



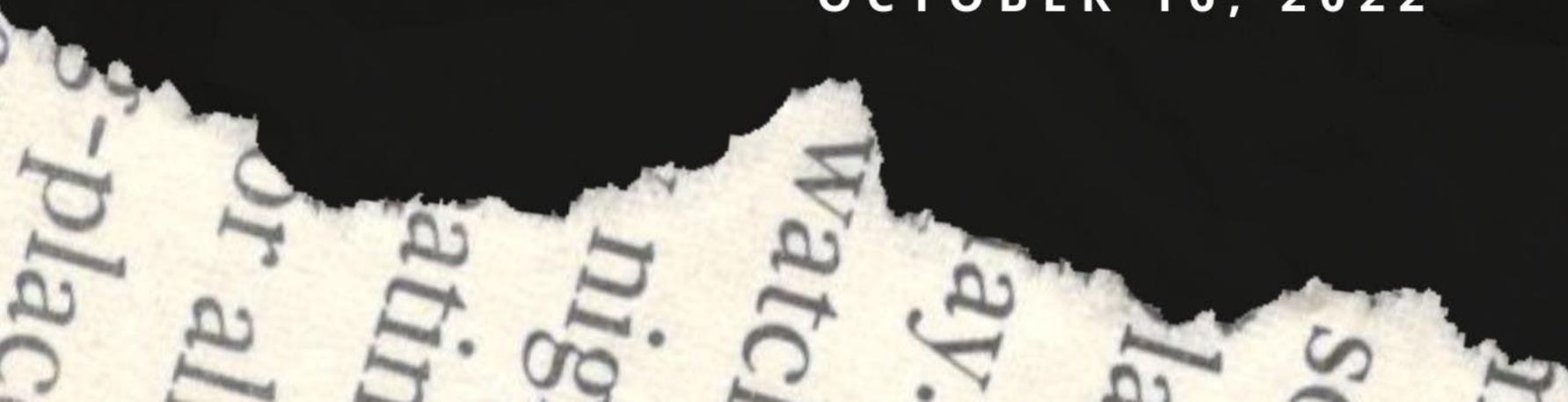
LIVING OUT THE GOSPEL AS EXILES
IN A WORLD OF OPPOSITION

STAND FIRM



LIVING WITH INTEGRITY AND INFLUENCE
1 PETER 2:11-25
OCTOBER 16, 2022

 **MIDLOTHIAN**
BIBLE CHURCH



12...“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” Jn 8:12 (ESV)

**14 “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.
Matthew 5:14–16 (ESV)**

How To Live With Integrity

I. Shun Sin and Live Righteously

¹¹ Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. ¹² Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

1 Peter 2:11–12 (ESV)

Friends, this world is not your home, so don't make yourselves cozy in it. Don't indulge your ego at the expense of your soul.

vs. 11 (TM)

15 For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people.

1 Peter 2:15 (ESV)

You're either a **Bible** or a **liable** for the name and cause of Christ. We need to be **show** and **tel** Christians.

You cannot control the lies people say about you, but you can control the **truth**.

**“If you stay clean and live with integrity...
you will be a vessel of honor...useful to
the Master for his highest purposes....”**

2 Tim. 2:21 (JTG)

How To Live With Integrity

- I. Shun Sin and Live Righteously**
- II. Show Respect for Authority and Honor All**

¹³ Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, ¹⁴ or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. ¹⁵ For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people.

¹⁶ Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. ¹⁷ Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor. ¹⁸ Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also the unjust.

1 Peter 2:13–18 (ESV)

**17 Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood.
Fear God. Honor the emperor.**

“...Be good servants to your masters -- not just to good masters, but also to bad ones. What counts is that you put up with it for God’s sake when you’re treated badly for no good reason.”

vs. 18 (TM)

How To Live With Integrity

- I. Shun Sin and Live Righteously**
- II. Show Respect for Authority and Honor All**
- III. Seek God In Suffering and Trust Him**

19 For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. 20 For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God.

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. 22 He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. 23 When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.

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.

1 Peter 2:19–25 (ESV)

“This is the kind of life you’ve been invited into, the kind of life Christ lived. He suffered everything that came his way so you would know that it could be done, and also how to do it, step by step.”

vs. 21 (TM)

**...You do not realize now what I am doing,
but later you will understand.**

John 13:7 (NIV)

What is true for most of our suffering is that we don't understand it now, but later we will understand.

Suffering has many benefits that we will eventually discover...

A. To Trust in God

“...But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead.” 2 Cor. 1:9b (ESV)

You will never know that God is all you need until He is all you have.

Suffering has many benefits that we will eventually discover...

B. To Build My Character

“...we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.” Rom. 5:4 (NIV)

“Sometimes it takes a painful experience to help us to change.” Pr. 20:30 (JTG)

Suffering has many benefits that we will eventually discover...

**C. To Accomplish God's Purpose
i.e. Joseph's life in Genesis 37-50...**

“You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good”

Gen. 50:20 (NIV)

I Peter 2:23 says, “*He suffered in silence, content to let God set things right.*” It’s an act of **INTEGRITY. Instead of defending yourself you say, “*I’m going to let God handle this. I’m going to let Him settle the score because I know He is going to work everything together for good!*”**

Theology of Martyrdom...

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

Suffering for doing what is right displays GRACE and shows INTEGRITY.

The acid test of your faith is how you react when you're mistreated. The Bible says that people are watching to see how you...

- **RUN** from Sin and Temptation,
- **RESPECT** Authority,
- **RESPOND** to Suffering.

**14 “You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.
Matt. 5:14-16**