



"Peter: The Suffering Superstar"

"Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father,
through sanctification of the Spirit,
unto obedience & sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ..."

(I Peter 1:2)

March 8, 2020

(An excerpt from lesson 2)

Peter -A man uniquely qualified to tell us what to do!

The Gospel: The message of redemption through Christ Jesus, our Lord, & the directives of The Faith.

SCORE KEY: Crash Quiz on the History of 1st Peter (3 Points Each Answer)

1. Struggling with sin is **common** but not **necessary** as we mature in The Lord.
2. Jeremiah 12:5 reads, "**If thou hast run with the footmen, and they have wearied thee, then how canst thou contend with horses? and if in the land of peace, wherein thou trustedst, they wearied thee, then how wilt thou do in the swelling of Jordan?**"
3. The churches Peter was writing to could find no **redress**.
4. 1st Peter was written to **strengthen** believers for the suffering to come.
5. Peter reminds us in both letters to remember the prophets -they were "Suffering **Superstars**".
6. Peter wrote this letter to five Roman provinces including the **Galatians** & the **Ephesians**.
7. He evangelized Asia Minor likely between 48AD & **64AD**.
8. 1st Peter was probably written in **64AD**.
9. Nero, Emperor of Rome, reigned from the age of 17 in 54AD until **68AD**.
10. Nero wanted to **expand** his castle complex but there was no room so he had the city burned.
11. He wanted to slaughter all **Christians** because they spoke of a new Kingdom & KING.
12. Because of the Christian's love for The Saviour, they were accused of hating the **human race**.
13. Over half of Rome burned for 7 days. Nero blamed the **Christians** but actually had the fires started himself.

14. Nero then had justification for rounding up, torturing, & murdering **Christians**.
15. Nero had many extreme ways of torture. One of his favorite methods was to dress Christians in **animal** skins & have them torn apart by wild animals: he also had mass crucifixions.
16. Describe “Roman Candles”, “Christian Candlesticks”, “Nero’s Torches” - “Nero’s Garden”:

Nero would tie Christians to trees or posts, cover them with tar, set them of fire, & use the flames of their burning for the light in their evening parties.
17. There’s a tale stating that Nero “Played fiddle while Rome burned”. He actually played a form of ancient **harp** The violin (fiddle) wasn’t created until about 1500 years later. The idea behind this hyperbolic statement was that he enjoyed watching the raging fires & ensuing chaos.
18. Nero was a known pervert having violated his own **mother** before murdering her. He also **murdered** 2 wives, a step-brother, his aunt, & was a flaming homo.
19. Along with being responsible for untold numbers of Christian’s torture & murder, Nero crucified **Peter** in AD67; Peter was probably about 60 years old.
20. The Roman Senate lost all confidence in Nero by 68AD; he died by **assisted** suicide at age 31.
21. The book of 1st Peter is written to Christian Jews & **Gentiles** alike.
22. Many attributes of the letter tell us that Peter had read Paul’s letters to the Romans & **Ephesians**.
23. The prophets of old were Suffering Superstars; Peter was -we can & should be... but **Jesus Christ** was the greatest Suffering Superstar of all.
24. Peter mentions Jesus’ sufferings **7** times & our sufferings 13 times.
25. Write & name the chapter & verse in 1st Peter that teaches us that Jesus is our example in suffering?

“...even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps...” I Peter 2:21