

LIVING AS PILGRIMS

Greetings From Rock Johnson

TEXT: 1 Peter 1:1–2 1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To the pilgrims of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, 2 elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace be multiplied.

INTRODUCTION: Authorship of First Peter

1 Peter 1:1–2 1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,

Peter's original name was Simon Bar Jona

Simon - changed to Peter - means "rock"

Bar - son of

Jona - John

Bar Jona – Johnson

Rock Johnson

the little rock, the big rock

Reason authorship is important - all Scripture inspired

1 Peter 1:1–2 1 ... To the pilgrims of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, ...

I. WE ARE PILGRIMS

Pilgrim – in the Greek – sojourner, temporary resident

Believing Jews in Asia Minor were political pilgrims

They, and we, are spiritual pilgrims

Our eternal home is the New Jerusalem

In comparison of time, we are on a weekend camping trip here on earth

If boss said, take Thurs thru Sat and go camp & fish

would you take out a 2nd mortgage to make the camp luxurious?

would you spend 99% of time just fixing up the camp?

That is what many Christians do

spend most of their resources on pilgrim comforts
 most of their time improving the camp
 precious little fishing for men goes on

We are to live as pilgrims with our heart focussed on our eternal home.

What do you love to do?

What do you live to do?

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II. WE ARE CHOSEN PILGRIMS

A. Elect - chosen

You do not first choose God

God first chooses you

no one comes to Jesus unless the Father draws him
 convicting work of the Holy Spirit

God even gives you the faith to come - Eph 2:8-9 by grace thru faith and that not of yourselves

Our trust in Christ is a response, not an initiation

The danger of waiting

"Whosoever will" is always true; but repeated refusals of the Holy Spirit can destroy the will and stop the call

B. According to the foreknowledge of God

God knows you

God has a purpose for you

His purpose has eternal significance

Do you know God's purpose for you?

may not mean vocation change

definitely means lifestyle change.

C. In sanctification of the Spirit

God's purpose is not only to save us but also to change us.

PBPGINFWMY

Please Be Patient, God Is Not Finished With Me Yet

Sanctification is God's way of making us in the likeness of Jesus

God is the potter; we are the clay.

What kind of clay are you?

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III. WE ARE CHOSEN FOR A PURPOSE

A. For obedience

new creation - primary change is the yielding of self will

The primary test of genuine salvation is a changed life

not perfect

not sinless

but not the same

James "I'll show you my faith through my works" Faith w/o works is dead
- not genuine, pretended

I fear that the casualness we observe in Christianity today is the result of a lot of unsaved church goers who are going through the motions but have never been born again.

B. For sprinkling of the blood of Jesus

2 primary purposes for sprinkling the blood

Cleansing

Consecration

The saved are cleansed by the blood of Jesus Christ

But we are also consecrated as priests to His service

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CONCLUSION: Grace and peace be multiplied to you.

I have been a pastor now for over 36 years. I have watched a lot of people die.

Let me tell you about Marilyn Yarborough. There are folks here who have demonstrated these same things, but if I mention one of them, you may wonder, why did I not name this other person. So I mention someone in another place that you do

not know. Marilyn was not perfect, but she demonstrated many of the things I have shared today:

Chosen by God

Responded to His call

Sanctified - changed

Set apart for obedience and service

Served God in home, in church, at school, in community.

When death's approach became a certainty, you could visibly see the grace and peace multiplied in her life.

Not everyone dies like that.

But people who are genuinely saved, who live as pilgrims in obedience and consecration to the Lord do.