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STANDING FIRM  
IN A HOSTILE WORLD

# HOPE AS EXILES



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[WEEK NINE]

# A BEAUTIFUL POSTURE & RIGHTEOUS PURSUIT

HOPE AS EXILES

# 1 Peter 3:8–12

<sup>8</sup> Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. <sup>9</sup> Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing. <sup>10</sup> For

“Whoever desires to love life  
and see good days,

let him keep his tongue from evil  
and his lips from speaking deceit;

<sup>11</sup> let him turn away from evil and do good;  
let him seek peace and pursue it.

<sup>12</sup> For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,  
and his ears are open to their prayer.

But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”



# A Beautiful Posture

<sup>8</sup> Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind.

**1 Peter 3:8**

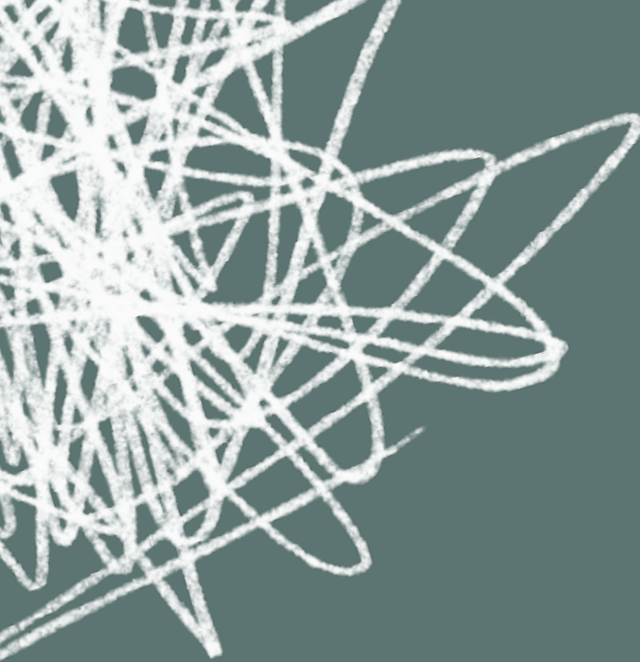


# A Righteous Pursuit

<sup>9</sup> Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing.

**1 Peter 3:9**





When God sets out to embrace the enemy, the result is the cross. On the cross, the dancing circle of self-giving and mutually indwelling divine persons [the Holy Trinity] opens up for the enemy; in the agony of the passion the movement stops for a brief moment and an (opening) appears so that sinful humanity can join in. We, the others—we, the enemies—are embraced by the (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) who love us with the same love with which they love each other and therefore make space for us within their own eternal embrace.

**MIROSLAV VOLF**



# A Righteous Pursuit

[God] has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,<sup>4</sup> to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you,<sup>5</sup> who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time

**1 Peter 1:3b–5**



# A Life-Giving Assurance

<sup>10</sup> For

“Whoever desires to love life  
and see good days,

let him keep his tongue from evil  
and his lips from speaking deceit;

<sup>11</sup> let him turn away from evil and do good;  
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