

PUT YOUR SWORD AWAY

“NOT OF THIS WORLD” SERIES – PART 4 OF 6

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1 PETER 2:11-17

KNOW YOUR IDENTITY | YOU ARE NOT OF THIS WORLD.

11 Dear friends, I urge you, **as foreigners and exiles**, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul.

LIVE WITH AN ETERNAL PERSPECTIVE | LET YOUR LIFE LEAD THEM TO HIM.

12 **Live such good lives among the pagans** that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, **they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.**

HONOR GOD IN SUBMISSION TO AUTHORITY | OBEDIENCE ALIGNS US WITH HIS WILL.

13 **Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority:** whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, 14 or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right.

SILENCE THE ACCUSER | DOING GOOD SPEAKS LOUDER THAN WORDS.

15 For it is God's will that **by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk** of foolish people.

YOUR FREEDOM BRINGS RESPONSIBILITY | YOU BELONG TO GOD.

16 **Live as free people**, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; **live as God's slaves.** 17 Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, **fear God, honor the emperor.**

1 PETER 2:21-23

To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, **leaving you an example**, that **you should follow in his steps.** “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.” When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, **he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.**

JOHN 18:28 – 19:16

JOHN 18:1-12

2 CORINTHIANS 10:3-5

For though we live in the world, **we do not wage war as the world does.**

The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world.

On the contrary, **they have divine power to demolish strongholds.**

We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and **we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.**

FURTHER STUDY & REFLECTION

KNOW YOUR IDENTITY | YOU ARE NOT OF THIS WORLD.

Read: John 15:18–19 | John 17:14–16 | 2 Corinthians 5:20 | Romans 12:2 |
Philippians 3:20 | Hebrews 11:13–16

Reflect: Where do you most feel the tension of being “in the world but not of it,” and how might that tension be shaping your faithfulness?

LIVE WITH AN ETERNAL PERSPECTIVE | LET YOUR LIFE LEAD THEM TO HIM.

Read: Colossians 3:1–2 | Matthew 5:16 | 2 Corinthians 4:16–18 | Romans 8:18 |
Philippians 2:14–16

Reflect: In what ways might your attitude or actions under pressure either reveal or conceal the hope of eternity to those around you?

HONOR GOD IN SUBMISSION TO AUTHORITY | OBEDIENCE ALIGNS US WITH HIS WILL.

Read: Romans 13:1–2 | Titus 3:1–2 | Ephesians 6:5–7 | 1 Samuel 24:6

Reflect: Where do you struggle most with submission, and what might your resistance reveal about your trust in God’s leadership?

SILENCE THE ACCUSER | DOING GOOD SPEAKS LOUDER THAN WORDS.

Read: Romans 12:17–18 | Titus 2:7–8 | Matthew 5:44–45 | Galatians 6:9–10

Reflect: When misunderstood, do you seek to defend yourself—or do you trust God to defend your reputation through your conduct?

YOUR FREEDOM BRINGS RESPONSIBILITY | YOU BELONG TO GOD.

Read: Galatians 5:13–14 | Romans 6:22 | 1 Corinthians 6:19–20 | Micah 6:8 |
James 2:12–13

Reflect: How might your choices look different if you saw your freedom as a daily opportunity to serve and reflect God’s character?
