

How to Live Where You Don't Belong

Aliens

July 10, 2022

1 Peter 1:1 (NIV) Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to God's elect, exiles scattered throughout the provinces...

Richard Niebuhr in "Christ & Culture"

- **Christ above culture**
- **Christ of culture**
- **Christ against culture**
- **Christ and culture in paradox**
- **Christ transforming culture**

1 Peter 2:11-25 (NIV) Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. ¹² Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day He visits us. ¹³ Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, ¹⁴ or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. ¹⁵ For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people. ¹⁶ Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves. ¹⁷ Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor. ¹⁸ Slaves, in reverent fear of God submit yourselves to your masters, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh. ¹⁹ For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God. ²⁰ But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. ²¹ To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in His steps. ²² "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in His mouth." ²³ When they hurled their insults at Him, He did not retaliate; when He suffered, He made no threats. Instead, He entrusted Himself to Him who judges justly. ²⁴ "He Himself bore our sins" in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by His wounds you have been healed." ²⁵ For "you were like sheep going astray," but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

How to Live Where We Don't Belong

- **Fight sin internally.**

1 Peter 2:11 (NIV) Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul.

- **Reveal our Savior externally.**

1 Peter 2:12 (NIV) Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day He visits us.

o Submit

1 Peter 2:13 (NIV) Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority...

o Do good

1 Peter 2:15 (NIV) For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people.

o Love the family of believers

1 Peter 2:17 (NIV) Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers...

o Worship God and honor leaders

1 Peter 2:17 (NIV) Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.