



First Peter Temporary Residents in a Foreign Land

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“Be Holy: Living Thoughtfully in Your Time as Foreigners”

1 Peter 1:13-2:3

May 26, 2019

Dr. Jeannine Brown

Theme: Peter begins the body of the letter by giving five central exhortations for living well in a context where slander might be leveled at the Christian communities of Asia Minor: hope, be holy, live circumspectly, love, and crave growth! These exhortations are important for us as well, as we navigate living godly lives in our own cultural context.

Outline:

1. Set your hope on the grace to come (1:13)
 - a. How?
 - b. Hope as a verb

2. Be holy like your God (1:14-16)
 - a. The negative: Don't conform to former desires (1:14)
 - b. The positive: Be holy (1:15; cf. Lev 19:2)
 - c. The basis: God's holiness (1:16)

3. Live reflectively during “your time as foreigners” (1:17-21)
 - a. Why? (1:17-19)
 - b. The centrality of Christ’s work for the Christian life (1:20-21)

4. Love sincerely and deeply (1:22-25)
 - a. The focus on the Christian community (1:22)
 - b. The basis: Obedience and new birth (1:22-23)
 - c. The gospel as the seed for new birth (1:23-25; cf. Isa 40:6-8)

5. Crave what will make you grow (2:1-3)
 - a. The negative: Get rid of evil motives and language (2:1)
 - b. The positive: Crave authentic spiritual nourishment (2:2)
 - c. The result: Growing up in salvation (2:2)
 - d. The center of nourishment: The Lord Himself (2:3; cf. Ps 34:8)

Takeaway: Holiness and reflective living in relation to the world around us is fueled by our future hope in Jesus’ return and the grace that will be showered on us in that day. As we trust and hope in Jesus, we are to love and care for one another deeply and crave the nourishment that comes from our relationship with Jesus.

Next Cove:

June 2, 2019

The Living Stone and a Chosen People

1 Peter: 2:4-10