

Exiles and Builders

1 Peter 2:11-12

- Those in the church should abstain from worldly passions.
- Those in the church should maintain righteous behavior in the midst of mocking.
- Those in the church should retain their identity as exiles.

FURTHER UP, FURTHER IN

1. Read 1 Peter 2:9-10. How does Peter's reminder of our new identity at the beginning of verse 11 impact the commands that follow?
2. Read 1 Peter 2:11. How would you describe abstinence?
3. Read Galatians 5:19-21. Do any of these passions stand out to you as particularly deadly? Less deadly? What does it mean for the passions of the flesh to wage war on your soul? Read Ephesians 6:10-12.
4. How does our call to holy living and abstinence from worldly passions intersect with the grace that we have in Christ? Read Romans 5:18-6:4, 1 John 2:1, Hebrews 7:23-25
5. Read 1 Peter 2:12. What does honorable conduct look like? In what ways can we keep our conduct honorable? Read Galatians 5:22-25, Romans 8:1-6
6. How does the knowledge that your honorable conduct may **be the means of someone's salvation** affect how you look at such calls to holiness? Read Matthew 5:14-16 and 2 Corinthians 9:11-14
7. How can we take steps toward holiness in abstinence from worldly passions and in maintenance of honorable conduct this week?