

Cleansing, Commissioning, Covenant

Through the first letter of the impulsive, ambitious and sometimes violent Peter we see a remarkable picture of a transformed, restored and equipped apostle (sent ones) of Jesus Christ. Peter is an example to us all of our need for covenant, cleansing and commissioning. From our sincere failed attempts at greatness to our glaring obvious shortcomings, all can be covered, all can be restored and all can even be used to the glory of God. Through Peter's words we see Jesus and the effect of His blood impacting our lives in 5 transformative ways.

1. Covenant Maker

We are called to be a covenant people in a contractual world adding colour by living out the ways of God.

*1 Peter 1:1-3 - Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God's elect, ...² who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ and **sprinkled with his blood**:*

2. Ransom Provider

We have been redeemed from meaninglessness as we were created for a purpose not to just pick up shells on the beach.

*1 Peter 1:18 - For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were **redeemed** from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors,*

3. Sin Bearer

We have cleansing by his stripes; no matter what our past or present, there is cleansing available.

*1 Peter 2:24 - "He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; **"by his wounds you have been healed."***

4. Supreme Leader

We are learning to suffer, even in the midst of injustice for the sake of others, as disciples of Jesus, who modelled this by suffering the greatest injustices on our behalf.

*1 Peter 3:18 - For Christ also **suffered once for sins**, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit.*

5. Exalted Lord

Whatever pressure you are under Jesus has got victory in every area, therefore we can live with confidence that our exalted Lord has everything in submission to Him.

*1 Peter 3:21b-22 - It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand—with **angels, authorities and powers in submission to him**.*

Familiarity with Easter can easily cause us to lose sight of these revolutionary aspects of our Lord Jesus. How do these 5 Titles for Jesus challenge you to live differently?

- As colour adding covenant people
- As freed captives with a purpose
- As renewed saints with clear consciences
- As suffering servants of our King
- As sent ones on behalf of the all powerful exalted Lord