

# Contents

---

<b>1</b>	<b>The Person of Peter</b> — <i>March 25–31</i> —————	6
<b>2</b>	<b>An Inheritance Incorruptible</b> — <i>April 1–7</i> —————	14
<b>3</b>	<b>A Royal Priesthood</b> — <i>April 8–14</i> —————	22
<b>4</b>	<b>Social Relationships</b> — <i>April 15–21</i> —————	30
<b>5</b>	<b>Living for God</b> — <i>April 22–28</i> —————	38
<b>6</b>	<b>Suffering for Christ</b> — <i>April 29–May 5</i> —————	46
<b>7</b>	<b>Servant Leadership</b> — <i>May 6–12</i> —————	56
<b>8</b>	<b>Jesus in the Writings of Peter</b> — <i>May 13–19</i> —————	64
<b>9</b>	<b>Be Who You Are</b> — <i>May 20–26</i> —————	72
<b>10</b>	<b>Prophecy and Scripture</b> — <i>May 27–June 2</i> —————	80
<b>11</b>	<b>False Teachers</b> — <i>June 3–9</i> —————	88
<b>12</b>	<b>The Day of the Lord</b> — <i>June 10–16</i> —————	96
<b>13</b>	<b>Major Themes in 1 and 2 Peter</b> — <i>June 17–23</i> —————	104

---

**Editorial Office** 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904  
Come visit us at our Web site: <http://www.absg.adventist.org>

**Principal Contributor**  
Robert McIver

**Editor**  
Clifford R. Goldstein

**Associate Editor**  
Soraya Homayouni

**Publication Manager**  
Lea Alexander Greve

**Editorial Assistant**  
Sharon Thomas-Crews

**Pacific Press® Coordinator**  
Wendy Marcum

**Art Director and Illustrator**  
Lars Justinen

**Design**  
Justinen Creative Group

©2017 General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists®. All rights reserved. No part of the *Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide* may be edited, altered, modified, adapted, translated, reproduced, or published by any person or entity without prior written authorization from the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists®. The division offices of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists® are authorized to arrange for translation of the *Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide*, under specific guidelines. Copyright of such translations and their publication shall remain with the General Conference. "Seventh-day Adventist," "Adventist," and the flame logo are registered trademarks of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists® and may not be used without prior authorization from the General Conference.



## Feeding the Sheep

**B**ecause our study this quarter is 1 and 2 Peter, we are reading the words of someone who was with Jesus at most of the important moments in His ministry. Peter was also someone who had become a prominent leader among the earliest Christians. These facts alone would make his letters worth reading. But these letters take on added interest given that they were written to churches experiencing troubled times: they faced persecution from without and the danger of false teachers arising from within.

Peter warns that among the things that these false teachers will promote is doubt about the second coming of Jesus. “Where is the promise of his coming?” they will say, “for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation” (*2 Pet. 3:4*). Today, almost two thousand years later, we know the reality of that charge, don’t we?

Besides Peter’s warning about false teachers, the suffering the churches experienced is a topic that he returns to several times. This suffering, he says, mirrors the sufferings of Jesus, who took our sins in His body when He died on the cross (*1 Pet. 2:24*). But the good news is that Jesus’ death brought nothing less than freedom from the eternal death caused by sin, as well as a life of righteousness here and now for those who trust in Him (*1 Pet. 2:24*).

Peter says that Jesus not only died for our sins but will return to earth and usher in the judgment of God (*2 Pet. 3:10–12*). He stresses the fact that the prospect of judg-

---

ment should have significant practical implications in the life of the believer. When Jesus returns, He will destroy all sin and will cleanse the earth with fire (*2 Pet. 3:7*). Then Christians will receive the inheritance that God has been storing up for them in heaven (*1 Pet. 1:4*).

Peter has very practical words on how Christians should live. First and foremost, Christians should love one another (*1 Pet. 4:8*). He sums up his view by saying: “Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a tender heart, and a humble mind” (*1 Pet. 3:8, NRSV*).

Peter’s epistles are also a fervent proclamation of the gospel, the central message of the whole Bible. After all, if anyone should know the saving grace of the Lord, it is Peter. This same Peter, who so openly and crassly denied his Lord (even with cursing), saying, “‘I do not know the Man’” (*Matt. 26:74, NKJV*), is the one to whom Jesus later said, “Feed my sheep” (*John 21:17*).

These two epistles are examples of Peter’s doing just that—feeding the Lord’s sheep.

And, of course, any part of that feeding would include the great truth of salvation by faith in Christ, a theme that his fellow worker, the apostle Paul, so powerfully proclaimed. This is the truth of God’s grace. Peter knew about this, not just theoretically, or just as a doctrine, but because he had experienced the reality and power of that grace for himself.

As Martin Luther wrote in his commentary on Peter: “Consequently this Epistle of St. Peter is one of the grandest books of the New Testament, and it is the true, pure Gospel. For Peter does also the very same thing as Paul and all the Evangelists do in that he inculcates the true doctrine of faith, how Christ has been given to us, who takes away our sins and saves us.”—*Commentary on the Epistles of Peter and Jude* (Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1982), pp. 2, 3.

Jesus told Peter to feed His sheep. We are among those sheep. Let’s get fed.

*Robert K. McIver grew up in New Zealand and has worked most of his career at Avondale College, where he teaches Bible and archaeology. He is the author of several books, including The Four Faces of Jesus and Beyond the Da Vinci Code.*

*Peter has very practical words on how Christians should live. First and foremost, Christians should love one another (1 Pet. 4:8).*



**Revival**  
and REFORMATION

GUIDANCE  
for the  
**JOURNEY  
HOME**

**Take your connection with God to a higher level!**

***Believe His Prophets*** is a five-year program through the Bible and selected writings of Ellen White. Receive daily Bible readings, interactive blogs, and select inspirational writings.

***United in Prayer*** is a commitment to pray together with others using traditional or creative methods. Receive weekly requests, testimonies, or prayer ideas from the world church.

**Sign up for both at [www.RevivalandReformation.org](http://www.RevivalandReformation.org) and share your ideas and testimonies.**

**GLOBAL STUDY PROGRAM**

**Believe**  
*His* Prophets

Every day in God's Word  
and the Spirit of Prophecy

**GLOBAL PRAYER CIRCLE**

**UNITED**  
*in*  
**PRAYER**

Every day in Prayer  
with God's People

 SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST® CHURCH

[www.RevivalandReformation.org](http://www.RevivalandReformation.org)

# MISSION SCHOOL

GABON



NIGERIA



In the west-central African country of Gabon, Seventh-day Adventists make up just 0.17% of the entire population. But an Adventist school can make a big difference as dedicated teachers gently lead students to Christ.

In Nigeria more than 2,000 students—including many from a non-Christian background—crowd into a too-small church on the campus of Adventist-owned Babcock University. A large multipurpose center will

provide needed space for students to grow spiritually.

You can partner with these schools in reaching young people for Christ. Thank you for your generous support of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering.

ADVENTIST  
**MISSION**  
WWW.ADVENTISTMISSION.ORG