

The Source of Our Salvation - Chosen by the Father (1 Peter 1:1,2a)

- Last Sunday we looked at the man Peter, God molded him for this purpose
- His experiences & trials equipped him to shepherd Christ's flock in persecution
- His life was a living testimony of the power and the effectiveness of Gospel grace
- God uses fallen and broken people, did bring His truth to bear upon our lives

I. Chosen by the Father (1:1,2a)

- *Two challenging problems regarding the doctrine of election stated*
 - a) Fallen man desperately wants to have some claim in having made a good choice
 - b) Fallen man claims that divine election is unfair & therefore cannot be true
- Answer #1: as fallen creatures is our standard of righteousness higher than God's?
- Our problem: we think God is like us (Ps 50:17) His standard is not ours (Ps 97:2)
 - 1) *Peter identifies these believers in terms of their place in the earth*
 - Residents of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia & Bithynia (modern Turkey)
 - For the most part Gentiles with some Jews scattered through the Roman empire
 - "Diaspora" the Church strangers exiled throughout the world, away from home
 - 2) *Peter identifies these believers in terms of their relation to their place in heaven*
 - According to the foreknowledge of God the Father, by the sanctifying work of the Spirit, who obey Jesus Christ, having being sprinkled with His blood.
 - Peter comforts these persecuted believers telling them they were chosen by God
 - Christians are set apart, chosen, God's choice possession (as Israel was Deut 7:6)
 - 3) *They are chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father*
 - Foreknowledge is not foresight- God never learned anything about man from looking into the future. Foreknew – means fore loved
 - To know someone is to love someone "Adam knew his wife..." Gen 4: 1
 - For a husband to know his wife- the most intimate relationship on earth
 - Jesus will say "I never knew" to those false professors (Matt 7:23)
 - Rom 8: 29 God is not seeing events, God is foreknowing individuals
 - Before time God chose those upon whom he would set His distinguishing love