



## Lesson #8: You are Being Watched (1 Peter 2:11-19)

The short letter of 1 Peter can be divided into two unique topics the second of which builds upon the first.

- 1:1-2:10 – Peter focuses on the theme of \_\_\_\_\_ or the \_\_\_\_\_ of our hope.
- 2:11ff – Peter focuses on the theme of \_\_\_\_\_ or the \_\_\_\_\_ of our hope.

As Peter moves from precepts to principle he begins by noting that people are watching our every move. Once you become a believer people take note of your lifestyle to see what kind of \_\_\_\_\_ our faith makes in our lives. Since believers now stand together as “*living stones*” (2:5) and “*chosen priests*” (2:5) there is a change that ought to be visible. Therefore, says Peter, “*Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable*” (2:12).

People are watching us but what do they watch? They watch to see if our behavior matches our \_\_\_\_\_. They want to see if what we claim to believe on Sunday is put into practice on \_\_\_\_\_. In a word, they want to see if we have \_\_\_\_\_.

God demands that His children live with integrity. The hallmark of Christian life is integrity. But how is integrity practiced on a daily basis? Where do people watch us most closely? Peter answers that question in our text today.

### THOSE WHO LIVE WITH INTEGRITY \_\_\_\_\_ AWAY FROM \_\_\_\_\_ (2:11)

Men and women with integrity flee from tempting circumstances.

Peter refers to his brethren as “*sojourners*” and “*pilgrims*.”

- “*Sojourners*” are \_\_\_\_\_ who haven’t reached their final destination.
- “*Pilgrims*” are temporary \_\_\_\_\_.

Both of these expressions emphasize that this world is not our home. On our way to our final home (Heaven) we have a duty to abstain from fleshly lusts. TO “*abstain*” means to hold off from; to keep yourself from. It’s a similar expression to the one Paul used in his letter to the Thessalonians.

“\_\_\_\_\_ from every form of evil” (1 Thessalonians 5:22)

### THOSE WHO LIVE WITH INTEGRITY \_\_\_\_\_ TO AUTHORITY (2:13-14, 17)

Men and women with integrity learn to honor their leaders.

Peter instructs us to respect the government and the ones who enforce the laws of the government. We are to submit, or yield. Submission or yielding is not a sign of \_\_\_\_\_; it is a sign of \_\_\_\_\_. It is saying I don’t have to have my way all the time.

The word “*submit*” is actually a military term that literally means “\_\_\_\_\_.” There are no exceptions. While American culture may have muddied the waters on who we are to submit to and how we are to submit to them; God’s Word remains increasingly clear on this matter.

### THOSE WHO LIVE WITH INTEGRITY \_\_\_\_\_ FOR WHAT IS RIGHT (2:18)

Men and women with integrity stand up for right in the \_\_\_\_\_ place.

As a believer, our integrity goes to work with us.

- It manifests itself in the way we treat our boss, our clients, and our fellow employees.
- It manifests itself in the way we respond to the company’s \_\_\_\_\_.
- It manifests itself in our attitude and convictions and \_\_\_\_\_ we display.

When Peter says “*be subject*” it carries the idea of freedom of choice. It is subjecting yourself – not because you feel that your boss is a great person but because of your \_\_\_\_\_ for Christ.

### THOSE WHO LIVE WITH INTEGRITY \_\_\_\_\_ IN TRIALS (2:19)

The greatest test of integrity is how we respond to \_\_\_\_\_.

Nothing reveals our character quicker than problems and pain. That’s one of the reasons God allows it. When we go through suffering it really reveals what we’re like. It has been said, “Christians are like \_\_\_\_\_, one doesn’t know what they’re like inside until they are put in hot water.”

Hellen Keller was right when she said, “Although the world is full of suffering, it is full also of \_\_\_\_\_ it.”

### Concluding Thoughts

Your integrity will be put to the \_\_\_\_\_ every day, in virtually every situation. In the midst of your daily walk people are watching your every move (1 Peter 2:12). Does your character match your confession? Does your belief match your behavior? What if everyone waited to see what affect your \_\_\_\_\_ had on you before they decided whether or not to accept it? God demands that His children live with integrity.