

Theme: As God's exile, sojourning people, Christians are called to resist sin and live lives devoted to good works, hoping that God will use these to draw unbelievers to the Gospel.

I. Fields of Fire - Bad Moon Rising

- A. Fields of Fire - great story on Marines in Vietnam
- B. All going ok; then Bad Moon rising lyrics
- C. Knew everything was changing
- D. Now moving into a new section
- E. 'Dear friends/beloved', 'aliens and strangers'
- F. 1 Peter 1:1 - major sections
- G. We have seen glory of being God's chosen
- H. How do we live as sojourners, exiles, aliens?

II. Exiles - Our Status As God's People

- A. God's sojourning people (v11)
 - 1. Strangers and aliens (v11)
 - 2. πάροικος - aliens - Gen 15:13; Acts 7:29
 - 3. παρεπίδημος - strangers - 1 Pet 1:1; Heb 11:13
 - 4. Someone not at home; vulnerable outsider
 - 5. Genesis 23:4 - like Abraham - chosen, exile
- B. Our status as God's people
 - 1. Not asking to be this - we already are

- 2. Called by God - aliens and strangers (vv9-11)
- 3. All commands on how to live based on this
- 4. Response of culture to us - based on this

III. Living As Exiles - Abstain From Sin (Negative)

- A. As exiles - abstain from sinful desires
 - 1. Literally 'desires of the flesh'
 - 2. 'Desires of men' - 1 Pet 4:2
 - 3. Desires against will of God, righteousness
 - 4. Can be sexual, drunk, etc - 1 Pe 4:2-3
 - 5. Can be rebellion, etc - 2 Pet 2:10; 1 Pe 2:13ff
 - 6. ANYTHING that goes against God's Word
- B. Why we must abstain from sinful desires
 - 1. Our status as aliens & strangers demands it
 - 2. They war against our soul/life
 - 3. They promise freedom - give slavery
 - 4. They promise joy - but bring pain
- C. But note this will bring conflict with culture!!! (v12)

IV. Living As Exiles - Doing Good Works (Positive)

- A. Good conduct and good works (v12)
 - 1. Good conduct - win approval of Gentiles

2. Four of six in 1 Peter - effect on outsiders (3:1-2; 3:16)
3. Good works - effect on Gentiles (v12; Mt 5:16)
4. May speak evil - but good works may win over (v12)

B. Positive effect of good works

1. Resisting sin will produce conflict
2. But we must be known for good conduct & works
3. This has powerful effect on unbelievers

V. Applying the Word

A. Do we see we are aliens and strangers?

1. Do we see this is part of our conversion?
2. To be God's people is to be an alien here
3. Where is my prime allegiance?
4. Rich Mullins - Land of My Sojourn (Paradox!)

B. Do we abstain from sinful desires?

1. Do we see as aliens we will always be at war?
2. We simply must abstain from many parts of culture
3. What molds me - spirit of age or Christ?
4. *Jesus Through the Centuries* - do I do this?

C. Do we live lives of good works?

1. Am I more known for what I am against, or what I do?
2. Do people think of us as servants - or warriors?

D. Lets be known for the Gospel!!

1. We are saved by God's mercy - not our righteousness
2. We preach God's mercy - not our righteousness
3. We display God's mercy - not our judgmental attitudes

Living As God's Exile People

1 Peter 2:11-12

Matthew 5:3-16

July 11, 2010

Song - 'He Has Called Us'

Psalm 67:1-2

Then the LORD said to him, "Know for certain that your descendants will be **strangers** in a country not their own, and they will be enslaved and mistreated four hundred years. Genesis 15:13

When Moses heard this, he fled to Midian, where he settled as a **foreigner** and had two sons. Acts 7:29

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God's elect, **strangers** in the world, scattered 1 Peter 1:1

All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. And they admitted that they were aliens and **strangers** on earth. Hebrews 11:13

"I am an **alien and a stranger** among you. Sell me some property for a burial site here so I can bury my dead." Genesis 23:4

As a result, he does not live the rest of his earthly life for **evil human desires**, but rather for the will of God. 1 Peter 4:2

As a result, he does not live the rest of his earthly life for **evil human desires**, but rather for the will of God. 3 For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do--**living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry**. 1 Pet 4:2-3

This is especially true of those who **follow the corrupt desire of the sinful nature and despise authority**. 2 Peter 2:10

Wives, in the same way be submissive to your husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the **behavior** of their wives, 2 when they see the purity and reverence of your **lives**. 1 Peter 3:1-2

keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good **behavior** in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. 1 Peter 3:16

In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they **may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven**. Matthew 5:16

Nobody tells you when you get born here
How much you'll come to love it
And how you'll never belong here
So I call you my country
And I'll be lonely for my home
And I wish that I could take you there with me