

Sermon Notes – November 13, 2016

Introduction & Review

- ⇒ Previously, we saw that your faith & your worldview shouldn't be a weekend hobby, left to casual thinking.
- ⇒ Therefore, we've discussed "apologetics" as a theological discipline that YOU need to develop. Apologetics is not red face argumentation, but rather a conversation engaging thought, reason, & history.
- ⇒ Last week we saw the believer's true identity is NOT defined in terms of rules or lifestyle choices; it includes being part of a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, and a people for God.

Today's Text: Read I Peter 2:11-17

Following the discussion of our true identity, Peter now provides a powerful apologetic for Christians facing a hostile world. The basis of this apologetic is our status as foreigners and exiles who are looking forward to our true home.

You are a foreigner, but you're not lost! 2:11-12

- ⇒ Verses 11 & 12 create a single thought with two actions.
- ⇒ _____: Don't waste your life on temporary desires. Grotesque sin is part of this, but it's not the whole picture.
- ⇒ _____: Don't just avoid sin. Live intentionally in a way that will cause people to glorify God.
- ⇒ "I _____ you" commands are always based on Christ's work not our _____. (Rom. 12:1; Eph. 4:1; Phil. 4:2)

Know your battle, embrace a wartime mentality

- ⇒ This text's apologetic is compelling because it is a consistent with our claimed identity. (Heb. 11:13-16)
- ⇒ We need a wartime mentality. This is not about being _____, but living with _____ to a _____.
- ⇒ A wise _____ sacrifices comfort, denies self, and picks his or her battles. (2 Tim. 2:1-4)

I Peter 2:11-17
Are We In a Battle? Yes!
Pastor Tyler Pease

This apologetic in the civic arena: 13-17

- ⇒ Wherever God has put you, conduct yourself in a way that people in authority are glad you are around. Be a good citizen!
- ⇒ Our motivation is God's _____ & _____.
- ⇒ As a _____ principle, this may also protect you.
- ⇒ Don't _____ the difficult command to submit:
 - This doesn't just apply to good leaders or good governments.
 - This isn't from a simpler time or for simpler people.
 - This goes beyond mere _____.
- ⇒ There are, of course, limits to Peter's command:
 - In 13, "human institution" is literally "human _____."
 - God's servants must draw the line at violating _____.
 - Our government is very different. How do we contextualize?
 - These limits are the exception. Don't make them the rule.
- ⇒ The incredible identity we have been given is not to be used selfishly for our benefit. God blesses us to be a blessing.
- ⇒ How does this apply to the election last Tuesday? Is there a risk to a wartime mentality?

An apologetic example

An example of today's text in action AND a historic defense of the faith: *The Surprising Discovery About Those Colonialist, Proselytizing Missionaries*. Christianity Today, January 2014.

Responding to God's Word

We need to live with a wartime mentality!

- ⇒ As ambassadors in a foreign land, our idea of holiness must go beyond abstaining from fleshly desires. What positive actions do we pursue for God's reputation?
- ⇒ How does this apologetic invade every area of our life: work, school, in the home, as a citizen, at play?
- ⇒ Perspectives starting January 2017 — a next step?