

1 PETER: A MESSAGE OF HOPE

Introduction

I. A word about the teacher: Peter

An original disciple of Jesus and one of the inner circle
The preacher at Pentecost where 3000 were saved Acts 2:14-41
He healed a lame man outside the Temple gate Acts 3:1-10
People were healed by coming into contact with his shadow Acts 5:15-16
He raised Dorcus from the dead Acts 9:36-42
He took the gospel to the Gentiles Acts 10
He wrote two inspiring epistles
He was martyred for his faith

II. A word about the times: Uncertain

In AD 62, Paul was martyred in Rome
In AD 64, Nero became Emperor of Rome
Christianity was outlawed and Christians brutally persecuted.
The church was at the point of panic
Peter was in Babylon (5:13) a cryptic name for Rome

III. A word about the themes: Courage, Pilgrimage, Hope

Courage: to stand firm in the face of opposition
Pilgrimage: to keep moving for the glory of God
Hope: to look forward to the glory to come

IV. A word about the theology: Sovereignty

God is in control now
God will be in control forevermore