

# STRANGERS & EXILES



## CHRIST'S PEOPLE IN A POST-CHRISTIAN WORLD

**Reasons to be Cheerful: part 2**– 1 Peter 2:4 - 2:10

July 9, 2023

Christians are exiles in a strange new world. And this is not new. As we continue our series through Peter's first epistle, we arrive at the end of chapter one and hear of that which will not perish.

For personal reflection/community discussion

**Read** – Read the passage in its context several times. Read it slow enough to understand what God is saying through it.

- What ideas or words are emphasised, repeated or related in this passage?
- In your own words, what is the main idea of this passage? (Try to summarise these verses in 10 words or less)

**Examine** – Next, try to understand the specifics of what the passage is communicating.

- What do you notice about God? What has he done/is he doing in these verses?
- What do you learn about Jesus and his gospel from this passage?
- What does it reveal about people?
- How do you think the writer wanted his reader to respond to these words?

**Apply** - After seeking to understand God's Word in this passage, consider how he intends to use it in your heart and life today.

- Do you have a tribe? Where do you belong? Consider where this group is secure? Where is it most fragile?
- What has Jesus done for a people once 'not a people'? (vv.4-6; 9, 10).
- What happens to Jesus in v.7? Can you see any parallels with life in exile? Do you see any similarities between these verses and 1: 1 and 2 that might bring you comfort?
- Now you've answered these questions, don't rush. Pause in silence for a moment. Speak your answers back to the Lord. Where are you frightened? Where is your comfort? Allow your heart to praise Christ your cornerstone.