

# God's Masterwork, Volume Seven

## The Final Word — A Survey of Hebrews – Revelation

1 Peter: Hope for the Hurting

A SURVEY OF 1 PETER



### The Heart of the Matter

A quick glance at the first few verses of 1 Peter is enough to give us an understanding of Peter's message to his readers: "hope for the hurting." According to verse 1, the "hurting" were "those who reside as aliens, scattered throughout" vast regions of the Roman Empire. These Christians were objects of social ostracism, slander, mistreatment, and threats. They needed encouragement. Sitting on a powder keg of potential persecution, these believers were day after day "distressed by various trials" (1 Peter 1:6) and "tested by fire" (1:7). Peter wrote to help them endure suffering and, instead of facing it with grim, somber determination, face it with an attitude of joy! But how?



### Discovering the Way

#### 1. Background of the Letter

The recipients of 1 Peter were persecuted Christians scattered throughout the Roman Empire. The apostle Peter wrote to encourage and strengthen them.

#### 2. Overall Content of the Letter

The letter of 1 Peter has a central idea: strength during times of suffering. But to understand this theme, we need to understand what the letter says, how the theme develops throughout the letter, and why the message is relevant today.

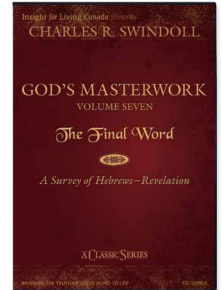


### Starting Your Journey

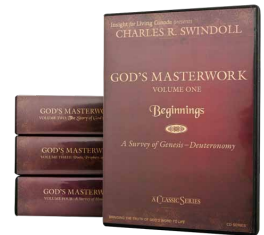
During times of pain, four attitudes are worth remembering and emulating: rejoice rather than resent or retaliate; submit rather than fight or fume; glorify God not the pain; and humble yourself, don't defend yourself.



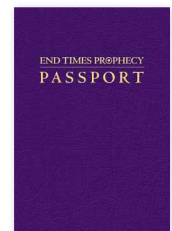
### Tools for Digging Deeper



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Volume Seven: The Final  
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**The Final Word — A Survey of Hebrews – Revelation**

1 Peter: Hope for the Hurting

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## FIRST PETER

	<p><b>Our Living Hope and Holy Life</b></p> <p>“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ” (1:3)                  . . . for the hope we claim (1:3–12)                  . . . by our walk of holiness (1:13–25)                  . . . for our new identity in Christ (2:1–12)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>CHAPTERS</i> 1:3–2:12</p>	<p><b>Our Submission and God's Honor</b></p> <p>“Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake” (2:13)                  . . . to the government (2:13–17)                  . . . at work (2:18–20)                  . . . like Christ (2:21–25)                  . . . in the home (3:1–7)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>CHAPTERS</i> 2:13–3:7</p>	<p><b>Our Suffering and Christ's Suffering</b></p> <p>“Since Christ has suffered” (4:1)                  Keep a good conscience (3:16)                  Share the sufferings and rejoice (4:13)                  Commit yourselves to God (4:19)                  Be humble (5:6)                  Cast your anxiety on God (5:7)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>CHAPTERS</i> 3:8–5:11</p>
<b>Salutation (1:1–2)</b>			<b>Conclusion (5:12–14)</b>
<b>Emphasis</b>	Informing	Exhorting	Encouraging
<b>Grace</b>	. . . to go on	. . . to live faithfully	. . . to stand firm
<b>Hope</b>	<i>A living</i> hope through Christ's resurrection (1:3)	<i>A righteous</i> hope through personal submission (2:15)	<i>A trusting</i> hope through faith (4:19)
<b>Theme</b>	Holy living in a hostile world; hope in the midst of suffering		
<b>Key Verses</b>	1:3–5, 13–16; 2:21; 4:12–13, 19; 5:10–11		
<b>Christ in 1 Peter</b>	Jesus is the living stone rejected by men, who has become the Cornerstone of the church and the Shepherd of our souls (2:4–10, 25).		

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