

1 Peter 1:1-2

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ: To the temporary residents of the Dispersion in the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father and set apart by the Spirit for obedience and for the sprinkling with the blood of Jesus Christ. May grace and peace be multiplied to you.

- To the temporary residents of the Dispersion...chosen

If you ever didn't feel part of the group, you understand how these people felt

But as a Christian, you are always part of a huge group picked by God Himself

- according to the foreknowledge of God the Father

The Father knew who would be part of the group

This does not mean God picked the individuals and left others out

- set apart by the Spirit

The Holy Spirit indwelling is what makes a Christian special

The setting apart is so God can especially use us in ways impossible for anyone else

- for obedience and for the sprinkling with the blood of Jesus Christ

People without the Holy Spirit cannot be obedient to God

Jesus' sacrifice will not cleanse the people without the Spirit