

## Conclusion: Really? Elect *Exiles*?

### LIVE THE STORY

*The Gospel is intended to be learned and lived in community.  
The following questions are designed for use in our Community Groups  
as an aid to growth in the Gospel and Community.*

#### Love the Gospel

- Why is it significant that this section of verses begins with a blessing to God?
- How might you explain that “if necessary” in v. 6 doesn’t make trials optional for God’s people? What other passages of Scripture affirm the experience of trials for elect exiles?

#### Live the Gospel

- How do you remind yourself of the specific identity of the God who has elected and exiled you? Why is that important?
- What activities or attitudes stifle you from singing praises?
- What activities or attitudes most stir you up to rejoice with joy inexpressible and filled with glory?

#### Advance the Gospel

- How might our identity as elect exiles serve as a witness to our neighbors?
- How might a failure to understand both aspects of this identity hinder us from serving as a witness to our neighbors?

## HOME-less: A Series in 1 Peter (Part 2) What, Exactly, Is an Elect Exile? Peter Stonecipher — June 27, 2021

Text: 1 Peter 1:3-9

### Introduction: What, Exactly, Is an Elect Exile?

“Elect” and “exiles” aren’t words we would naturally place next to each other

God’s people tend to gravitate toward one of these descriptions, but not both

The Apostle Peter points us in a more constructive direction

### I. Elect Exiles Still Sing Praises (vv. 3-5)

A. Elected and exiled by a specific God

Peter is very specific about who this God is who made his people elect exiles

*1 Peter 1:2, 3*

Peter is speaking specifically about the triune God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – who has revealed himself through the prophets and apostles, and most especially through Jesus Christ, his Son

*“Fluently, almost effortlessly, the prophets and apostles narrate, bless, pray, and sing the name of the triune God.” – Scott Swain*

B. Elect exiles are recipients of God's great mercy

Peter's emphasis is that it is God who accomplishes each of these things for his people

The numerous benefits which elect exiles enjoy are, first to last, accomplished and applied by God himself

C. Elect exiles have hope and an inheritance

*"It is difficult to imagine a more sweeping concept than a new birth. Just as people receive their ethnic identity, their citizenship, their socioeconomic class, and their innate potentialities from their biological parents, Christians have a new identity and a new citizenship that redefines their relationship with society and transforms their identity and character."* – Karen Jobes

D. Elect exiles still sing praises

It's easy to forget that this section begins with doxology or blessing of God

*Psalms 137:1, 4, 5-6*

## II. Elect Exiles Rejoice in Trials (vv. 6-9)

A. Elect exiles are grieved by various trials

*Matthew 5:11; 16:24; John 16:33*

In these verses, Peter is talking about any type of trial in this world which tests the faith of God's elect exiles

B. Elect exiles are refined, love, and believe

Refinement instead of destruction → love instead of bitterness and skepticism → belief instead of doubt

C. Elect exiles rejoice in trials

These verses are framed, once in v. 6 and once in v. 8, with Peter's statement that God's elect exiles *rejoice*

*"When the most precious things of this world – such as gold – have been destroyed by fire, Christian faith that has been proved genuine will be shown to be the most precious of all because it will deliver one from that day of final, fiery destruction when Jesus Christ is revealed."* – Karen Jobes

D. Do we rejoice in trials?