
Study Series: 1 Peter

Questions about the overall message and key passages in 1 Peter

1. Reflect on the theological metaphor of “living stones ... built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood” (2.5, RSV). What insights can you garner about Christian identity from this description, particularly in view of the letter as a whole?
2. What hope, advice, and encouragement does 1 Peter give to those who either are facing persecution and harassment for their beliefs, or are struggling to determine how best to live as a Christian in relation to the world?
3. Compare and contrast the Christology of 1 Peter and Hebrews. Do you think there were any similarities between the situations of their respective audiences? How so?
4. Do passages like 2.18-25 and 3.13-22 indicate complicity on the part of the author with respect to socio-political institutions like slavery or to unjust governments? If so, how do we account for their presence in the biblical text and how do we reconcile them to modern sensibilities?
5. What sort of healing do you think the author has in mind in 2.24? How does this statement relate to the creed-like reflection of the surrounding verses (2.21-25) and to the remainder of the letter?
6. What does 3.17 have to offer contemporary Christians who may be members of non-traditional families?