



"Proclaiming the Excellencies of God" (Part 2)

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1 Peter 2:12



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)
2. **Recognize** that you are a pilgrim (11b)
3. **Resist** sinful temptations (11c)

a. Some keys in winning the battle

- (1) Reboot your spiritual disciplines
- (2) Exercise your Spiritual Resources
- (3) Stay in the Race
- (4) Involve yourself in the church
- (5) See sin from God's perspective
- (6) Take advantage of godly council and mutual accountability

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

1. How can I maintain my witness in a hostile society?

a. Stand _____: Guard your Behavior (cf. v. 11)

b. Stay _____: Transform Culture Don't let Culture Transform You

(1) The sphere of our behavior:

(2) The nature of our behavior:

c. Suppose _____: Assume Accusations Against Anything Absolute

(1) In the early Roman Empire, Christianity was deemed criminal

(a) An even larger issue is that initially, the Romans and Greeks didn't differentiate between Christians and Jews

(b) Turning the clock ahead . . .

d. Stickless _____: Be a Teflon Disciple

(1) The adjective *kalos* (καλός) means:

(2) "See" (observe) indicates close _____ (cf. 3:2)

e. Sovereign _____: God may use you to save others

Conclusion