

## Chapter 01

*He comforteth them in their persecutions (being now by Baptisme made the children of God) with the hope of their heauenly inheritance: 6. shewing how meritorious it is for them to be so constant in faith, 10. and confirming them therein with the authoritie of the Prophets and of the Holy Ghoft. 15. Exhorting thẽ to liue also accordingly in al holines, 16. confidering the holines of God, the vprightnes of his iudgement, the price of their redemption by Chrift, 22. and the vertue of the feed in them (which is grace regeneratiue in Baptisme) fore-told by the Prophets also.*

**P**eter an Apoftle of IESVS Chrift, to the elect ftrangers of the difperfion of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Afia, and Bithynia, <sup>2</sup> according to the prefciencie of God the Father, into fanctification of the Spirit, vnto the obedience and fprinkling of the bloud of IESVS Chrift: Grace to you and peace be multiplied.

*2. Cor. 1, 3.  
Eph. 1, 3.*

<sup>3</sup> Bleffed be God and the Father of our Lord IESVS Chrift, who according to his great mercie hath regenerated vs vnto a liuely hope, by the refurrection of IESVS Chrift from the dead, <sup>4</sup> vnto an inheritance incorruptible, and incontaminate, and that can not fade, conferred in the heauens in you, <sup>5</sup> (who in the vertue of God are kept by faith vnto faluation) ready to be reuealed in the laft time. <sup>6</sup> Wherin you fhall reioyce, a litle now if you muft be made heauy in diuers tentations: <sup>7</sup> that the probation of your faith much more pretious then gold (which is proued by the fire) may be found vnto praife and glorie and honour in the reuelation of IESVS Chrift: <sup>8</sup> whom hauing not feen, you loue: in whom now also not feeling you beleeeue: and beleeuing you reioyce with ioy vnfpreakable and glorified, <sup>9</sup> receiuing the end of your faith, the faluation of your foules.

<sup>10</sup> Of the which faluation the Prophets inquired & fearched, which prophecied of the grace to come in you, <sup>11</sup> fearching vnto which or what manner of time the Spirit of Chrift in them did fignifie: fore-telling thofe

paffions that are in Chrift, and the glories following:  
<sup>12</sup> to whom it was reuealed, that not to themfelues, but  
to you they miniftred thofe things which now are told  
you by them that haue euāgelized to you, the Holy Ghoft  
being fent from Heauen, on whom the Angels defire to  
looke.

<sup>13</sup> For the which caufe hauing the loynes of your  
<sup>a</sup>)mind girded, fober, truſt perfectly in that grace which  
is offered you, in the reuelation of IESVS Chrift, <sup>14</sup> as  
children of obedience, not configured to the former  
defires of your ignorance: <sup>15</sup> but according to him that  
hath called you, the Holy one, be you alfo in al conuerſation  
holy: <sup>16</sup> becauſe it is written: *You ſhal be holy, be-  
cauſe I am holy.* <sup>17</sup> And if you inuocate the Father,  
him which without acception of perfons iudgeth accord-  
ing to euery ones <sup>b</sup>)worke: in feare conuerſe ye the time  
of your feiourning. <sup>18</sup> Knowing that not with corrupti-  
ble things, gold or filuer, you are redeemed from your  
vaine conuerſation of your Fathers <sup>c</sup>)tradition: <sup>19</sup> but  
with the pretious blood as it were of an immaculate  
and vnſpotted Lamb, Chrift, <sup>20</sup> fore-knowen indeed be-  
fore the conſtitution of the world, but manifeſted in the  
laſt times for you, <sup>21</sup> which by him are faithful in God  
who raiſed him frō the dead, & hath giuē him glorie,  
that your faith and hope might be in God. <sup>22</sup> Making  
your foules chaſt in obedience of charitie, in the ſincere  
loue of the Fraternitie from the hart loue ye one another  
earnēſtly: <sup>23</sup> borne againe not of corruptible feed, but in-  
corruptible by the word of God who liueth & remaineth  
for euer. <sup>24</sup> For *al fleſh is as graffe: & al the glorie*

*Leu. 11, 19.*

*20, 7.*

*Deu. 10.*

*Ro. 2. Gal. 2.*

*1. Cor. 6, 20.*

*7, 23.*

*Ro. 16. 25.*

*Col. 1, 26.*

*Tit. 1, 2.*

*Eſa. 40, 6.*

<sup>a</sup> Chaſtitie not only of body but alfo of mind, is required. *S. Bede  
vpon this place.*

<sup>b</sup> God wil iudge men according to euery ones workes, & not by faith  
only.

<sup>c</sup> He meaneth the errorrs of Gentility. Or if he write to the Iewes  
diſperſed, he meaneth the yoke of the Law with the fond and heauy  
additions of their later Maifters called *Deuterofes*. The Heretikes,  
to make it found to the ſimple againſt the traditions of the Church,  
corrupt the text thus, *which you haue receiued by tradition of the  
Fathers.*

*therof as the floure of graffe. The graffe is withered,  
and the floure therof is fallen away.* <sup>25</sup> But the word of  
our Lord remaineth for euer, and this is the word that  
is euangelized among you.