

1 Peter 5:12

by John Gill

John Gill's sermon on 1 Peter 5:12 highlights the importance of Silvanus as a faithful minister and the necessity of standing firm in the true grace of God.

Scripture: Acts 15:22, Romans 1:16, Ephesians 6:10-11, Philippians 1:6, Colossians 1:23, 1 Thessalonians 5:24, 2 Timothy 1:12, Hebrews 10:23, 1 Peter 5:12, 2 Peter 3:17-18

Topics: "Faithfulness", "True Grace of God"

Description

John Gill emphasizes the role of Silvanus as a faithful brother and minister in delivering Peter's message, highlighting the importance of integrity in preaching the Gospel. He asserts that the brevity of the epistle does not diminish its significance, as it conveys the true grace of God that the recipients have embraced and continue to stand firm in. Gill encourages believers to remain steadfast in their faith, recognizing the assurance and truth of the Gospel they have received.

Transcript

Ver. 12. By Silvanus, a faithful brother unto you,.... Silvanus is the same with Silas, so often mentioned in the Acts of the Apostles, as a companion of the Apostle Paul; whom Peter met with in his travels, and sent this letter by him, or used him as his amanuensis, or both: his character is, that he was "a faithful brother" to those persons to whom this epistle is written; that is, he was a faithful minister of the Gospel to them, who with great sincerity and integrity preached the word unto them, as the apostle was well informed, and had reason to believe; for what follows,

as I suppose, does not suggest any doubt of it, but, on the contrary, a firm belief; for the word used signifies to repute, to reckon, to conclude a thing upon the best and strongest reasons; though some connect this phrase, as that "also unto you", with the following clause,

I have written briefly; as does the Syriac version, which renders the whole thus, "these few things, as I think, I have written unto you, by Silvanus, a faithful brother"; and then the sense is, this short epistle, as in my opinion it is, I have wrote and sent to you by Silvanus, who is faithful and upright, as a brother, a minister, and a messenger. The Arabic version seems to refer the above clause, "as I suppose", neither to the character of Silvanus, nor to the brevity of the epistle, but to the matter of it, rendering it thus, "these things, in a few words, I have written unto you, according to my sense"; according to my judgment and reason, as I think, by which you will see and know my real sentiments and thoughts of things; for what I have written is according to the best of my understanding and knowledge:

exhorting, and testifying, that this is the true grace of God wherein ye stand; or "have stood", and still continue to do so: the Syriac version renders it, "I am persuaded and testify"; expressing his great confidence and assurance, that the Gospel of the grace of God, which springs from the grace of God, is full of it, and declares it, and which he had delivered in this epistle, and they had formerly received, and had stood fast in, and abode by, was the true Gospel. The Arabic version gives another sense, rendering the words thus, "entreating and beseeching, that this grace of God, in which ye stand, may be true and firm"; that is, that ye may still continue truly to embrace and profess it, and firmly abide by it; though the meaning rather is, that the apostle bears a testimony to the truth of the Gospel, and of the Christian religion, as held and professed by them with constancy hitherto; and exhorts them unto the consideration of the truth of it, which might be depended upon, to cleave unto it with full purpose of heart.

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