

## I Peter 2:4-12

### ***New Identity, New Way of Living***

> Peter begins this section with a description of Christ (v. 4), and then gives a description of believers. List the terms used to describe believers in verses 5-10: Living stones, holy priesthood, chosen generation, royal priesthood, holy nation, His own special people, the people of God, those who have obtained mercy.

> In what way are we sojourners and pilgrims (v. 11)? This world is our temporary home; our final destination/home is heaven.

> What two things are we told to do in verses 11-12? Abstain from fleshly lusts, have our conduct honorable among the Gentiles.

> What result of good works does Peter mention in verse 12? Even our enemies may see them, be saved, and glorify God one day.

### ***Application***

Living the Christian life in our world is not easy, but Peter brings out several points that bring encouragement to us: our new identity, the temporary nature of our struggle, and the fact our lives can impact others.

In what way do these factors motivate godly living?

- Our identity: As God's special people, there should be a desire to please Him with how we live our lives.
- Our home on earth as being temporary: Focusing on our eternal home helps us endure temporary struggles on earth.
- Our impact on others: Knowing that people watch us, we can be motivated knowing our life can impact them for Christ.

Consider what these three points mean to you personally. Notice, inward change (v. 11) comes before outward change (v. 12). Do not allow sin to disrupt the way God can use you to make an impact in the lives of others! Compared to the world, our identity is radically different, and our lives should be too!

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