

## **THE ELECT**

### **1 PETER 1: 1-3**

Introduction:

The word has almost been lost to the vocabulary of the contemporary church! How long has it been since you heard believers called “the elect?” Though they may have not felt like the elect, this is the term Peter used in identifying the suffering saints of the early church.

The word did not need any exposition to the first recipients of this letter.

They were primarily Jewish believers who had been scattered out of the Roman world by the persecutions that had befallen the believers in Jerusalem.

Peter uses a term that stirred up their memory as Jews. They had grown up with the stories of how God had chosen Abraham and his descendants. They knew what it means to be chosen.

But Peter has in mind something different from their Jewish heritage. What he says to them in this greeting was true of the Gentile believers as well.

They were all the elect, the chosen!

This greeting embodies the Christian understanding of God; it is full of Christian theology. The Christian understanding of God is that He is Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Each member of the eternal Godhead plays a part in making us the elect.

I. THE FATHER FOREKNOWS.

II. THE SPIRIT SANCTIFIES.

III. THE SON REDEEMS.