

The image features two large, thick black L-shaped brackets. One is positioned on the left side, with its vertical bar extending downwards and its horizontal bar extending to the right. The other is on the right side, with its vertical bar extending upwards and its horizontal bar extending to the left. These brackets frame the central text.

THE LETTERS OF
PETER

Who was Peter?

- What does Peter's journey as documented in the gospels and Acts tell us about the writer of these letters?
- Peter's high points? *Matthew 16:17-19; Matthew 14:29*
- Peter's low points?
- What does Peter's journey tell us about Jesus?
- What does Peter's journey tell us about Holy Spirit?
- How does Holy Spirit need to be at work in our lives?

What is Peter talking about?

Before he starts giving instructions, what does he set up?

- Trinity (verse 2)
- Value (verses 7, 18, 23-25)
- Holiness (verses 13-16)

Trinity

1 Peter 1:2 ...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

Grace and peace be yours in abundance

- The Father chose and foreknew. (Exodus 20:2)
- The Spirit sanctifies us to obedience to the Son (we cannot achieve obedience without the Spirit)
- ...who's blood is sprinkled on us (Leviticus 1-4)

Value

1 Peter 1:7 *These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.*

- Refining is good, but not what defines value
- Value is in its eternal qualities (Acts 3:1-10)
- What is it for? (Ephesians 1:5-6)

What does 1 Peter 1 tell us about faith

- What have we already learned about faith?
 - Gift from God
 - Not of ourselves
 - Not something we can generate but we must cultivate
- Verse 7-9
 - Value
 - Result (agápē to Christ)
 - Purpose / Activity - beware of present tense passivity
- Verse 23: what is our faith (and hope) in?