



The Letter of Hope

1 Peter . . . continued

hope in Christ

Opening

Christ has risen from the dead,
God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor,
He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands;
He has put all things under His feet.

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ

+ Read 1 Peter 1:10–11. On the basis of these verses, provide a summary for:

- (a) all of Scripture (both Testaments);
- (b) the life of Christ, especially Holy Week;
- (c) the Christian life.

We see in 1 Peter a focus on Christ's:

+ suffering and death—1:11; 2:21–25; 3:18–19; 4:1, 13;

+ blood—1 Peter 1:2, 18–19;

+ resurrection and glory—1 Peter 1:3, 21; 3:18–21;

+ ascension and session to the right hand of the Father—2:5; 3:22;

+ return in glory—1:5, 8, 13; 4:13; 5:4, 10

What Does This Mean?

+ How does this give you hope?

1 Peter 5:6–11 ▪ Exhortation to Humility and Trust

+ St. Peter describes the devil as a “roaring lion.” In the face of this lion, what should we do?

+ How might this section reflect Peter’s own personal experience? See John 21:15–19.

+ What blessing and promise do Peter give?

What Does This Mean?

+ How does the description of devil admonish and encourage us as Christians to receive the Sacrament frequently?

+ What difference does it make to know that God cares for you?

1 Peter 5:12–14 ▪ Final Greetings

+ What do we learn about Silvanus (Silas) and Mark?

Closing

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

+ What three figurative terms are used in 1 Peter 5:13? How may this verse help indicate the time and place of 1 Peter?

+ What does church tradition state about Peter’s last days?

+ How does Peter describe the purpose of his letter?

+ How does the letter end?

What Does This Mean?

+ What will you take away from today’s study?

Luther: The devil is called the master of a thousand arts. But what shall we call God’s Word, which drives away and brings to nothing this master of a thousand arts with all his arts and power? The Word must indeed be the master of more than a hundred thousand arts. . . . We must daily use it against the daily and unending attacks and lurking of the devil. (LC Longer Preface, 12–13)