

## "On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

## 1 Peter 1

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The Apostle Peter was writing this first letter to those who lived in what is modern day Turkey. During the days of the first century this area was divided up into various Roman provinces. These provinces would have looked like what is called in the United States, a State. They were bigger than counties but were clear territories marked out by boundaries. These provinces were not all the same and did not have the same standing with the Roman government of the era. Some of the cities in the various provinces would also have special standing and might even be called a colony. Colonies were in some ways like a "Greek City State" as they had their own administration and special relations with Rome concerning taxes and its citizenry. An example of a colony is Philippi, located in the area of Macedonia, modern day Greece.

Peter was writing to the "diaspora" that refers to those who had left Jerusalem because of persecution or due to several reasons related to them being Jewish, Christian, or both. The Apostle refers to these particular ones who are scattered as, *παρεπίδημος*, ***parepidēmos***, pronounced (*par-ep-id'-ay-mos*). *parepidēmos* – a sojourner (foreigner) – literally, someone "passing through" but still with a personal relationship with the people in that

*locale (note the prefix, para, "close beside"). This temporary (but active) relationship is made necessary by circumstances. (These are defined only by the context.)* Discovery Bible. H.E.L.P.S

These who are "pilgrims" those who are on a journey in a foreign land, he reminds them that God had "selected" that is what election is, to a life that is centered in the eternal Godhead. Peter reminds them that the very Triune God Himself had a part in their salvation from beginning to end. God the Father chose them. God the Holy Spirit set them apart and drew them to the Father. This was done so they might come to know the forgiveness that is provided in Jesus, the anointed one, who through His obedience to the Father became a perfect sacrifice for us so that we might be saved! This is a clear trinitarian passage. Let me caution you from trying to "figure out" the Trinity which is beyond our capability. Our finite created minds cannot fathom the depths of the mystery of God and His triune nature. Accept it. Trust that nature and you will be at peace. He is the Creator. We are the Creation. We can only come to Him because in our lostness He came to us, drew us to Himself, and granted us the ability to repent of our sins and trust His mercy and provision to redeem us.

### Prayer and Action Steps

***Thank you, Lord, for saving my soul. Thank you, Lord, for making me whole. Thank for Lord for giving to me thy great salvation so rich and free. (Dutch hymn, tr. Theodore Baker)***  
***Amen!***