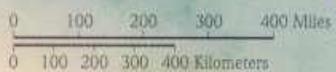


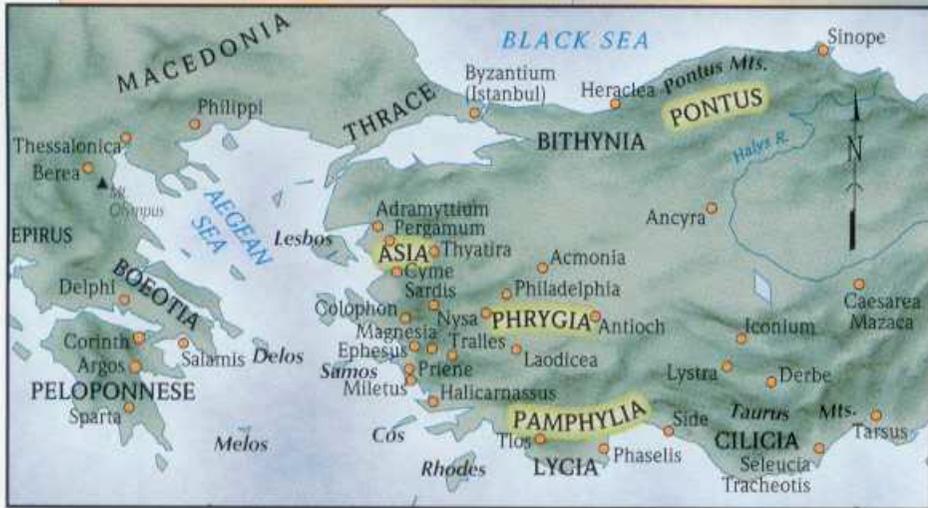
Chosen to be strangers – 1 Peter 1:1-2

1. Look at the Map on the other side of the page. See if you can find the places mentioned in v1. What country would you be in today if you travelled to this region?
2. From what is revealed in the letter (see 1:6 and 4:12) it seems that the Christians that Peter was writing to were suffering some form of oppression or persecution. What does Peter mean when he says 'to those who are elect'?
3. What is the basis of God's choice? (See Deuteronomy 7:6-8; Ephe 1:3-4) How do you feel about it?
4. How does it help us to know we are chosen by God when times are difficult or in periods of suffering?
5. The phrase 'strangers in the world' (NIV) is sometimes translated as exiles or strangers in the world or even 'resident aliens'. Who generally stands out as strangers from our community? What marks them out as different?
6. Why do you think God calls his people strangers in the world?
7. In the first verse of this letter – Peter reminds those he is writing to of his identity:
 - a. How are they defined with respect to God?
 - b. How are they defined with respect to the world?
8. Is this how you tend to see your own identity? What things shape and define how you think of your life?
9. Read v2. How does Peter describe God's elect, strangers in the world:
 - a. Chosen according to _____
 - b. Chosen through the _____
 - c. Chosen for _____
10. In the light of the above, how seriously do we need to pursue personal growth and transformation?
11. Read Exodus 24:1-8. In the Old Testament, being sprinkled with the blood of the sacrifice was about entering into a covenant with one another and with God. Individual growth and change within a context of community requires us to be accountable, transparent and vulnerable. How would you rate yourself in these areas? Would others agree with you?



Sahara Desert

Syro-Arabian Desert



PENTECOST AND THE JEWISH DIASPORA

ACTS 2

- City with Jewish population
- ▲ Mountain peak
- ELAM Province mentioned in Acts 2
- LYCIA Other provinces
- Roman Empire