

Aliens and Strangers

I Peter 2:11-12

June 15, 2008

Protecting your soul is parallel to glorifying God. Peter defines life as a spiritual battle and urges us to see it that way and “to abstain from fleshly lusts” and “keep our behavior excellent among the Gentiles.”

1. A. I Peter 2:11-12 is a turning point. What has Peter been talking about, and what does he move to in these verses?

I Peter 2:9-10

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- B. What comes to mind as you think on Peter’s description of who we are?

I Peter 1:1-5, 1:23, 2:1-3

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- C. Wealth and then walk; it is a healthy New Testament pattern. Knowing who we are in Christ changes our daily walk with Him.

Romans 1:1-7, 12:1-2, Ephesians 1:3-6, 4:1-3, Philippians 3:20, 4:1, Colossians 1:13-14, 3:1-3

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2. A. How does the description of believers change in I Peter 2:11?

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- B. What two primary concerns of the Christian life are found in I Peter 2:11-12?

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- C. Does our culture recognize these concerns, the salvation of our souls and the glorification of our God?

Mark 8:34-38

3. A. Now, dig into this text, I Peter 2:11-12. What is the first word?
 - B. What is it to be the “beloved” of God?
Romans 5:6, 5:8, Ephesians 2:4-5, I Peter 1:3, 2:10, I John 4:7-11

4. A. What is the exhortation in I Peter 2:11 and who is it to?
 - B. Could Peter have used stronger language? This word “epithumia”, translated desires, lusts, lustful, coveting, impulses, and long for, is a strong word.
Romans 13:14, Galatians 5:16, 5:24, Colossians 3:5, I Peter 1:14, I John 2:16
 - C. Even more sobering, what do these “fleshly lusts” do and what are we to do?
I Peter 2:11, 4:1-2, II Peter 1:3-4, 2:7-10, 2:18-19, 3:3

5. A. What is the exhortation in I Peter 2:12? What is the goal of the exhortation?
 - B. Think back on when you came to Christ and read I Peter 2:12. Did you respond to Christ by observing someone’s “excellent behavior” or on account of their “good deeds”?
 - C. How about right now, as you gather with others around the word of God? Are you urged on in your Christian walk as you observe how your brothers and sisters live?
Romans 15:4, Hebrews 10:19-25