

1 Peter Series “Exile Life”
1 Peter 2:11:25
October 3rd, 2021

1 *Peter 2:11–25 (CSB)*

¹¹ Dear friends, I urge you as strangers and exiles to abstain from sinful desires that wage war against the soul. ¹² Conduct yourselves honorably among the Gentiles, so that when they slander you as evildoers, they will observe your good works and will glorify God on the day he visits.

¹³ Submit to every human authority because of the Lord, whether to the emperor as the supreme authority ¹⁴ or to governors as those sent out by him to punish those who do what is evil and to praise those who do what is good. ¹⁵ For it is God’s will that you silence the ignorance of foolish people by doing good. ¹⁶ Submit as free people, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but as God’s slaves. ¹⁷ Honor everyone. Love the brothers and sisters. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

¹⁸ Household slaves, submit to your masters with all reverence not only to the good and gentle ones but also to the cruel. ¹⁹ For it brings favor if, because of a consciousness of God, someone endures grief from suffering unjustly. ²⁰ For what credit is there if when you do wrong and are beaten, you endure it? But when you do what is good and suffer, if you endure it, this brings favor with God.

*²¹ For you were called to this, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. ²² He **did not commit sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth;** ²³ when he was insulted, he did not insult in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten but entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree; so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness. **By his wounds you have been healed.** ²⁵ For you **were like sheep going astray,** but you have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.*

The Herodian Lifestyle

1 *Peter 2:11 (CSB)*

¹¹ Dear friends, I urge you as strangers and exiles to abstain from sinful desires that wage war against the soul.

Herodians wanted to fully assimilate into the culture. They wanted to be kings, governors, mayors, popular. They would do this by not withholding any pleasure from themselves.

Peter uses the word to ABSTAIN. This means to flee from sin, we are not to conform, we are to turn and run.

The Essenes Lifestyle

1 Peter 2:12 (CSB)

¹² Conduct yourselves honorably among the Gentiles, so that when they slander you as evildoers, they will observe your good works and will glorify God on the day he visits.

Essenes wanted nothing to do with the culture, they were so far from the other end of the Herodians, They instead retreated completely from society and wished to live a quiet life away from everyone

Peter says in the verse that our life is to be lived among the GENTILES (unsaved), that by us living an honorable life that we might bring more into the Kingdom.

The Zealot Lifestyle

1 Peter 2:13–17 (CSB)

¹³ Submit to every human authority because of the Lord, whether to the emperor as the supreme authority ¹⁴ or to governors as those sent out by him to punish those who do what is evil and to praise those who do what is good. ¹⁵ For it is God's will that you silence the ignorance of foolish people by doing good. ¹⁶ Submit as free people, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but as God's slaves. ¹⁷ Honor everyone. Love the brothers and sisters. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

The Zealots were in principle the same as the Essenes, they hated the culture they wanted people to be pure. However instead of retreating they sought to overthrow to be violent, they used vitriol and anger and insurrection as a means of change.

Peter says that we are to honor our leaders and officials. We are not to use vitriol and violence to push through morality and moral change.

The Exile Lifestyle

1 Peter 2:21–25 (CSB)

*²¹ For you were called to this, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. ²² He **did not commit sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth**; ²³ when he was insulted, he did not insult in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten but entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree; so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness. **By his wounds you have been healed.** ²⁵ For you **were like sheep going astray**, but you have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.*

Exiles are what ALL Christians should strive to be. That we use our freedom in Christ to be in the culture without assimilation, we strive for moral purity as the chosen of God, we call out sin, and the sins of our leaders. However we do this as Christ did, through love and good works.

Peter makes the point that Exiles are to be like Christ, that though He was insulted He did return insults. That He instead laid down His life for us, because we are just like sheep that have gone astray, and when we look at what Christ has done for us, it draws us to repentance.

Romans 2:4 (CSB)

4 Or do you despise the riches of his kindness, restraint, and patience, not recognizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?

Grow Group Discussion Questions

- What did God say to you during our Sunday gathering?
- In what ways have you been a Herodian?
- In what ways have you been a Essenes?
- In what ways have you been a Zealot?
- How can you today live as an Exile?
 - How does knowing that you are free in Christ to live in culture, strive to be moral, call out sin and sinful leaders, all without being a part of culture change how you will live going forward?