

# *“BE Scattered, Strong & Courageous”*

1 Peter 1:1c

February 12, 2023

**INTRO:** Have you ever been convicted by your own words?

This week... **I was!**

*(“We need to read our Bibles better.”)*

*“Practice what you preach”* was a blessed conviction for me.

## **PRAYER**

### **CONTEXT:**

- ~ New Series: 1<sup>st</sup> Peter (*“No Matter What!”*)
- ~ Week #1: m M m (Peter, Christ, apostle)
- ~ Week #2: 3E’s (Elect, Exiles, Evangelists)

**PREVIEW:** Today... week #3:

- ~ Places
- ~ Times
- ~ People(s)

**BIG IDEA:** God’s sovereign Word to His scattered people has never changed. BE mission-driven, radically Christ-like, and biblically strong & courageous!

**T/S:** In recent weeks and months we have collectively concentrated on 3 things that will all come back into focus today: the “5<sup>th</sup> gospel,” “the kingdom of God,” & “perspective”

- ~ the land of the Bible
- ~ the rule & reign of God
- ~ the role of God’s Word in our lives

**TEXT:**

*Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the elect exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia & Bithynia*

**T/S:** Places... Times... People(s)

# I. 5<sup>th</sup> Gospel PLACES



# II. 5<sup>th</sup> Gospel TIMES





### III. 5<sup>th</sup> Gospel PEOPLE(s)





## VIDEO: "Normal Church" (Revelation ch.2-3)

**26** Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And **let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.**"

**27** So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

**28** And **God blessed them**. And God said to them, "**Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over** the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." **29** And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. **30** And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. **31** And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.



## God Commissions Joshua

<sup>1</sup>After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, <sup>2</sup>"Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel. <sup>3</sup>Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses. <sup>4</sup>From the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, **all the land of the Hittites** to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun shall be your territory. <sup>5</sup>No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, so I will be

with you. I will not leave you or forsake you. 6 **Be strong and courageous**, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them. 7 Only **be strong and very courageous**, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go. 8 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. 9 Have I not commanded you? **Be strong and courageous.** Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”

**VIDEO:** *“Battle Cry”*

**CLOSE:**

**Here is the encouraging Word from God... Most people do not know that the land & people that Peter is writing to is the same land and people (the Hittites) that God**

referenced when He told Joshua, way back in the first chapter of Joshua, that Joshua would conquer...

More specifically, God told Joshua 3 times to “be strong and courageous,” “be strong and VERY courageous,” “be strong and courageous!”

Now... tie Joshua 1 together with 1 Peter 1:1 and see that God is again speaking, this time thru Peter, (to BOTH his original hearers 2,000 years ago AND to us, (the modern day scattered, elect exiles) these same principled words of exhortation...

No matter what, as the Lord's elect exiles, scattered by God all around the world today, we too are to be living like apostles (sent messengers of the King) - BEing strong and courageous in EVERY situation and scenario, all across this very sinful and God-hating world...  
no matter what!

See here how God talks to His people:

- *Personally*

- *Purposely*

- *Powerfully*

- *Persistently* (never stops)

- *and Passionately!*

## Hebrews 1:1-2

*Long ago at many time and in many ways God used to speak to our fathers thru the prophets, but now, in these last days, He has spoken to us thru His Son...*

**Now read Acts 1:8 & Matthew 28:18-20  
and GO BE God's blessed, scattered,  
strong & courageous elect exiles!**

*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*

**Acts 1:8**

*And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.*

*19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,  
20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

**Matthew 28:16-20**

## **PRAYER**

**WORSHIP:** *"I Have Decided To Follow Jesus" & "Where Are The Christians?"*