

**Lesson 2**  
**1 Peter 1: 2-12**  
**Chosen for His Glory**

**Memory verse:** “In Him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of Him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of His will, in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of His glory.” (Ephesians 1:11 -12 NIV)

On the world’s most famous cemeteries in England, Thomas Gray penned his famous “Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard,” a poem most of us had to read at one time or another in school. One stanza of that poem reads as such:

The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power,  
And all that beauty, all that wealth e’er gave,  
Awaits alike the inevitable hour,  
The paths of glory lead but to the grave.

Man’s glory simply does not last, but God’s glory is eternal, and He has deigned to share that glory with us! In this first section of his letter, we will learn from Peter how the doctrine of election is linked with wonderful truth of the glory of God. It will then make every sense for you to want to be a Christian and reject what the world has to offer!

The letter seems that in such a small beginning, we would not find ourselves so deeply entrenched in theology. But as soon as Peter says “chosen according to the foreknowledge of God, by the sanctifying work of the Spirit, that you may obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with His blood,” he introduces us into a tremendously deep and far-reaching and profound arena of thought - namely the matter of election.

The reason he brings it up at the very beginning is because of its capability to comfort persecuted Christians. As you know, these aliens, these strangers in the world, who really were citizens of heaven, were scattered around. They were considered by the society in which they lived in many ways outcasts. They were undergoing ever increasing persecution, which really began with them being blamed for the burning of Rome. It was important for them to understand that though they were not esteemed in the world, they were chosen by God. And that’s why Peter introduces this epistle the way he does. He comforts them with the reality that they may be rejected and they may be persecuted by the world, but they are chosen by God.

The doctrine of election is so practical. It is so powerful. When we understand it, it literally changes one’s entire life to understand this doctrine. When you understand that you’re elect, the practical ramifications of that will change the way you live every day.

The doctrine of election will deal with your pride. It will deal with the matter of worship in your heart. It will deal with the issue of joy. The doctrine of election will tell you all you need to know about benefits and spiritual privileges. The doctrine of election will compel you to certain kinds of behaviour like no other doctrine will ever compel you. The doctrine of election will produce power in your life in ways that perhaps you would never be able to understand if you didn’t understand this doctrine. You can’t ignore it.

To learn in this lesson: 1) The Glory of God 2) Understanding election and foreknowledge 3) The Joy of Salvation

**Discussion Questions:**

1). What is your understanding of the glory of God, the elect and saved have a living hope as seen in verses 2 to 4?

2). What comfort can believers find in verses 5 to 7 that will help them in times of trials, fears and amidst the pressures of life?

3).The “joy of salvation” can be enjoyed now as is the glory of God even in the midst of trials as expressed in verses 7 to 12. Discuss.