

Contents

Acknowledgments	i
Abbreviations	ii
Summary of Thesis	iii
Chapter One: Introduction	1
1.1 The Era of the Social Context in 1 Peter	3
1.2 Literature Survey	6
Conclusion	9
Chapter Two: The Background of The Social Context in 1 Peter	10
2.1 The Political Environment And Its Challenges	12
2.2 The Social Environment And Its Challenges	20
2.3 The Religious Environment And Its Challenges	24
Conclusion	27
Chapter Three: The Issue of Identity	31
3.1 Believers' Self-Definition	31
3.1.1 Believer's Identity as God's Chosen People, His Royal Priesthood and Holy Nation.	32
3.1.2 Communal/Collective Identity	36
3.1.3 Marginalized/Outcast in the Community	41
3.2 Outsiders' Perception of the Believers	43
3.2.1 A Jewish Sect	44
3.2.2 A Religious Group	45
3.2.3 A Philosophical School	46
3.3 Elliott's and Goppelt's Views On The Identity of Believers in 1 Peter	48
3.3.1 Elliott's Sociological Approach	48
3.3.2 Goppelt's Theological Approach	51
Conclusion	53

Chapter Four: The Relationship of Their Self-Identity and Mission	55
4.1 Their Identity As God's Chosen People In Relation To Their Mission	56
4.1.1 The Relationship Of Their Identity As God's Holy Nation And Their Mission.	57
4.1.2 The Relationship Of Their Identity As A Royal Priesthood And Their Mission.	58
4.1.3 The Relationship Of Their Identity As God's Elect And Their Mission	60
4.2 The Relationship Of Their Communal Identity And Their Mission.	62
4.3 Their Identity as Marginalized/Outcast in Society In Relation To Their Mission	66
4.4 Believer's Millennialist Identity In Relation To Their Mission	69
Conclusion	73
 Chapter Five: The Relationship of Outsiders Perception of Believer's Identity and Mission	 76
5.1 Their Identity As A Jewish Sect In Relation To Their Mission	76
5.2 Their Identity As A Religious Group In Relation To Their Mission	78
5.3 Their Identity As A Philosophical School In Relation To Their Mission	80
Conclusion	81
 Chapter Six: Conclusion	 83
 Bibliography	 88