

LIVING IN EXILE

1 Peter 2:9-10— Marvelous Light

March 13, 2016

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession... -1 Peter 2:9

I. BELIEVERS - NOT REJECTED, BUT CHOSEN

- Followers of Christ are part of God's people now. No longer alienated, but part of God's own family - his possession (vs. 9; Rom. 9:6-8; Gal. 6:15-16; Eph. 2:11-22).
- Followers of Christ are a chosen race, even as Jesus himself was chosen (vs. 4; vs. 9).
- Followers of Christ are an extension of the nation of Israel (Ex. 19:5-6).

II. WHAT GOD'S PEOPLE DO

- Put away sinful attitudes - 2:1.
- Seek spiritual growth in the word of God - 2:2.
- Never stop coming to Jesus - 2:4.
- Offer spiritual sacrifices to God through Christ - 2:5 (Rom. 12:1-3).
- Proclaim the excellencies of God - 2:9 (Isa. 49:6).
- Abstain from the passions of the flesh - 2:11.
- Keep their conduct honorable among non-believers - 2:12.
- Subject themselves to legitimate authority - 2:13; 3:7 (Rom. 13:1-7).

III. WHY DO GOD'S PEOPLE DO THIS?

- Because we have been called out of darkness and into light (vs. 9; **Eph. 5:8-9**; 1 Pet. 1:18).
- Because we once were not God's people, but now we are (vs. 10; Eph. 2:19).
- Because we are those who have received mercy (vs. 10; **John 9:25**).

KNOW: God has called us so that we may in turn proclaim his excellencies to the world. We have much to be thankful for, and therefore there is much to proclaim.

DO: Proclaim what God has done for you.

Suggested Reading:

Let the Nations Be Glad!, by John Piper

5-P Evangelism, by Tony Guinn

The Gospel and Personal Evangelism, by Mark Dever

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please read 1 Peter 2:9-10

1. Knowing what we know about believers from our text for Sunday, why do so many believers still struggle with their self-worth?
2. What are the "excellencies of God"? (see Psalm 19)
3. When you read "once you were not a people" what comes to your mind? What would the Gentiles in Peter's original audience have thought about the phrase?
4. What was your life like when you were in darkness? What is it like now in the light?
5. Who receives God's mercy? Everyone in the same way? Only believers? Is there distinction between God's people and everyone else? Does God do good things for non-believers?