New perspective on identity:

 Elect – chosen, selected; speaks to God's care and concern for them; they have been adopted into His family; 'elect' describes their relationship w/God

 Exiles – strangers in a foreign land; they are now outsiders in their home town; 'exile' describes their relationship w/their community

The Elect can expect:

- To receive
 - a new birth into a living hope (1.3)
 - an inheritance that can ever perish, spoil, or fade (1.4)
 - The salvation of their souls (1.9)
- To be shielded by God's power until Jesus returns (1.5)
- To be restored and made strong, firm and steadfast (5.10)
- To be filled w/an inexpressible and glorious joy (1.8)
- To live as a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession (2.8)

Exiles can expect:

- Insults (4.14)
- Abuse to be heaped on them (4.4)
- To be accused of doing wrong (2.12)
- To be treated harshly by masters (2.18)
- To be threatened w/harm (3.13-14)
- Ignorant talk to be spread about them (2.15)
- To experience grief in all kinds of trials (1.6)
- Malicious talk and slander (3.16)

Living as an elect exile

• 1Pet 1.15-16: But just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: Be holy, because I am holy.

Holy -

- To be set apart for God (elect)
 - Relationship you will be My people and I will be your God
 - Purpose good works He has created for us to do
- To be set apart from the world (exile) if we are following Jesus there will be distinctions (in values and behaviors) between us and those who aren't following Him

New perspective on persecution

- See 1.6-7 and 4.12
- Refiner's fire brings impurities to surface
- Test (trial) opportunity to see genuineness/quality of one's faith

