

Living Hope
Dual Citizenship
1 Peter 2:11-17
Art Birch

Our citizenship in another world is meant to make us better citizens of this one!

Knowing Who We Are

¹¹ Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles....

How Should We Then Not Live? The Don'ts

¹¹ ...abstain from sinful desires....

Why Not?

¹¹ ...which wage war against your soul.

How Should We Then Live? The Do's

¹² Live such good lives among the pagans....

¹³ Submit yourselves...to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, ¹⁴ or to governors....

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, honour the emperor.

Why?

¹² ...that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

¹³ ...for the Lord's sake....

¹³ ...every human authority: whether...to the emperor...¹⁴ or to governors 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.

For Reflection and Discussion: How conscious are you of your dual citizenship? What is the sinful desire most threatening to your soul? What are the accusations of wrong that others level against you? What is the good you doing to silence the ignorant talk of foolish people about Christians? Do the people around you find you respectful and loving?

Next Sunday: Next Sunday we have the privilege of enjoying our Children's Christmas presentation "The Amazing Story of Christmas" which will present the Christmas story dramatically with congregational singing throughout. Following the program, Pastor Craig will share a short message from Luke 1:26-38. Prepare your hearts to wonder anew at the miracle of our Saviour's birth.