

FIRST WORDS

To THE CHOSEN ALIENS

HOW DID PETER BEGIN
SPEAKING HOPE TO HIS FLOCK?



*First words to the chosen aliens who are scattered
(diasporas) across the face of the globe ...*

**PETER'S URGENT FIRST WORDS TO THE CHOSEN
ALIENS WHO ARE SCATTERED (DIASPORAS) ACROSS
THE FACE OF THE GLOBE.**

- **Urgent** ... something pressing; requiring immediate action or attention; imperative.
- **Imperative** ... of vital importance; crucial; necessary or urgent; something so pressing it cannot be put off; absolutely necessary.

1. Some are chosen by God for salvation.

- (1 Peter 1:1 ESV) Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who are **elect** exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia.
- (Mark 13:27 ESV) And then he will send out the angels and gather his **elect** from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.
- (Luke 18:7 ESV) And will not God give justice to his **elect**, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them?
- (Romans 8:33 ESV) Who shall bring any charge against God's **elect**? It is God who justifies.
- (Colossians 3:12 ESV) Put on then, as God's **chosen ones**, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.
- (1 Timothy 5:21 ESV) In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of the **elect angels** I charge you to keep these rules without prejudging, doing nothing from partiality.
- (2 Timothy 2:10 ESV) Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the **elect**, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.
- (Revelation 17:14 ESV) They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and **chosen** and faithful.

2. Those who are chosen are chosen by God's loving, merciful, **determinative choice in eternity past.**

- **Determinative** ... not **confirmative** ...
- (1 Peter 1:2a ESV) According to the **foreknowledge** of God the Father ...

- (Titus 3:5 ESV) He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own **mercy**, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit.
- (Romans 9:15 ESV) **For he says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."**
- (Titus 1:1–2 ESV) Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth, which accords with godliness, 2 in hope of eternal life, **which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began.**
- (Ephesians 1:3–5 ESV) Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, 4 **even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world**, that we should be holy and blameless before him. **In love 5 he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ,** according to the purpose of his will.

3. Some are not chosen.

- (Romans 9:14–23 ESV) **What shall we say then? Is there injustice on God's part?** By no means! 15 For he says to Moses, **"I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."** 16 **So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy.** 17 For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, "For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth." 18 **So then he has mercy on whomever he wills, and he hardens whomever he wills.** 19 **You will say to me then, "Why does he still find fault? For who can resist his will?"** 20 **But who are you, O man, to answer back to God? Will what is molded say to its molder, "Why have you made me like this?"** 21 Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for dishonorable use? 22 What if God, desiring to show his wrath and to make known his power, has endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction,

23 in order to make known the riches of his glory for vessels of mercy, which he has prepared beforehand for glory.

4. Answering the two biggest objections ...

In answering the two greatest protests to the biblical teaching of election ... “That isn’t fair” ... and “What about free will?” ... **The question that we must absolutely, positively ask and answer as we examine these two protests:**

WHERE DID YOU GET THAT?

Those ideas ... “that isn’t fair” and “what about free will” ... Where did you get that? What is your frame of reference? What is the basis of your protest? Through what lens are you viewing the Bible and viewing life?

THE OLD TESTAMENT ANSWERS ...

1. Likely only days old, Adam and Eve are blessed by God and presented with the authority to rule the earth.
 - (Genesis 1:26–29 ESV) Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. 28 And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” 29 And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food.

Understanding Adam and Eve’s challenge with some help from ... the Twilight Zone ...

You are traveling through another dimension—a dimension as vast as space and as timeless as infinity. It is the middle ground between light and shadow, between science and superstition, and it lies between the pit of man’s fears and the summit of his knowledge. A dimension of sound ... of sight ... and of mind. You’ve just crossed over into the Twilight Zone.

Dimension ... a measurable extent of some kind, such as length, breadth, depth, or height; a lifelike or realistic quality; a level of existence or consciousness.

2. We need to understand that everything was new in their world ... including them. How would they know how to live in this new world? God would tell them. **They needed to believe God for life.**
 - (Genesis 2:15–17 ESV) The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. 16 **And the LORD God commanded the man**, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, 17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”
3. But they made a choice to understand and live in their world in a way other than the way of God.
 - (Genesis 3:1–13 ESV) Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’” 2 And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, 3 but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” 4 But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. 5 For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” 6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. 7 Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths. 8 And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. 9 But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “**Where are you?**” 10 And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and

- I hid myself." 11 He said, "**Who told you that you were naked?** Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" 12 The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." 13 Then the LORD God said to the woman, "**What is this that you have done?**" The woman said, "**The serpent deceived me, and I ate.**"
4. From that moment onward every human born onto the planet, unless God sovereignly intervenes in the life of the person, he or she views and interprets this world through their natural, fallen mind and the lies of Satan. The two protests—that isn't fair ... and ... what about free will?—come as a result of viewing their world through this lens.
 5. This "choice" that God allowed Adam and Eve to make is not free will as described or defined anywhere in Scripture. God certainly did not give them the freedom to disobey him. We will see in Romans 6:18 that freedom as granted by God is our obedience to him and which leads to our becoming a slave of righteousness.
 6. Adam and Eve became slaves of sin, not free thinkers. This was not permission or freewill in God's eyes but rebellion that would bring eternal judgment.
- THE NEW TESTAMENT ANSWERS ...**
- (Galatians 5:1 ESV) For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.
 - 7. What people call free will is actually the slave world that Adam and Eve introduced us to and in which our thinking process is directed by and limited to our natural, fallen mind and the lies of the devil.
 - (Romans 5:12 ESV) Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned.
 - (1 Corinthians 2:14 ESV) The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.
8. The only way to be free from viewing our world through our natural, fallen mind and the lies of the devil is that God will have mercy on us and bring us back to himself and back to his word—a commitment of obedience from the heart.
- (Romans 6:15–18 ESV) What then? Are we to **sin [ἀμαρτίσωμεν]** because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! 16 Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of **sin [ἀμαρτίας]**, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? 17 But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin [ἀμαρτίας] have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, 18 and, having been set free from **sin [ἀμαρτίας]**, have become slaves of righteousness.
- Sin (Ἀμαρτίας)** — is personified as a destructive and depraved principle reigning over unbelievers and persisting in believers.
- This word means ...** to be without a share in; to miss the mark; to err, be mistaken; to miss or wander from the path of uprightness and honor, to do or go wrong; to wander from the law of God, violate God's law, sin. *[Enhanced Strong's Lexicon.]*
9. Now we, as believers in Jesus, find ourselves in a similar situation as Adam and Eve where we face a new world ... the higher world of God ... a world in which it is absolutely essential that we depend solely on God and the word of God as to how to navigate this new world of redemption in Christ.
 - (John 8:31–34 ESV) So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "**If you abide in my word**, you are truly my disciples, 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." 33 They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. **How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?**" 34 Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices **sin [ἀμαρτίαν]** is a slave to **sin [ἀμαρτίας]**.