

The Basic Outline:

2:11-12 - Our lives are a witness in a hostile world

2:13-3:8 - How every human relationship is an opportunity to point people to Jesus

Peter's Pastoral Concern: That our special identity would motivate us to be humble and holy rather than proud and sinful.

Implications:

1. God is the Supreme Authority over all things

v. 19, "...mindful of God..."

v. 20, "...in the sight of God."

v. 25, "...the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls."

2. Earthly Authorities are a Gift from God for our Good

v. 14, "or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good."

Romans 13:4, "for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer."

3. Doing Good Will Sometimes Get Us In Trouble

v. 12, "when they speak against you as evildoers..."

v. 15, "by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people."

v. 19, "For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly.

v. 20, "But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God."

4. Christ is the Indwelling Leader of our Calling

v. 21,

For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps.

v.

24, He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

25 For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Applications:

1. Give your life to Jesus

2. Prioritize Good Works for God's Glory

3. Prepare to Suffer for Doing Those Works