1 Peter

Part One: Stand Fast

Pastor Rick Henderson February 4-5, 2023

QUESTION: What are the things that knock you off your feet?

1 PETER 5:12 With the help of Silas, whom I regard as a faithful brother, I have written to you briefly, **encouraging** you and testifying that this is the **true grace of God**. **Stand fast** in it.

IDOLS: Anything, other than Jesus, that we look to for SIGNIFICANCE, SECURITY, and SATISFACTION.

We are all vulnerable to looking for encouragement in a **FALSE** version of **GRACE**.

1 PETER 1:1-5 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God's elect, exiles scattered throughout the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance. 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, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, 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.

1 PETER 2:9 But **you are** a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

IDENTITY: I find joy in defining myself by what Jesus did, not what I do. What is the story I'm telling myself about myself?

SERIES THESIS: Let your **IDENTITY** drive your **ACTIVITY**.

1 PETER 1:1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God's **elect**, exiles scattered throughout the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia

If you want to understand what Peter means, don't turn to **OLD THEOLOGIANS** before you turn to the **OLD TESTAMENT**.

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THEOLOGY 101: Election is more often about **SERVICE** than about **SALVATION**.

2 TIMOTHY 2:10 Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, **that they too may obtain the salvation** that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.

1 PETER 1:2 ...who have been **chosen** according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the **sanctifying** work of the Spirit, **to be obedient** to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

THEOLOGY 101: If you are in the **ELECTED** one, you are one of the **ELECT**.

ISAIAH 42:1 "Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my **chosen one** in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations."

2 CORINTHIANS 5:21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so **that in him we might become** the righteousness of God.

THEOLOGY 101: Before you WANTED God, he WANTED you.

1 PETER 1:2 who have been **chosen** according to the **foreknowledge** of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ and **sprinkled with his blood**: Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

QUESTION: Does God *really* want everyone?

JOHN 3:16-17 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Jesus was both the **ELECTED** one and the ultimate **EXILE**.