

NOTES: Jesus People | Are Sojourners
November 4-5, 2023
Compelled Church, Pastor Nate Elarton

1 Peter 2.4-12

1 Peter 1.1-2 *“Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who reside as aliens, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia,*

Aliens= *parepidemos*: sojourner; temporary resident, exile, stranger.

1. We are Sojourners (temporary residents, exiles, strangers)

“Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul. Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation.” (1 Peter 2:11–12, NASB95)

We live in an Empire but belong to a Kingdom, the Kingdom of God. Jesus is our King.
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2. Jesus is building (2.4-5). *“in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord” (Ephesians 2:21, NASB95)*

Ephesians 4.11-12

3. Jesus was rejected, as will we.

“For this is contained in Scripture: “BEHOLD, I LAY IN ZION A CHOICE STONE, A PRECIOUS CORNER stone, AND HE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED.” This precious value, then, is for you who believe; but for those who disbelieve, “THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS BECAME THE VERY CORNER stone,” and, “A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE”; for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to this doom they were also appointed.” (1 Peter 2:6–8, NASB95)

4. Our identity is not of this empire, but of the Kingdom (2.6-10)

- Living stones
- Part of a spiritual house
- A chosen race
- Royal Priesthood
- Holy Nation
- God’s possession
- The people of God-Jesus People

5. We have a mission while we are here as Sojourners (2.11-12)

- We are to abstain from fleshly lusts (worldly desires) and Behave among unbelievers.

WE are Free. *““So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.” (John 8:36, NASB95)*

EXTRAS Jesus People are Sojourners
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1. The message this week was that we are temporary residents, aliens, Sojourners as the Bible calls God's People. As a Christian, when do you really feel you do not belong?
2. Read **1 Peter 2.4-12** ... What do you observe about this passage?
3. What is the "empire" (the world) and the Kingdom of God, in conflict over/or with?
4. Pastor said, "We live in an Empire but belong to the Kingdom of God." How is this true for you?
5. How does the empire influence you, even sometimes for the Kingdom?
6. Read **1 Peter 2.6-10**, How are God's People described?
7. Discuss how Pastor Nate taught and defined the following....
 - Living stones
 - Part of a spiritual house
 - A chosen race
 - Royal Priesthood
 - Holy Nation
 - God's possession
 - The people of God-Jesus People
8. What is our mission here as Sojourners? (2.11-12)
 - We are to abstain from fleshly lusts (worldly desires) and Behave among unbelievers.
9. Discuss ways Pastor Nate shared that we can make the Kingdom a reality in our lives and add more if you think of them:
 - The presence of Jesus in our live, hearts, and homes. How can we do this?
 - The indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit.
 - The Word of God, teaching us to live, drawing us in to Christ.
 - Kingdom Relationships, friendships that bring encouragement, strength, camaraderie.
 - Hearts of gratitude for God. Thanksgiving and worship always invite the presence of Jesus.
 - Utter dependence on God.
 - Letting go of the things of this world
10. The closing illustration about training elephants taught we are free but still behave like we have a chain on us. We are free from this world and empire. We are not chained! What are you becoming free of and what have you become free of?

"Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. The world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever." (1 John 2:15-17, NASB95)