsidering His Holiness is imperative.

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## **God is Love**

04/09/2025

We've all been schooled on the problems of 'romantic love', the idea that love centers around often blind, warm feelings. Is this a true basis of love? Perhaps not, if we look to the essential issue behind love - a willful commitment, per God's law, to another who we have no expectation to repay us.

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## **God is Generous**

04/09/2025

This subject as a whole should burn in our souls, and it seems right to discuss it. Many have observed that we suffer a Post-Christian environment that threatens to

strip us of our worship and joy in God, because it's easy to gravitate to the more attractive parts of His story that this environment selectively promotes.

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## **What is Your Cup?**

04/09/2025

The topic of trials and sanctification is core to the human experience under Father God - and is perhaps only second in importance and difficulty to the understanding His Theology.

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## **Father's Character**

04/09/2025

What is more useful to understand about a person - his past actions in a given set of circumstances, or his overall character that resides behind his actions? The record of a person's actions might be an indicator of his character, but knowing his actual character is far superior in predicting what he might do in circumstances that have not yet happened.

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# God is Trustworthy

04/09/2025

We have a look at how trust works, why it develops, where it can fall off of the rails, and why it is important to consider our stance before Father. His intent is to show and convince us that He is Trustworthy.

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# God is Good

04/09/2025

Most any Christian you ask will agree (confess) that God loves us, that He is Love, that love showed itself on the Cross. In the midst of good fortune, we often hear about His blessings. During the hard times the common anthem is “He has a plan”.

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# How we Change

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Stepping into the Family is the beginning, but we begin a long walk of realization, of His progressively showing us the things in us that interfere with this close relationship He intends for us to have with our Holy Father. This requires change in us, not on the surface but at the ‘heart’ level.

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# Intimacy with Father

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We acknowledge (read: Millennia of pondering) that Jesus did this with perfection – but what does this show us? His successful navigation as a Human is a banner for us to learn and follow.

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## Fear and Fortitude

04/09/2025

I realized that the contrary views of my whole life and my actions have been largely based upon (avoiding) the fears of discomfort – loss of provision, bruised pride, disrespect, harm. In response, I have looked to excel at the barriers to the things that cause those discomforts. The problem is, aside from being sinful, these preventative barriers are horrible taskmasters.

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## Lamentation - New Terms For Us Under the Blood

04/09/2025

We see David lamenting to God in the Psalms and should ask “Is this how I should lament to God today under Christ?” Nobody escapes difficulties, so how should we address God about this? David’s is a good model, but with a big exception for Believers today.

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# **Submission is Inferior to Reverence**

04/09/2025

It was the worst day of my life, and the best day of my life. And I didn't even realize it.

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# **Leadership, Authority, and Subordination**

04/09/2025

Legitimate authority is established upon assignment, not merit. Authority has nothing to do with a person's abilities, and in fact, means that authority remains even in an ignorant leader. Bad leaders are still responsible.

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# **Hannah's Baptism**

04/09/2025

Hannah's Baptism testimony, and my prepared response.

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# Test Yourself, Christian

04/09/2025

Going to church does not make you a Christian; nor does saying a prayer, going down an aisle, passing a catechism, telling yourself that you are, or trying to be a decent person. You can only be a Christian if Christ is in you, which can be tested and proven according to the scriptures.

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## Why did God Create Man?

04/09/2025

We often point to the Westminster Catechism and state that our chief goal is “to glorify God and enjoy Him forever”. While a great explanation from Man’s viewpoint, I have wondered about God’s point of view, too.

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## Two Minutes to Explain the Gospel

04/09/2025

First, let’s acknowledge there is a God Who has expectations. One proof of this is your inherent sense of right and wrong, which is there as an anchor to His expectations.

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# **The Results and Effects of Sin**

04/09/2025

I would describe sin as an act that defies the stated expectation of God.

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# **The Missional Life**

04/09/2025

A missional life will rest upon an understanding of the core reason of a man's existence, being realized through his Saved life.

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# **The Inerrancy of the Bible**

04/09/2025

I believe the Bible is the faithful compilation of everything God intends for us to hear from Him.

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# **General and Specific Revelation**

04/09/2025

I believe both categories speak of His character. No person will ever be without an awareness of the God of Everything, and on the other hand, all who pursue Him can

find Him personally.

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# **Created in God's Image and Likeness**

04/09/2025

Being that the Bible states that God has no material form, and the fact that all of us look very different both in person, race and gender, I believe the Image and Likeness He imparted upon us refers to His characteristics and attributes.

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# **Brief Explanation of the Trinity**

04/09/2025

I believe the basics of the Trinity include Three Persons, all God, holding distinct offices and responsibilities, with subordination among Them under Father, yet none of Them no less God Supreme.

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# **Some Questions for the Pastor**

04/09/2025

Questions we might ask of a Pastor when considering attending his Church.

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# **Trials from God and the results He intends from us**

04/09/2025

Our lives and circumstances - what are they? To ourselves, to us as we focus on ourselves, we are quick to lose sight of what our lives and circumstances truly are. The truth is, in light of God's view, everything we are - our lives and circumstances - are at best secondary.

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## **Matt's Baptism**

04/09/2025

Passages in preparation for Matt's Baptism

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## **How and why the Lord keeps us Saved**

04/09/2025

Looking at the exhortations of Hebrew concerning the perseverance of the saints and God's use of Scripture, among other things, to accomplish this, it seems we can often find difficulty in understanding how this is so and how it even fits theologically.

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# **Preparation for the Lord's Supper**

04/09/2025

Followers of Christ are brought into the New Covenant by the Atonement. This is possible through the breaking or sacrifice of Jesus' Body, to finally satisfy the Justice demanded by God for our sins.

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## **Thoughts on Heb 6.4-9**

04/09/2025

What of the person who "backslides"? It must mean one of two things - either that person never belonged to Christ, or, he is a very poor example of a Christian, who's 'works will be burned in the fire', and who continues to 'grieve the Holy Spirit'.

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## **Jesus' mother and Father - the God-man**

04/09/2025

What does Scripture reveal to us concerning the mystery of Jesus' God and man realities? He came here to be among us, Jesus the Son of God, God Himself in every sense, yet also fully man.

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# **Our Biblical Tapestry**

04/09/2025

A tapestry is woven, and there are many different sorts of threads which run through it. If you imagine looking up close and tugging on an individual thread, you might also imagine seeing where else that thread runs through the tapestry. Studying the Bible, especially by reference, is illustrated in this way too.

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## **Why must we pray?**

04/09/2025

When someone is directed to do something – is given the opportunity and has the means to do it – they will also be held accountable for their response. In this case we are told to do so by God Himself, and He keeps perfect accounts of how we respond.

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## **To Whom and how we pray**

04/09/2025

Only people whose High Priest is Jesus, who are indwelt with the Holy Spirit, are recognized by the Father as His children. The Father has chosen to use priests as representatives between God and mankind.