



"Proclaiming the Excellencies of God" (Part 1)

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1 Peter 2:11



11 Beloved, I urge you as I urge you as aliens and strangers, to abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul. **12** Keep your behavior excellent among the pagans, so that in whatever they accuse you as evildoers, they may see your

good works and glorify God in the day of visitation.

– 1 Peter 2:11-12, As translated from the Greek New Testament by T. Bartolucci.

Introduction

"We are to proclaim God's excellencies by protecting our passions while living with a pure purpose before the persecutions and problems of a pagan planet."

I. Proclaiming the Excellencies of God (vv. 11-12)

A. Proclaiming God's Excellencies By Our Inward Devotion - *Preparation* (11)

1. **Rejoice** that you are loved (11a)

a. *Agapētoi* (ἀγαπητοί) plural Greek word for "beloved"

(1) NIV's "dear friends" misses the mark on two points:

b. The plight of Peter's audience . . .

c. Love is the purest motivator (why is our obedience connected to our love?)

2. **Recognize** that you are a pilgrim (11b)

a. You are "aliens" and "strangers" on the earth

(1) "Aliens" = *paroikos* (παροικος)

(2) "Stangers" = *parepidēmos* (παρεπιδημος)

"These two words describe a temporary resident of a foreign land who has his eye on going _____."

"We are sojourners, unable to live happily exiled from our fatherland. We seek for a way to help us to end our sorrows and to return to our native country." – Augustine

The word "pilgrim" comes from another word that literally means, "To settle down alongside of pagans."

3. **Resist** sinful temptations (11c)

- a. Note how these three points stand together . . .
- b. What are "fleshly lusts" (NIV "sinful desires")? See Galatians 5:16-24
- c. Are you fighting or sleeping?
- d. Some keys in winning the battle
 - (1) _____ your spiritual disciplines
 - (2) _____ your Spiritual Resources
 - (3) _____ in the Race
 - (4) _____ yourself in the church
 - (5) _____ sin from God's perspective
 - (6) _____ advantage of godly council and mutual accountability

B. Proclaiming God's Excellencies By Our Outward Duty - Proclamation (12)

Conclusion