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THE BEREANS

ACTS 17:11

1 Peter 1:1
Lesson #2
Peter's Authority
08/16/2020

1 Peter

*Operations Manual for Alien
Ambassadors in a fallen world*

This is what we
have "in Christ"

This is how it should
shape our behavior

	Indicative	Imperative					
"aliens"	Salvation	Sanctification	In the church		Shepherding		
Introduction			Submission		Suffering		Conclusion
"chosen"			In the world				
	1:1-2	1:3-12	1:13-2:10	2:11-3:12	3:13-4:19	5:1-11	5:12-14


Christians are called out of the world before — they are sent into the world.

1

1 Peter 1:1

"Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to those who reside as aliens, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia (modern day Turkey) who are chosen"

- What was the role of an Apostle?
- Was Peter the first Pope?
- What should Peter's life teach us?



Next week

- In what sense are we "aliens"?
- In what sense are we "chosen"?

2

Jesus endorsed the Apostles' special authority through the coming Holy Spirit.

John 15

"26 When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the **Spirit of truth**, who proceeds from the Father, **He will bear witness of Me**, 27 and **you will bear witness also**, because you have been with Me from the beginning."


John 14:26

"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, **He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.**"

3

Ephesians 3:5

"(The Gospel) Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as **it is now revealed unto His holy Apostles and Prophets by the Spirit.**"

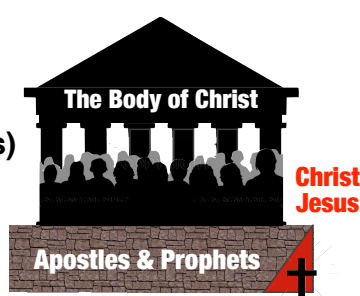


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Ephesians 2

"20 (the church) having been built on the **foundation** of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the **corner stone**, 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy **temple** in the Lord."

The N.T. Epistles
(writing of the Apostles)
are the foundation of
Christian theology.



5

Two types of Apostles in the New Testament

Foundation APOSTLES

only 12 & (Paul)
- foundation of
the church

Inspired

Eph.2:20

“having been built upon
the foundation of the
apostles and prophets,”

Maintenance apostles

many
- ongoing builders of
the church

Inspiring

1 Cor.12:28

“And God has appointed in
the church, first apostles,
second prophets, third
teachers,”

6

Characteristics of the Foundation APOSTLES

Eyewitness to the resurrected Jesus

Acts 1:21-22

“Therefore it is necessary that of the men who have accompanied us
all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us -
beginning with the baptism of John until the day that He was taken
up from us - one of these must become **a witness with us of His
resurrection.**”

Fruitfulness in ministry

1 Corinthians 9:1

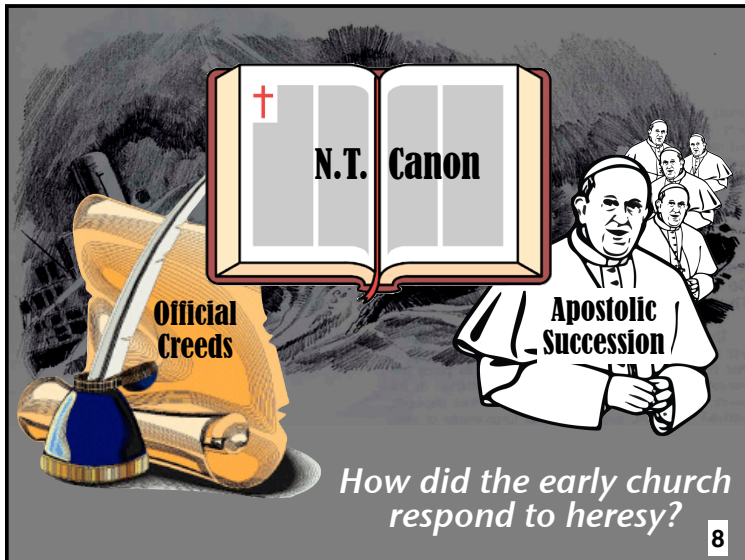
“Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our
Lord? **Are you not my work in the Lord?**”

Signs and wonders

2 Corinthians 12:12

“The **signs of a true apostle were performed among you** with all
perseverance, by signs and wonders and miracles.”

7



8

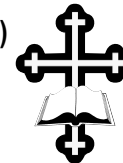
Core of Theological Authority

Western church
(Roman Catholic)
50%

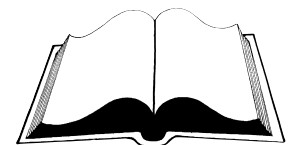
Pope

Eastern church
(Eastern Orthodox)
12%

Creeds



Reformation
(Protestant)
37%



Scripture

9

Was Peter the first Pope?

Matthew 16

“15 He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” 16 And Simon Peter answered and said, “Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.” 17 And Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. 18 **And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church;** and the gates of Hades shall not overpower it. 19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and **whatever you shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.**” 20 Then He warned the disciples that they should tell no one that He was the Christ.”

- **Since the Protestant Reformation** the Roman Catholic church has used this text as Biblical support for the unique authority of a Papal office, starting with Peter.
- This is based on a play on words - petros (Peter) / petra (rock) **but petra (feminine) would not normally refer to a man.**

10

The Roman Papacy evolved over time.

- **While the Apostles were alive** they controlled an oral tradition expanding on the Jewish Scriptures.
- **The writings of the Apostles** perpetuated this teaching after the Apostles death.
- **Local Bishops** governed the various communities of the early church.
- **The Bishop of Rome** eventually came to dominate the Western church. Clement was the Bishop of Rome.
- **The Eastern Church** never recognized the Roman Pope but drew its authority from the early church councils.
- **All early church councils** were called by the Eastern Church, not by Rome.

11

Authority was given not just to Peter but to the whole Apostolic community.

Matthew 18:18

"Truly I say to you, **whatever you shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven**; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

John 20

"²¹ Jesus therefore said to them again, "Peace be with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you." ²² And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ **If you forgive the sins of any, their sins have been forgiven them**; if you retain the sins of any, they have been retained."

12

Peter's role in the N.T. does not seem very papal.

- **Paul confronted Peter** for his misunderstanding of the Gospel of Grace to Gentiles.

Galatians 2:11

"But when Cephas (Peter) came to Antioch, I (Paul) opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned."

- **James headed the earliest counsel** of the church in Jerusalem.

Acts 15:19

"Therefore it is my (James) judgment that we do not trouble those who are turning to God from among the Gentiles,"

13

Hebrews 3

"¹ Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of a heavenly calling, consider **Jesus, the Apostle and High Priest of our confession**. ² He was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was in all His house. . . . ⁵ Now Moses was faithful in all His house (O.C.) as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken later; ⁶ but Christ was faithful as a Son over His house (N.C.) whose house we are, if we hold fast our confidence and the boast of our hope firm until the end."

Psalms 18:2

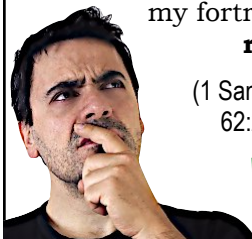
"**The Lord is my rock,**

my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my **rock**, in whom I take refuge,"

(1 Sam.2:1-2, 2 Sam.22:2-3, Deut.32:3, Ps.18:31, 62:2, Isa.44:8, Dan.2:44-45, Ps.18:31, 62:2)

**Was Jesus the first, last,
& only Pope?**

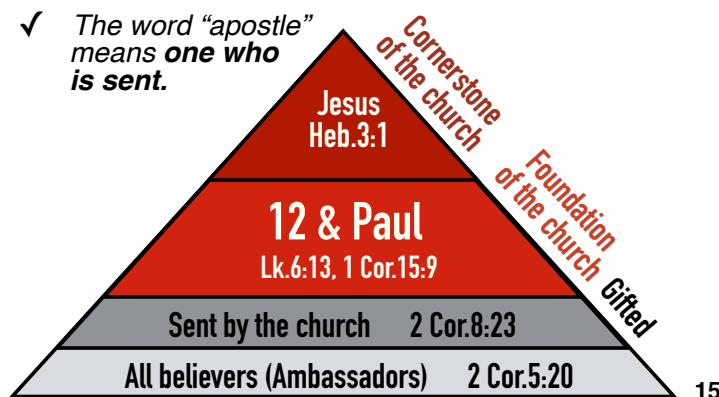
14



1 Peter 1:1

"Peter, an **apostle** of Jesus Christ,

- ✓ The word "apostle" means **one who is sent**.



15

Peter's profile

- **Culturally** - uneducated, Galilean, fisherman
- **Temperamentally** - impulsive, aggressive, activist.
- **Positionally** - Recognized as one of the three closest to Jesus - Peter, James, and John.
- **Theologically** - Jewish – Initially resisted Paul's emphasis on Gentile inclusion in the church. Acts 10
- **1 Peter is a testimony of how dramatically Peter was changed by Christ's Spirit.**

16

Peter - social activist before Pentecost

Angry, Anxious, Aggressive

Matt.14:30

"But seeing the wind, he became afraid,"

16:22

"And Peter took him (Jesus) aside and began to rebuke Him,"

Jn.18:10

"Simon Peter then, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear;"

Matt.19:27

"we have left everything and followed you; what then will there be for us?"

26:33

"Even though all may fall away because of You, I will never fall away." Vs.74 "Then he began to curse and swear, 'I do not know the man!'"

Peter - Christ like after Pentecost

Thankful, Trusting, Temperate

1 Pet.1:14

"As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance."

2:13

"Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human institution,"

3:15

"make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence;"

4:13

"but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing;"

17

What does Peter's life teach us?

Peter's credibility and ours rests in

the testimony not the title.

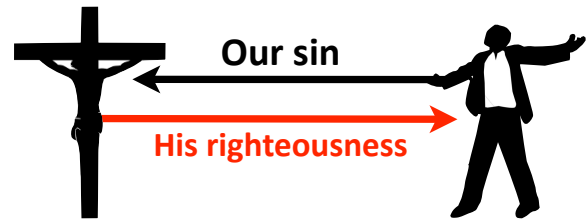
18

1. As ambassadors for Christ we are to take our
BAPTISM SERIOUSLY.

God's plan for change **starts with an
exchange.**

2 Corinthians 5:21

"He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."



19

The center of this exchange
would be the work of Christ.

The **Cross** set
the stage for it.

Pentecost bore
the fruit of it.

Easter

The Old Covenant
would end.

A New Covenant
would begin.

The nation Israel

The Body of Christ

I
II
III
IV
V

VI
VII
VIII
IX
X

Old Testament - Gospels

Acts - Epistles

20

2. As ambassadors for Christ we are to be disciples of
Christ's ATTITUDE.

Philippians 2

"⁵ Have this **attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus**, ⁶ who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but **emptied Himself**, taking the form of a **bond-servant**, and being made in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming **obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross**.⁹ Therefore also God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus "*every knee should bow*", of those who are in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth, ¹¹ and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. "

21

What should we take home?

- ✓ **Realize that our testimony identifies** us as Christ's ambassadors.
- ✓ **Remember Christ's attitude** as our model of how to bear OUR cross.
- ✓ **Renew** our **hope** in God's kingdom, that is not of this world, age, or body.
- ✓ **Read 1 Peter** to see how to **apply** Christ's heart to real life situations.

22