

LIVING IN THE 21st CENTURY

1 Peter 2:11-25

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Woodland Church

Wednesday, February 5, 2020

“Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation. Be subject for the Lord’s sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor. Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.” (1 Peter 2:11–25, ESV)

1. OUR LIFESTYLE, VIRTUES, AND FAITH ARE BECAUSE OF CHRIST.

“A simple layman armed with Scripture is to be believed above a pope or a cardinal without it.” Martin Luther

*“For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps.”
(1 Peter 2:21, ESV)*

*“Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.”
(Colossians 3:13b, NLT)*

2. WE ARE SOJOURNERS AND EXILES BECAUSE OF CHRIST.

“Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul.” (1 Peter 2:11, ESV)

“But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,” (Philippians 3:20, ESV)

*“religion is, at its heart, a way of denying the authority of the rest of the world; it is a way of saying to fellow human beings and to the state those fellow humans have erected, ‘No, I will not accede to your will.’”
Stephen Carter, *The Culture of Disbelief*, p. 41*

“I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, “Look, God’s home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them.” (Revelation 21:3, NLT)

3. MY BODY WILL BE A GOOD SERVANT BECAUSE OF CHRIST.

“...the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul.” (verse 11)

4. MY LIFE BECOMES INFLUENTIAL BECAUSE OF CHRIST.

“Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.” (1 Peter 2:12, ESV)

5. ACCEPT AUTHORITY WITHOUT COMPROMISING YOUR FAITH BECAUSE OF CHRIST.

“Be subject for the Lord’s sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good.” (1 Peter 2:13–14, ESV)

“But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men.” (Acts 5:29, ESV)

“But the midwives feared God and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but let the male children live.” (Exodus 1:17, ESV)

“By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king’s edict.” (Hebrews 11:23, ESV)

6. OUR FREEDOM COMES WITH POWER, JOY, LOVE, AND RESPONSIBILITY.

“Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God.” (1 Peter 2:16, ESV)

“They promise freedom, but they themselves are slaves of sin and corruption. For you are a slave to whatever controls you.” (2 Peter 2:19, NLT)

- a. Honor everyone.
- b. Love the church.
- c. Fear God.
- d. Respect the king.
- e. Submit to your “employer.”