

"Your life is the platform from which you will be heard."

"The greatest single cause of atheism in the world today is Christians who acknowledge Jesus with their lips and walk out the door and deny Him by their lifestyle. This is what an unbelieving world simply finds unbelievable." Brennan Manning

¹¹ Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. ¹² Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation. (1 Peter 2:11-12)

1. Beloved

 God has a specific love for a specific people because of a specific relationship

- 2. Sojourners and Exiles

 Sojourner-someone who is just passing through.
 - Exile-someone who dwells temporarily in a foreign land.
 - "I urge" or I plead with you as individuals who live on this earth, which is not your home but temporary residents, to resist the desires of the flesh.
 - In this world that we are living in as followers of Jesus, we will for a lifetime battle the outward influence of our culture which is really just appealing to our inward sinful passions because we once were at home in this world.

"To be a Christian is to be a warrior. The good soldier of Jesus Christ must not expect to find ease in this world— it is a battlefield! Neither must he reckon upon the friendship of the world, for that would be enmity against God."

C.H. Spurgeon

2. Sojourners and Exiles

• Christian, Peter in our text is calling us to a lifelong war against ourselves and the sin that we so easy desire to do.

- 3. Living for the Glory of God

 o "Keep your conduct [behavior] in front of the Gentiles [non-believers], honorable."
 - Honorable-beautiful or good. Beautiful, as an outward sign of an inward good."
 - People who are temporarily passing through this world and at war with their sin, are to bear fruit that is in accordance with the gospel of Jesus Christ.
 - Live in such a way so as to BRING GLORY TO GOD.

Application

- As the BELOVED, this is a privileged relationship we have with God that we want to share with others.
- Trust in the power of the Holy Spirit, the Power of God's Word, and the correction and encouragement of His people, the church, to wage war against your fleshly desires for your entire lifetime.
- Keep your behavior among non-believers beautiful on the outside because of the treasure of Christ in your hearts, so that the watching world gives the glory that is due God.

