

Silencing the Critics - Godly Living

1 Peter 2:11-12 Part 1 of 4

Introduction:

Godly Living – is a life in action that honors God in all things regardless of the situation, audience, or location. It is the active outward testimony of the inward change of a life in Christ Jesus.

“It is the scandalous conduct of Christians that fuels the fires of critics.”

I. Godly Living Begins Inward v.11a

- a. We are the beloved of God
- b. We are to respond with obedience to His love
- c. And it starts on the inside

II. We are Aliens and Strangers v.11b

- a. We don't belong in the society we live in
- b. Earth is not our home Philippians 3:20
- c. The price of our privileges is to shun the things of the world
- d. We are just passing through- sojourners

III. Disciplined in an Inward and Private Way v.11c

- a. If we are to impact the world we live in we must Abstain from fleshly lust
- b. Abstain – means to stay away from
- c. The list of fleshly lust is great Gal 5:19-21

IV. Fleshly Lust Wages War Against our Soul v.11d

- a. The very nature of fleshly lust is to wage war against our soul Rom 7:23
- b. The soul is simply you the living person Gen 2:7
- c. Fleshly Lust wages a non-stop attack against us
- d. In Christ we are to live for Him and not lust 1 Pet 4:2
- e. We must close the gate to stop the war Gal 5:16

Please Turn Over

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V. Called to Conduct Outward and Public v.12a

- a. Behavior – is our daily conduct, manner of life
- b. Excellent – is the quality of our conduct
 - i. Lovely, fine, appealing, gracious, noble,
 - ii. It is the purest, highest, noblest goodness
- c. True Children of God are known by their fruit Matt 7:16-17

VI. For Those Who Slander You v.12b

- a. God says He will use the very things they discredit us for, to lead the unbeliever to salvation
- b. Evildoers – is a very harsh curse word for a Christian from the unbelievers perspective
- c. The only way to silence our critics is to live an excellent life

VII. Those Who Observe May Glorify God v.12c

- a. Our good deeds before the unbeliever will have a positive impact on them
- b. They are always watching us
- c. Because of our faithful witness before the unbeliever when God comes to visit them they will come to know salvation