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- Storm clouds containing a more severe kind of suffering and persecution appear to be gathering on the horizon.

How Then Should We See Ourselves?

Peter sets the stage for his entire message by addressing the people of God as *temporary residents in this present world.*

1 Peter 1:1, NIV

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to God's elect, EXILES scattered throughout the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia...

"Temporary Residents" Just Passing Through!

Peter's word choice (1:1) suggests that the people of God don't really belong here, and shouldn't feel entirely at home here!

It also indicates why we shouldn't be surprised by suffering!

"exiles" (NIV, ESV)

"aliens" (NASB)

"strangers" (KJV)

"foreigners" (NLT)

We're Also "Pilgrims"! (NKJV)

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but travelling on their way there. (Pilgrim's Progress!)

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We're not SETTLERS who make this home!

We're PILGRIMS who are journeying home!

*While we walk this pilgrim pathway, clouds will overspread the sky
But when travelling days are over, not a shadow, not a sigh.*

When We All Get To Heaven

Peter's Message To Christian "Pilgrims"

**Expect more suffering!
But, with more suffering comes
more grace—and more glory!**

1 Peter 1:1-2 & 5:10-12, NIV

To God's elect, exiles scattered throughout...Grace and peace be yours in abundance...the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast... I have written you briefly, encouraging you and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand fast in it.

"Stand Fast"! Like A Rock

"Peter" (rock) has earned the right to be heard about this!

1 Peter 5:12, NIV

I have written you briefly, encouraging you and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand fast in it.

John 21:18-19, NLT

"But when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and others will dress you and take you where you don't want to go." Jesus said this to let him know by what kind of death he would glorify God.

Just Passing Through! Pilgrims, We're Not Home Yet!

**Remembering where we're headed will help us handle
any heat and hardships we encounter along the way!**

*Our Father refreshes us on the journey with some pleasant
inns, but will not encourage us to mistake them for home.*

C.S. Lewis
The Problem Of Pain
