

# 1 & 2 Peter choral reading

CHARACTERS: A, B, VOG (Voice of God), All

SETTING: bare stage

RUN TIME: 2 minutes/page

SCRIPTURE/BASED ON: 1 Peter (HCSB) and 2 Peter (NIV)

## Chapter 1

A: A letter from Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ:

B: To the temporary residents dispersed and set apart by the Spirit for obedience

ALL: and for sprinkling with the blood of Jesus Christ.

A: May grace and peace be multiplied to you.

ALL: Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

B: According to His great mercy, He has given us a new birth into a living hope

ALL: through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead

A: We have an inheritance that is imperishable, uncorrupted, and unfading,

ALL: kept in heaven for you.

B: You are being protected by God's power through faith

ALL: for a salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

A: You rejoice in this, though now for a short time you have had to struggle in various trials

ALL: so that the genuineness of your faith

B: —more valuable than gold, which perishes though refined by fire—

ALL: may result in praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

A: You love Him, though you have not seen Him.

ALL: And though not seeing Him now,

B: you believe in Him and rejoice with inexpressible and glorious joy,

ALL: because you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

## A Call to Holy Living

A: Make your minds ready for action,

ALL: be serious and set your hope completely on Jesus Christ.

B: As obedient children, do not be conformed to the desires of your former ignorance.

ALL: But as the One who called you is holy, you also are to be holy in all your conduct;

VOG: Be holy, because I am holy.

A: God judges impartially based on each one's work,

ALL: so conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your temporary residence.

B: You were redeemed from your empty way of life

ALL: not with perishable things like silver or gold,

A: but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish.

ALL: Through Him we are believers in God,

B: who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory,

ALL: so that your faith and hope are in God.

A: Love one another earnestly from a pure heart,

ALL: since you have been born again

B:—not of perishable seed but of imperishable—

ALL: through the living and enduring word of God.

VOG: All flesh is like grass, and all its glory like a flower of the grass.

B: The grass withers, and the flower falls,

ALL: but the word of the Lord endures forever.

A: So rid yourselves of all malice, all deceit,

ALL: hypocrisy, envy, and all slander.

B: Like newborn infants, desire the pure spiritual milk,

ALL: so that you may grow by it for your salvation, since you have tasted that the Lord is good

### The Living Stone and a Holy People (chapter 2)

A: Jesus is a living stone—rejected by men but chosen and valuable to God

ALL: Likewise we are living stones being built into a spiritual house.

VOG: Look! I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and honored cornerstone

ALL: The one who believes in Him will never be put to shame!

B: You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation,

ALL: A people for God's possession, so that you may proclaim the praises of the One who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

A: Once you were not a people,

ALL: but now you are God's people;

B: Dear friends, I urge you as strangers and temporary residents to abstain from fleshly desires that war against you.

ALL: Conduct yourselves honorably among the Gentiles,

A: so that in a case where they speak against you as those who do what is evil,

ALL they will, by observing your good works, glorify God,

B: It is God's will that you silence the ignorance of foolish people by doing good.

ALL: Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God.

A: Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example,

ALL: so that you should follow in His steps.

B: He did not commit sin, and no deceit was found in His mouth.

ALL: When He was reviled, He did not revile in return;

A: when He was suffering, He did not threaten

ALL: but entrusted Himself to the One who judges justly.

B: He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree,

ALL: so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness;

A: you have been healed by His wounds.

ALL: For you were like sheep going astray, but you have now returned

B: to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls.

### Chapter 3

A: Wives, your beauty should not consist of outward things like elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold ornaments or fine clothes.

ALL: Instead, it should consist of what is inside the heart

B: with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit,

ALL: which is very valuable in God's eyes.

A: All of you should be like-minded and sympathetic,

ALL: should love believers, and be compassionate and humble,

B: not paying back evil for evil or insult for insult

ALL: but giving a blessing, since you were called for this, so that you can inherit a blessing.

A: For the one who wants to love life and to see good days

ALL: must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit,

B: and he must turn away from evil and do what is good.

ALL: He must seek peace and pursue it,

A: because the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and His ears are open to their request.

ALL: But the face of the Lord is against those who do what is evil.

### Undeserved Suffering

B: If you should suffer for righteousness, you are blessed.

ALL: Do not fear what they fear or be disturbed, but honor the Messiah as Lord in your hearts.

A: Always be ready to give a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you.

ALL: Do this with gentleness and respect, keeping your conscience clear

B: so that when you are accused,

ALL: those who denounce your Christian life will be put to shame.

A: For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will,

ALL: than for doing evil.

B: For Christ also suffered for sins once for all,

ALL: the righteous for the unrighteous,

A: that He might bring you to God,

ALL: Baptism now saves you

B: not the removal of the filth of the flesh,

ALL: but the pledge of a good conscience toward God through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

A: Jesus has gone into heaven.

ALL: He is at God's right hand with angels, authorities, and powers subject to Him.

B: Therefore, since Christ suffered in the flesh, equip yourselves with the same resolve

ALL: in order to live the remaining time in the flesh,

A: no longer for human desires,

ALL: but for God's will.

### Chapter 4

A: Now the end of all things is near; therefore, be serious and disciplined for prayer.

ALL: Above all, maintain an intense love for each other,

B: since love covers a multitude of sins.

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ALL: Be hospitable to one another without complaining.

A: Based on the gift each one has received,

ALL: use it to serve others, as good managers of the varied grace of God.

B: If anyone speaks, it should be as one who speaks God's words;

ALL: if anyone serves, it should be from the strength God provides,

A: so that God may be glorified through Jesus Christ in everything.

ALL: To Him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

B: Dear friends, don't be surprised when the fiery ordeal comes among you to test you as if something unusual were happening to you.

ALL: Instead, rejoice as you share in the sufferings of the Messiah,

A That way you may also rejoice with great joy at the revelation of His glory.

B: If you are ridiculed for the name of Christ, you are blessed.

ALL: Those who suffer according to God's will should,

A: while doing what is good,

ALL: entrust themselves to a faithful Creator.

## Chapter 5

ALL: Everyone should be clothed with humility toward one another, because

A: God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble.

ALL: Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God,

A: so that He may exalt you at the proper time,

ALL: casting all your care on Him, because He cares about you.

B: Be serious! Be alert!

ALL: Your adversary the Devil is prowling around like a roaring lion, looking for anyone he can devour.

A: Resist him and be firm in the faith,

ALL: knowing that the same sufferings are being experienced by your fellow believers throughout the world.

B The God of all grace,

ALL: who called you to His eternal glory in Christ Jesus,

B: will personally restore, establish, strengthen, and support you after you have suffered a little.

ALL: The dominion belongs to Him forever. Amen.

A: I have written you this brief to encourage you

ALL: and to testify that this is the true grace of God.

B: Take your stand in it!

ALL: Peace to all of you who are in Christ.

## Growing in the Lord (2 Peter 1)

A: Make every effort to add to your faith goodness

B: and to goodness, knowledge

A: and to knowledge, self-control

B: and to self-control, perseverance

A: and to perseverance, godliness

B: and to godliness, mutual affection

A: and to mutual affection, love.

B: If you possess these qualities in increasing measure

A: they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

B: You will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

#### God rescues the righteous

A: The Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials

B: God did not spare the ancient world when he brought the flood on its ungodly people

ALL: but God protected Noah, a preacher of righteousness, and seven others

A: God condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah by burning them to ashes

B: and made them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly

ALL: But God rescued Lot, a righteous man

#### The Day of the Lord

B: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years

ALL: And a thousand years are like a day.

A: The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise

B: Instead he is patient with you

ALL: not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

A: The day of the Lord will come like a thief.

ALL: The heavens will disappear with a roar

B: the elements will be destroyed by fire

ALL: and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.

A: Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be?

ALL: We ought to live holy and godly lives as we look forward to the day of God.

B: and speed its coming

ALL: We are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.

A: Make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.

ALL: Our Lord's patience means salvation

B: Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

ALL: To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

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1 Peter challenge board

<http://www.quia.com/cb/619523.html>

2 Peter 1 Add to your

<http://www.quia.com/pp/165751.html>

2 Peter, 2 & 3 John

<http://www.quia.com/ba/412051.html>

2 Peter rags to riches

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