

Lesson 4 – September 25


1 Peter 2:11-25

Living as Strangers



Rome

Our Living Hope



FBC Woodville
Sunday School Class
Michael G. Maness
see

PreciousHeart.net/SS



1. Sept 4 Living Hope 1:1-12
2. Sept 11 Be Holy 1:13-25
3. Sept 18 Building Our Faith 2:1-10
4. **Sept 25 *Living as Strangers* 2:11-25**
5. Oct 2 Living in Relationship 3:1-12
6. Oct 9 Always Ready 3:13-22
7. Oct 16 Equipped to Live 4:1-11
8. Oct 23 When Ridiculed 4:12-19
9. Oct 30 Alert Living 5:1-14
10. Nov 6 Being Useful 2 Pet. 1:1-11
11. Nov 13 With Trust 2 Pet. 1:12-21
12. Nov 20 On Guard 2 Pet. 2:1-13; Jude 16-25
13. Nov 27 With Anticipation 2 Pet. 3:1-13, 17-18



Lesson Author's Theme

Believers honor God through their good works.

1 Peter 2

11-12

In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

13-17

Toward Officials & Leaders – God's Slaves

18-20

Through Your Work – Submit, Suffer

21-25

Because Christ Suffered for You



Frist Key Verse I Peter 2:12

Live such GOOD LIVES among the PAGANS that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

Second Key Verse I Peter 2:21

To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.



Alternative Title

**Live the “Good Life”
even when Life’s Tough**



1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

11 – Holman Christian Standard Bible *your quarterly*

Dear friends, I urge you as strangers and temporary residents to abstain from fleshly desires that war against YOU. [Soul?!]

NIV – as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your SOUL.

KJV – as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the SOUL.

Douay-Rheims Catholic Bible – refrain yourselves from carnal desires which war against the SOUL.

Message Bible – 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.

1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

11 KJV – as strangers and pilgrims
Aliens ... foreigners ...

Not in Woodville, Texas!!!

Hometown – USA ... even Mayberry RFD



**Hold up just a second ...
Selah ... let's look a little
closer at the whole forest**



Look at the whole forest, *then ahead*

- Previous Travels**
1. Sept 4 Living Hope 1:1-12
 2. Sept 11 Rejoice 1:13-25
 3. Sept 18 Building Our Faith 2:1-10
 4. Sept 25 Living as Strangers 2:11-25
 5. Oct 2 Living in Relationship 3:1-12
 6. Oct 9 Always Ready 3:13-22
 7. Oct 16 Equipped to Live 4:1-11
 8. Oct 23 When Ridiculed 4:12-19
 9. Oct 30 Alert Living 5:1-14
 10. Nov 6 Being Useful 2 Pet. 1:1-11
 11. Nov 13 With Trust 2 Pet. 1:12-21
 12. Nov 20 On Guard 2 Pet. 2:1-13; Jude 16-25
 13. Nov 27 With Anticipation 2 Pet. 3:1-13

1 Peter's Three Sections:

Identity of God's People

**Responsibilities of
God's People**

**Responsibilities of
the Church**

Now let's insert the **OUTLINE** of 1 Peter

Responsibilities of God's People – *section two*

- 4. Sept 25 Living as Strangers 2:11-25
 - ➔ 2:11-12 Mission of God's People in world
 - ➔ 2:13–3:12 Respect: Keys to Living in the World
 - 2:13-17 Respect to **EVERYONE**
 - 2:18-20 Slaves Respect Masters
 - 2:21-25 Attitude of Respect: See Christ
- 5. Oct 2 Living in Relationship 3:1-12
 - 3:1-6 Wives Respect Husbands
 - 3:7 Husbands Respect Wives
 - 3:8-12 Respect **EVERYONE** – *refrain*
- 6. Oct 9 Always Ready 3:13-22
 - ➔ 3:13–4:6 Promise of Vindication
 - 3:13-17 Suffering for Doing Good
 - 3:18-22 Vindication of Christ
- 7. Oct 16 Equipped to Live 4:1-11
 - 4:1-6 Living for the Promise
 - ➔ 4:7-11 Mutual Love: Key to Christian Community in End Time

Our Lesson Today

*is bound with
Next Week's
through the*

Keys to RESPECT
Keys to Living
in the World

Now just Today's & Next Week's OUTLINE

Responsibilities of God's People – *section two*

2:11-12 Mission of God's People in world

2:13–3:12 Respect: Keys to Living in the World

2:13-17 Respect to **EVERYONE**

2:18-25 Slaves Respect Masters

2:21-25 Attitude of Respect: see Christ

3:1-6 Wives Respect Husbands

3:7 Husbands Respect Wives

3:8-12 Respect **EVERYONE** – *refrain of sorts*

Easier to See

TODAY

*Mission &
3 Keys of Respect
to living in world*

NEXT WEEK

*3 More Keys
to living in world*

Mission of God's People – as Strangers, Pilgrims
abstaining from lusts that war against the Soul

Respect as KEYS to Living in the World

1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

11 KJV – as strangers and pilgrims
Aliens ... foreigners ...

Not in Woodville, Texas!!!

Hometown – USA ... even Mayberry RFD

Video Not Online



1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

11 KJV – as strangers and pilgrims

Not many **STRANGERS** in Woodville, Texas!!!

Oh, I saw Aunt Bee and Opie.

Look there, Cousins Gomer and Goober Pyle!

Of course, **OUR Police Chief & Sheriff** are stronger than Andy and carry bigger guns



**MAYBERRY
R.F.D.**



1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

11 KJV – as strangers and pilgrims

I'll tell you this ... we ARE strangers

to the A.D. 64 world of Asia Minor and Galatia

Try as best we can ... empathize as we are able

Push as we may ...

In fine Air Conditioning

in fine A/C'd cars

in comfy homes

with police keeping

watch at night ...



Strangers, Aliens we ARE to those 2,000 yrs ago

1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

11 KJV – as strangers and pilgrims

Still the **REAL** meaning of that passage is that **our citizenship is in heaven**

Our being a **Chosen People** ...

Our being **God's Own Special Possession** ...

OUGHT to ... Should make us ...

We SHOULD feel vastly more like a stranger **HERE** in the 21st Century **than most of us TRULY** feel today

Christians in A.D. 64 were the **MINORITY**

Today, we are the **MAJORITY**

A.D. 64, they were Christians living in a VAST PAGAN world

Illustration of Dante's Divine Comedy
by Gustave Doré, 1832-83



1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

11 KJV – as strangers and pilgrims

Christians living in a VAST PAGAN world

Christians living in an educated world, following a fable of a strange man from the FARTHEST reaches of the **Great Roman Empire...**

Some stranger who was duly executed in the backwater, hillbilly place called ... **Israel**

Yet ... we CAN feel that ...

When a Christian TODAY matriculates at a secular University

When a Christian TODAY hires on with some corporations

When a prisoner becomes a Christian INSIDE of prison

Strangers and Aliens and Foreigners



Facade of Library
in Ephesus

1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

11 KJV – as strangers and pilgrims

Stranger and pilgrims ... our heavenly Citizenship ...

For those of A.D. 64, they were walking as NEW Christians
down the paved street of Ephesus ...

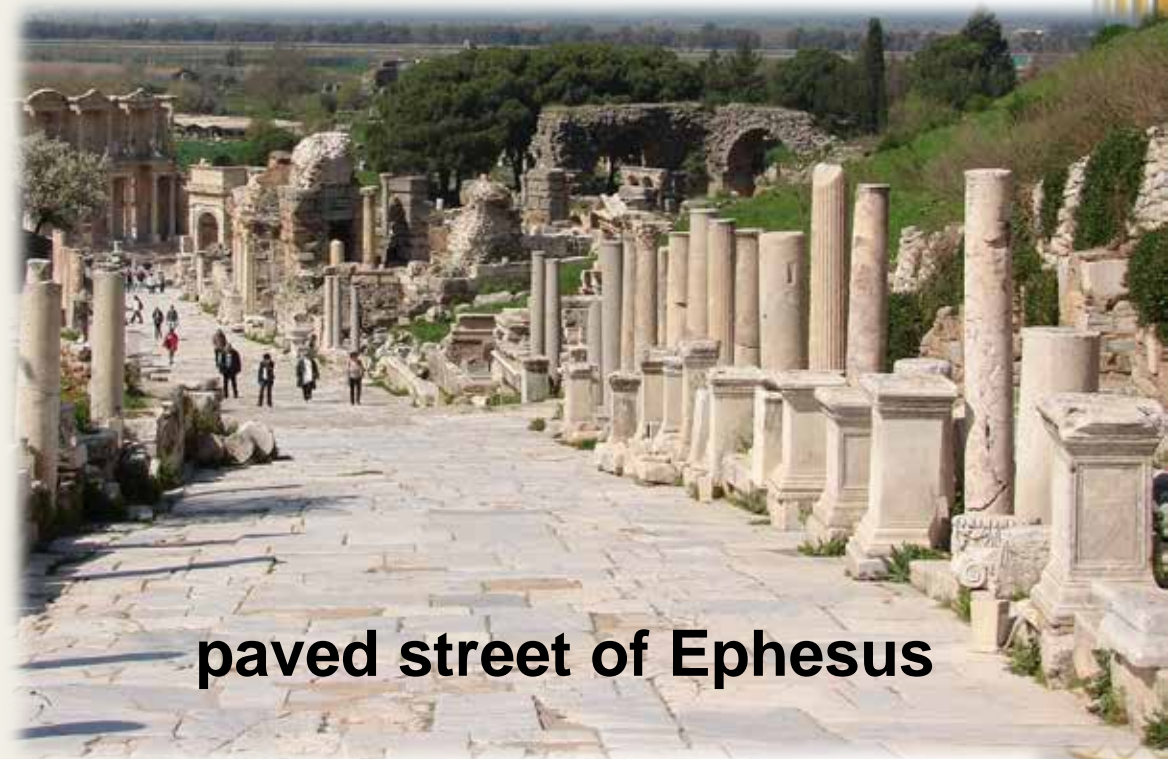
Knowing their residency card
would soon expire ...

Persecution was about to start

Hostility was increasing ...

What to do ???

How do you face it ???



paved street of Ephesus

1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

11 KJV – as strangers and pilgrims

How do we face our world?

- ✓ As pilgrims with a heavenly **Citizenship** ...
- ✓ As strangers, perhaps even as illegal aliens here
- ✓ As pilgrims in route to our **Celestial City**
- ✓ As strangers here regarding so much evil
- ✓ As pilgrims **LONGING** for **HOME** for Our Home in a New Heaven

How to face the world?
BELIEVE your Citizenship

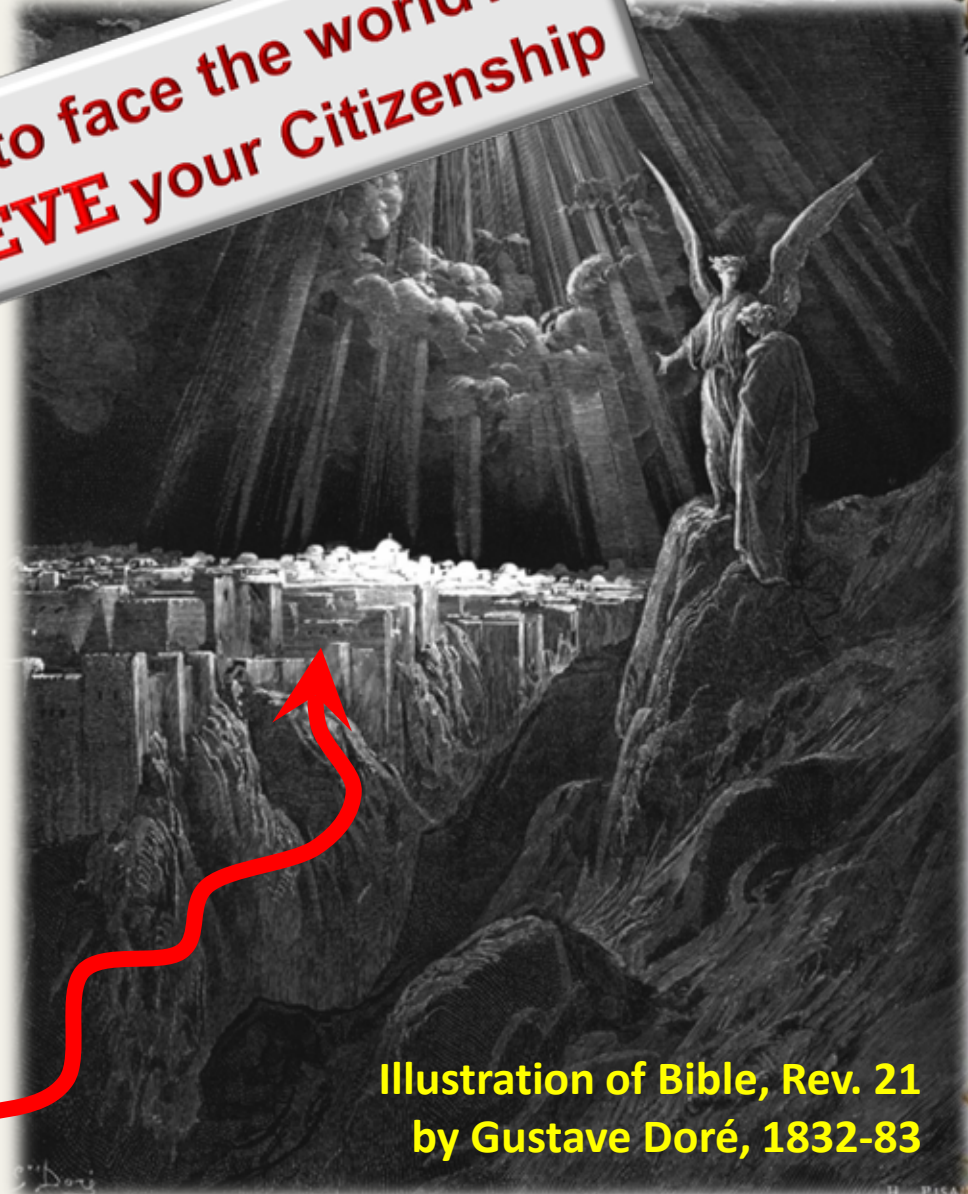


Illustration of Bible, Rev. 21
by Gustave Doré, 1832-83

1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

11 KJV – as strangers and **PILGRIMS**

John Bunyan wrote *Pilgrim's Progress*

1st part in 1678 ... 2nd part in 1684

While serving **12 yrs in Bedfordshire Jail**

his first book, autobiography, 1666,

Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners

John Bunyan was in jail **12 years** for

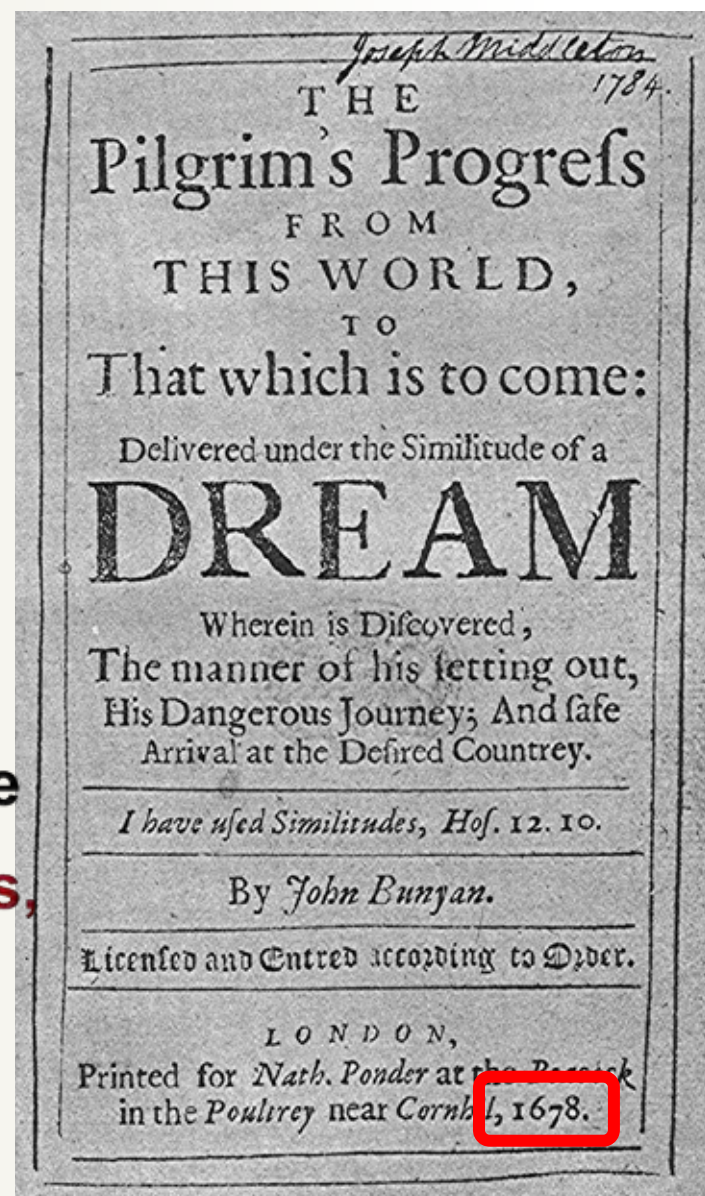
violations of Conventicle Act of 1664

—preaching w/out Church of England license

Conventicle Act **PROHIBITED conventicles**,

religious assemblies >5 people, other than

family, outside the Church of England



1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

11 KJV – as strangers and pilgrims

John Bunyan ... *Pilgrim's Progress* 1668

THE Classic English Masterpiece

Continuously published since 1678

for 338+ years, trans. into 200+ languages

KJV came out in 1611 ... next to the KJV,

after 1678, *Pilgrim's Progress* was

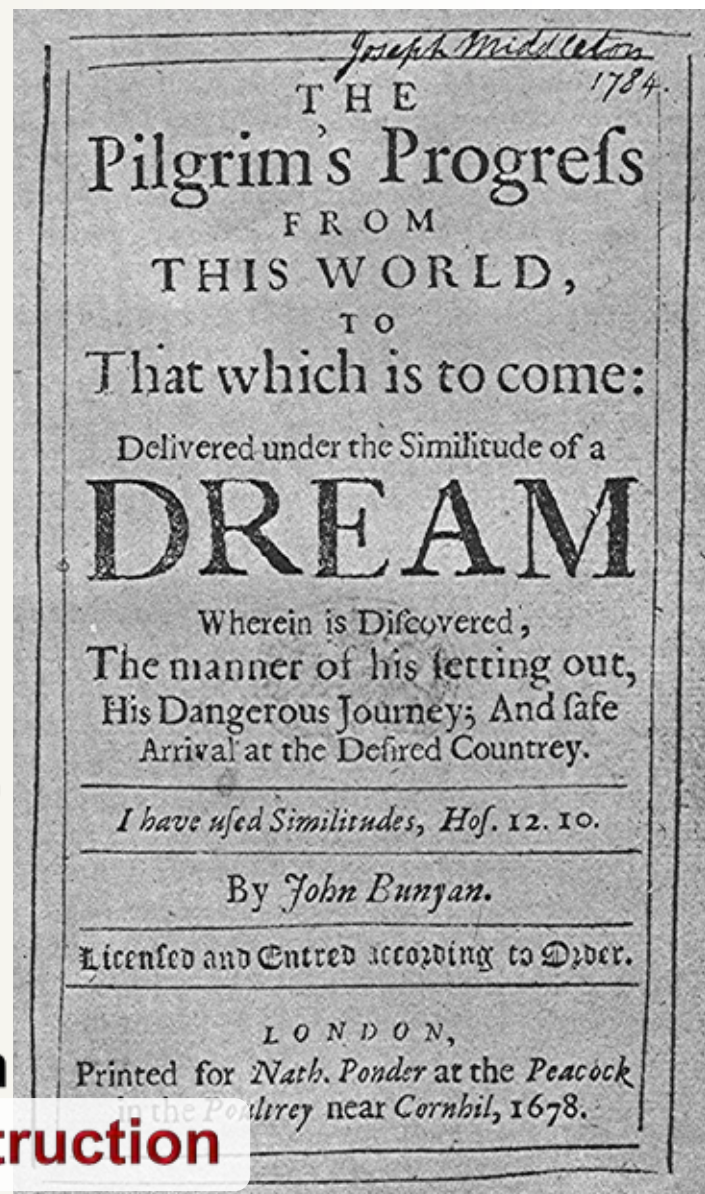
MOST read book in English

Many put *Pilgrim's Progress* at the TOP

of the list of **ALL English Literature**

Man named **Christian** with a Great Burden on

his back leaves his home in the **City of Destruction**



1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

11 KJV – as strangers and pilgrims

Christian finds help from **Evangelist**
who points the way to the Celestial City

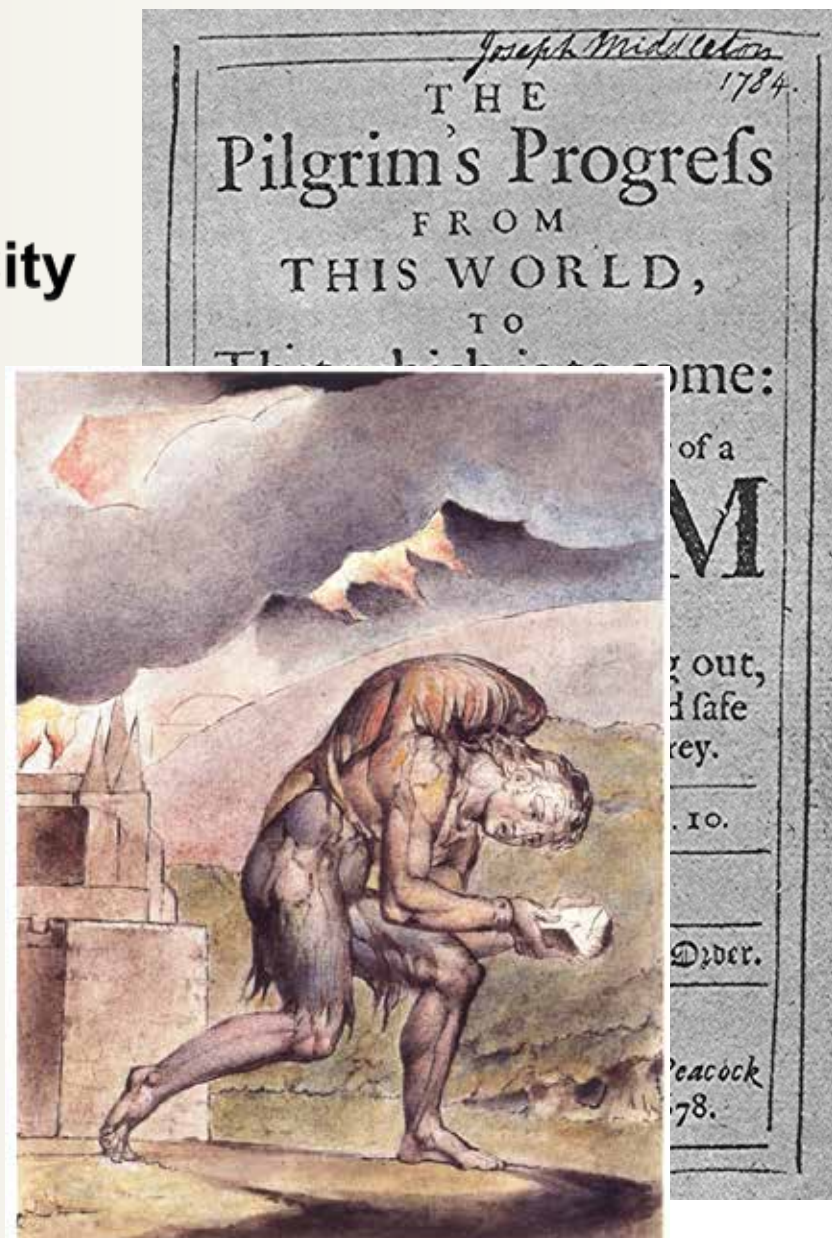
Christian reads his “book” – *the Bible*

Obstinate and **Pliable** join him, though
Obstinate soon turns back for home

Christian sinks in the
Slough of Despond, burden on
his back heavy, and Pliable quits

Onward goes Christian ... who is later
joined by a **good man named Faithful**

William Blake (1757-1827) Illustrated
Pilgrim's Progress, c. 1824

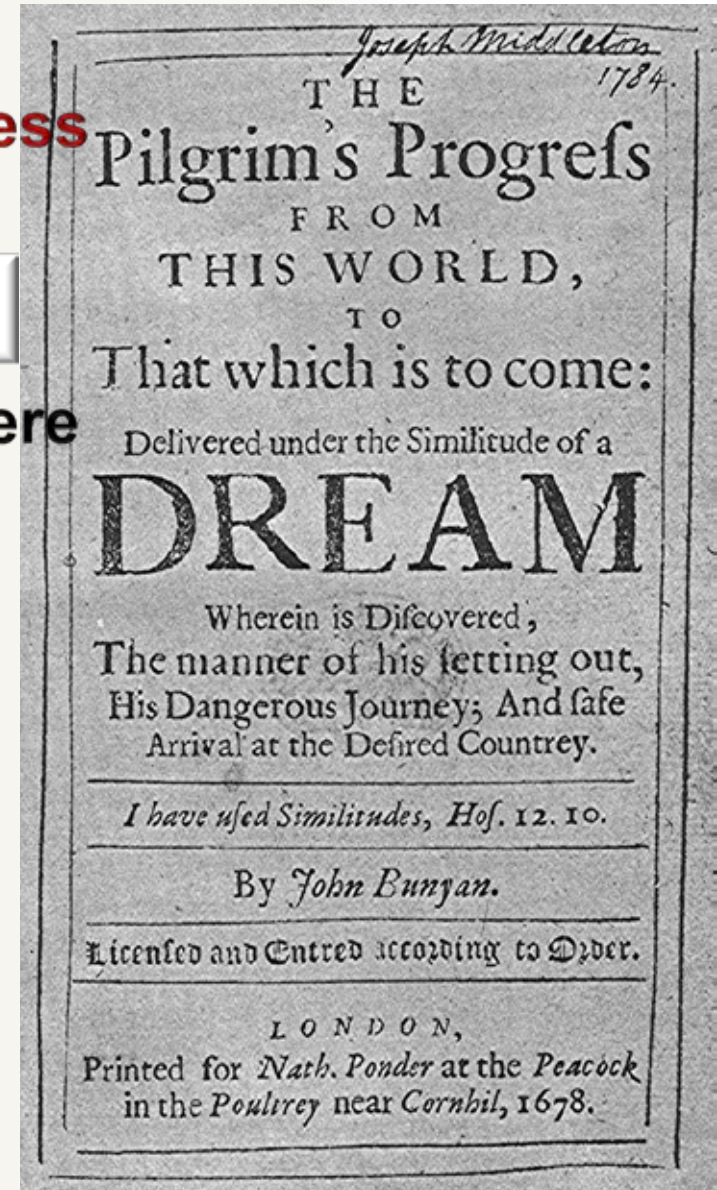


1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

deep into *Pilgrim's Progress* ...

Christian & Faithful come out of the **Wilderness**
on the edge of a city named **VANITY**

City of **Vanity** has a fair, called **Vanity Fair**
the “fair” runs all year long, “vanity” sold there



1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

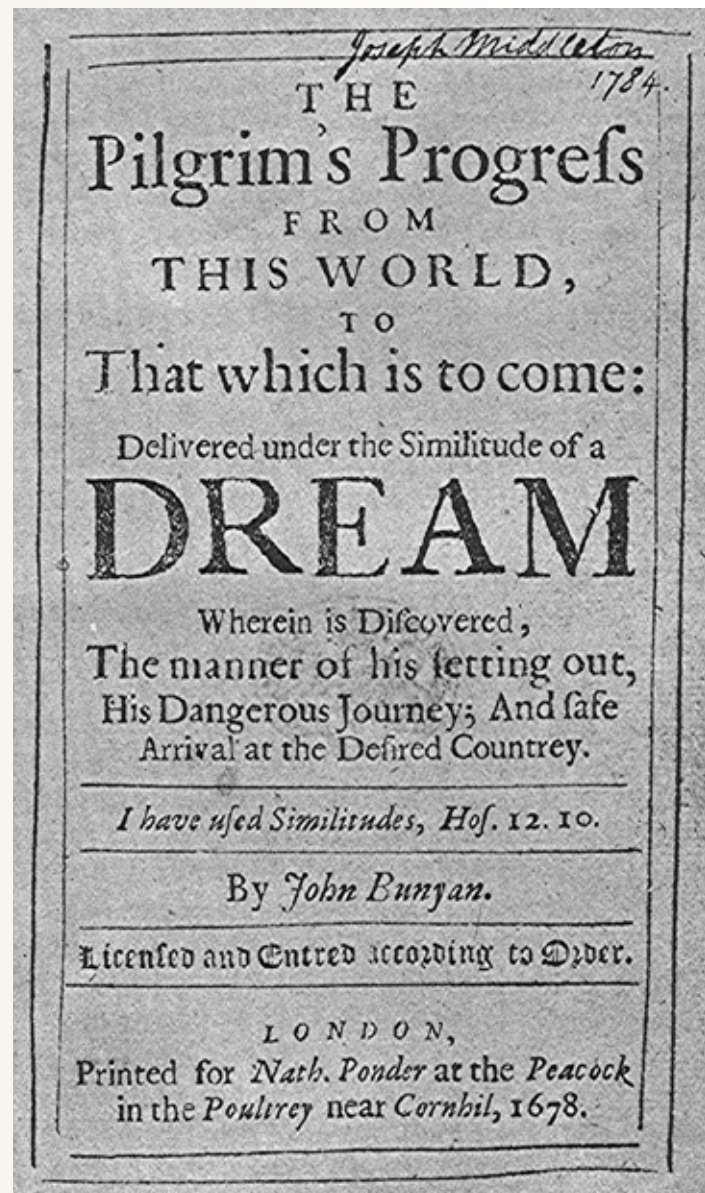
11 KJV – as strangers and pilgrims

The narrator of *Pilgrim's Progress* has to explain more about the town of **VANITY**

“the way to the **Celestial City** lies just through this town.... The **Prince of Princes** himself went through this town to his own country....

“**Beelzebub**, the chief Lord of this fair, invited the Prince to buy of his vanities, yea, would've made **Prince** lord of the fair

“if only the **Prince** would have done him reverence”



1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

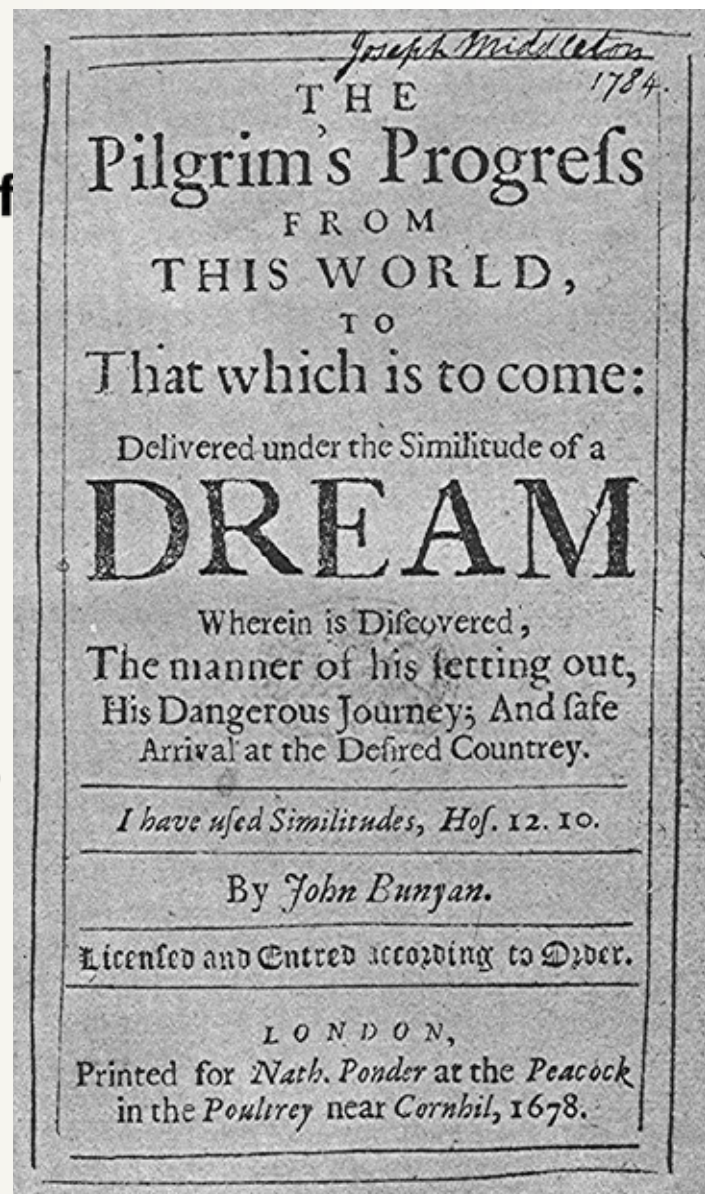
11 KJV – as strangers and pilgrims

“Yea, because the **PRINCE** was such a person of honor, **Beelzebub** had him from street to street, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a little time...

“that he might allure that **Blessed One** to cheapen and buy some of his vanities

“but the **Prince** had no mind to the merchandise and therefore left the town, without laying out so much as one farthing upon these vanities.”

As **Christian** and **Faithful** were passing, merchants of **Vanity Fair** asked them to **buy**



1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

11 KJV – as strangers and pilgrims

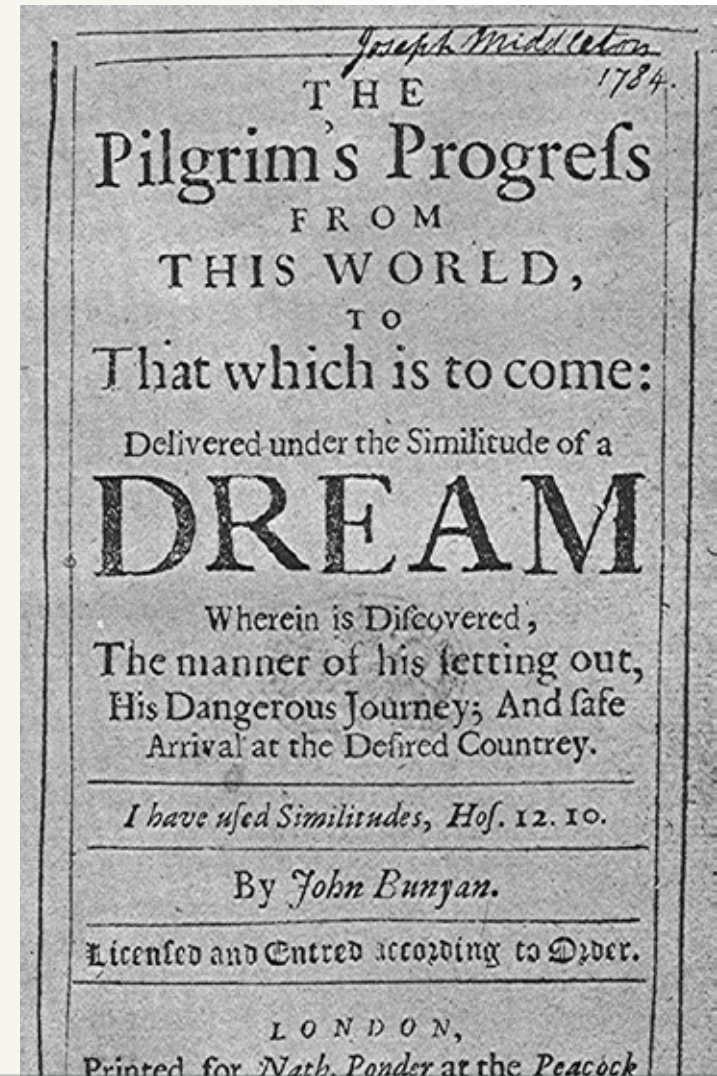
Christian and **Faithful**, looking gravely, said,
“We Buy the Truth.” ...

there the merchants despise the men the more; some mocking, some taunting ...

The great one of the fair arrested **Christian** and **Faithful** and examined them on why they came

Christian and **faithful** said they were pilgrims and strangers in the world, and that they were going to their own country, which was the heavenly Jerusalem.

Asked again *what they would buy*, they said they would **“We Buy the Truth.”**



But no one in Vanity *believed* Christian & Faithful.

1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

How do YOU face HATERS?
Who HATE you because of your faith?

One KEY is to CONSIDER yourselves

Holman Christian Standard Bible says,
as strangers and temporary residents

Or as the KJV says,
as strangers and pilgrims

How do YOU face HATERS?

KNOW, your Residence is in Heaven

Citizenship is in the New Jerusalem

A Great Banquet awaits God's Special Possession

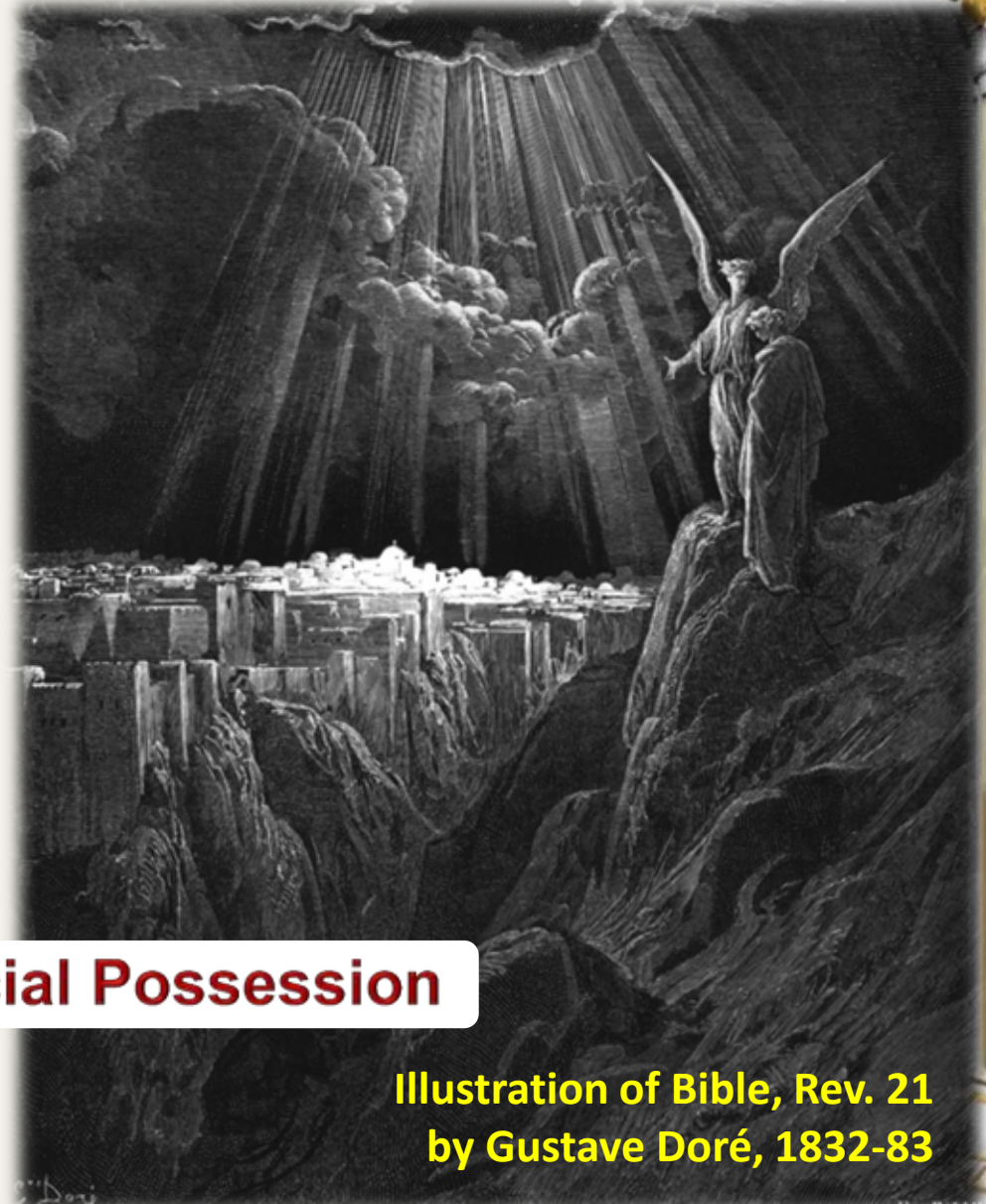


Illustration of Bible, Rev. 21
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1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

How do YOU face HATERS?

11 – Holman Christian Standard Bible *your quarterly*

Dear friends, I urge you as strangers and temporary residents to **abstain from fleshly desires that war against you. (Not SOUL?)**

NIV – as foreigners and exiles, to **abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your SOUL.**

KJV – as strangers and pilgrims, **abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the SOUL;**

Douay-Rheims Catholic Bible – **refrain yourselves from carnal desires which war against the SOUL,**

Message Bible – 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.**

1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

11 – KJV – as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which **war against the soul;**

KJV made it clear ... Fleshly Lusts that WAR

No one, no adult especially misunderstands “**Fleshly Lusts**”

Above all is **SEX** and **POWER**. Then ... **GREED. FOOD. PRIDE.**

PLUS the “things” and “associations” that FEED these and more

All these **WAR against our SOUL**

VICES are NOT soldiers with a General ... or ARE they?

If Satan has Demons ... the “Fleshly Lusts” can be WEAPONS
Demons can USE, manipulate ... to fight our SOUL

1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

11 – **KJV** – fleshly lusts, which **war against the soul**;

What is the SOUL?

Peter **ψυχή** for SOUL – you know it better as **PSYCHE**, **Psychology** ... here singular, yet plural in the other five places in 1 Peter

1:9, Receiving the end of your faith ... the salvation of your **SOULS**

1:22, Seeing you have purified your **SOULS** by obeying the truth

2:25, now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your **SOULS**

3:20, Noah ... wherein ... eight **SOULS** were saved by water

4:19, Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their **SOULS** to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.

1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

11 – **KJV** – fleshly lusts, which **war against the soul**;

What is the SOUL?

ψυχή / SOUL / PSYCHE: the vital breath, breath of life;
seat of affections and will; the self; human person, an individual.

FYI – the Greek for Spirit is Pneuma as in *Pneumatic* = air

1 Thessalonians 5:23 - very God of peace sanctify you **WHOLLY**;
and I pray God your whole **SPIRIT** and **SOUL** and **BODY** be
preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Not a gargantuan amount, not enough, but a LOT has been written

Some prefer **two-part**: Spirit/Soul & Body

Others **three-part**: Spirit, Soul, Body as in Father, Son, Holy Spirit

1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

11 – **KJV** – fleshly lusts, which **war against the soul;**

What is the SOUL?

ψυχή / SOUL / PSYCHE: vital breath, breath of life; seat will

Since Sigmund Freud (1856-1939)—no end to writing on
Psychology, good/bad & medical/psychoanalytical

Today, Psychology has nearly become a religion
in itself, the “science” of “soul”

At its worse, Psychology rationalizes religion

At its best, Psychology can aid person’s inner crises

The SOUL ... is the essence of the person ...

Without the Bible & GOD, no psychology is complete!



No Pure
Freudian today
He DID discover
the Unconscious

1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

11 – **KJV** – fleshly lusts, which **war against the soul**;

What is the SOUL?

ψυχή / SOUL / PSYCHE: vital breath, breath of life; seat will

What DRIVES humans?

Abraham Maslow (1908-70)
gave us a **Hierarchy of Needs**

- ✓ First, physical
- ✓ Then, safety
- ✓ Love, esteem ...

Similar to Maslow, there are
DOZENS of major formulations

**We've GOT
to Eat!**



1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

11 – KJV – fleshly lusts, which **war against the soul;**

What is the SOUL?

ψυχή / SOUL / PSYCHE: vital breath, breath of life; seat will

Biblically ... at a very minimum ...

- ✓ Soul is ETERNAL ... destined for Heaven or Hell
- ✓ Soul is YOUR eternal essence, known by God from the beginning of the world—the total INNER YOU
- ✓ Soul is unique, no two persons are identical
- ✓ Soul is precious to God—he Loves YOU, you ARE your SOUL
- ✓ Soul can be affected this side of heaven, but not destroyed

1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

11 – **KJV** – fleshly lusts, which **war against the soul;**

What is the SOUL?

ψυχή / SOUL / PSYCHE: vital breath, breath of life; seat will

Fleshly lusts WAR against YOU, your soul, your treasure

Matthew 6:21

For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also

I think ... your heart is ALL of your feelings

- ✓ Heart can grow
- ✓ Heart can be hurt
- ✓ Heart can deceive the SOUL
- ✓ Heart is part of BODY
- ✓ Heart linked to intellect
- ✓ Heart can be governed by your will

1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

11 – KJV – fleshly lusts, which **war against the soul;**

What is the SOUL?

ψυχή / SOUL / PSYCHE: vital breath, breath of life; seat will

Fleshly lusts **WAR** against YOU, your soul, your treasure

Body, Soul, Spirit ... who can figure it **ALL** out?

Psalm 139:13-14 – For you created my inmost being ... I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

Heart is invisible ... can grow, be hurt, deceive, cause joy

Heart is part of the BODY, bound with the Soul and Spirit

1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

11 – **KJV** – fleshly lusts, which **war against the soul;**

What is the SOUL?

ψυχή / SOUL / PSYCHE: vital breath, breath of life; seat will

Your SOUL ... is YOU, the essence of WHO you are in the world

Fleshly Lusts war against what is YOU, the BEST YOU ...

because this world is a fallen world ... waiting FULL redemption

- ✓ *Not all ...* Satan roams like a LION to seek and destroy
- ✓ *Not all ...* Others in THEIR Malice, Deceit, Slanders WAR too
- ✓ *Not all ...* Combined in our FLESHLY LUSTS, who can figure all the ways in which we DECEIVE ourselves?

HOW DO YOU FIGHT THIS WAR?

1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

¹² Live such **good lives** among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

First of all ... in the WAR ... *try to* ***LIVE Right!***

Glory of glories ... YOU ARE NOT ALONE! ... *chatted about that last week*

We have help ... Christ lives in us, other Christians, Prayer

Peter KNOWS and has walked this life ... heading to his own end

In the WAR ... in order to guard your SOUL ...

In the WAR ... as Fleshly Lusts, et al, *FIGHT against your SOUL*

Do Not Give Up

Live Right

1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

¹² Live such **good lives** among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

Many times in the Scriptures, the WAR against our Souls
Is one-sided ... our part being mostly defensive ...

That is, there is NO strategy ... No Battle Plans against Satan

- ✓ We can NEVER figure out the Devil ...
- ✓ Never OUTWIT the Devil
- ✓ Never FULLY figure out all the Fleshly Lusts

In the WAR on our SOUL ... our side is actually SIMPLER ...

Live Right

1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

¹² Live such **good lives** among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

Yet – hahah – when we begin, world's topsy-turvy!

Live the “Good Life” – everyone knows

Good Life means Winning the Lottery

Good Life means Winning \$7,000 a week for LIFE

Good Life means Riches Above Others

**Finally got dat
dar whitle boat ...**



1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

¹² Live such **good lives** among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

The “Good Life” – everyone TRULY knows – **NOT riches**

Likewise ... everyone TRULY knows, **NOT Starvation** either

Christian GOOD LIFE ... is BEING GOOD

And much, much, much MORE ...

Peter does NOT psychologize. He’s a fisherman.

No games work on the Sea of Galilee ...

Truly I think Peter and Tim McGraw would get along GREAT

1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

“Back When” ... hit #1 in 2004

Written by Stan Lynch, Stephony Smith and Jeff Stevens

Stephony Smith went to make breakfast and saw a snake



Snake crawled into a tight space and then she called Jeff Stevens

Then she said,

**“Back when a hoe was a hoe,
my mama woulda just chopped his head off.”**

That was the inspiration behind a great up-beat song ...

1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

“Back When” ... hit #1 in 2004

Written by Stan Lynch, Stephony Smith and Jeff Stevens



**Don't you remember ... The fizz in a pepper
Peanuts in a bottle ... At ten, two and four
A fried bologna sandwich ... With mayo and tomato
Sittin' round the table ... Don't happen much anymore**

**We got too complicated ... It's all way over-rated
I like the old and out-dated ... Way of life**

**Back when a hoe was a hoe ... Coke was a coke
And crack's what you were doing
When you were cracking jokes ...**

**And when you said “I'm down with that”
Well it meant you had the FLU**

We ALL know what “Live a Good Life” means!

1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

Peter was not PLAYING ... he was COUNTRY plain speaking

¹² Live such **good lives** among the **PAGANS** that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they—the **PAGANS**—may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

One way to LIVE the GOOD LIFE ... is **BEING GOOD**

When **PAGANS** accuse of you wrong ... they will Glorify God

PAGANS? – in A.D. 64 and ... and today in 2016 ... **MET ANY?**

Oh YES ... and they are ANTI-CHRIST ... they hate the church

Paganism – what is it? . . . those holding DIFFERENT religious beliefs from the MAIN Stream ...

Webster: religion with many gods and/or goddesses, earth holy, and no central authority

1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

We live among **SOME** Pagans ...
who don't consider themselves such ...

American Indian for one ...

See the Netherlands, TIME, 10-3-16, p. 12

“Witchcraft Lesson” tax-deductible!

Not all are ANTI-CHRIST and hate the church

Wiccan Golden Rule: “Do No Harm.”
everything else okay

On the other hand, a Christian prisoner **KILLED**
cellmate because his cellmate was a Satanist.

PAGANISM is the real today.

Do you want to know a more? – 4 Slides?



WITCHCRAFT

A court in the Netherlands ruled on Sept. 23, 2005, that witchcraft lessons were tax-deductible as long as they increased a person's employability and earning potential.

1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

Vampire Church has a Vampire Bible

Chapter titles: Calling of the Undead Gods,
The Secret Methods of Vampirism, and
The Predator of Humans.



“Vampire Creed” is predatory,

Pagan to the bone. *here's a short version*

I am a Vampire. I worship my ego ... I am the only God that is.
I am proud that I am a predatory animal and I honor my animal
instincts.... I realize there is no heaven as there is no hell, and I
view death as the destroyer of life. Therefore I will make the most
of life here and now....

See www.Vampire-Church.com

That is NOT all ...

1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

See the Growing Vampire Literature

Michelle A. Belanger's *The Psychic Vampire Codex: a Manual of Magick and Energy Work*

Robert C. Welch's *Vampire Almanac* (1995)

Norine Dresser's *American Vampires: Fans, Victims & Practitioners* (1989; 255p.). That's right, *practitioners!*

Dresser's *Come as You Aren't!:*

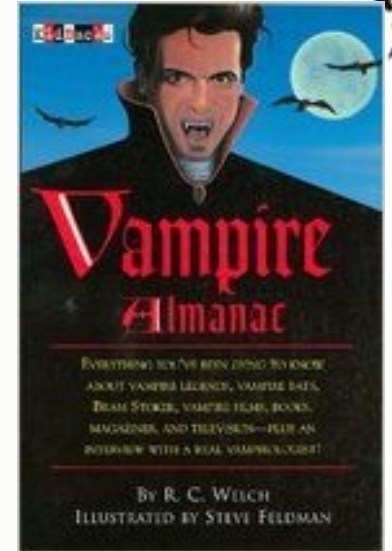
Feeling at Home with Multicultural Celebrations (2005).

Katherine M. Ramsland's *The Science of Vampires* (2002)

VAMPIRE Church ... gravely serious ...

Not all ...

“Come for a bite!”



1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

Asatrú – Norse Heathenism,
prefer “Heathenism” over “Paganism”

Asatrú means “belief in the gods.”

many symbols, like Thor's Hammer

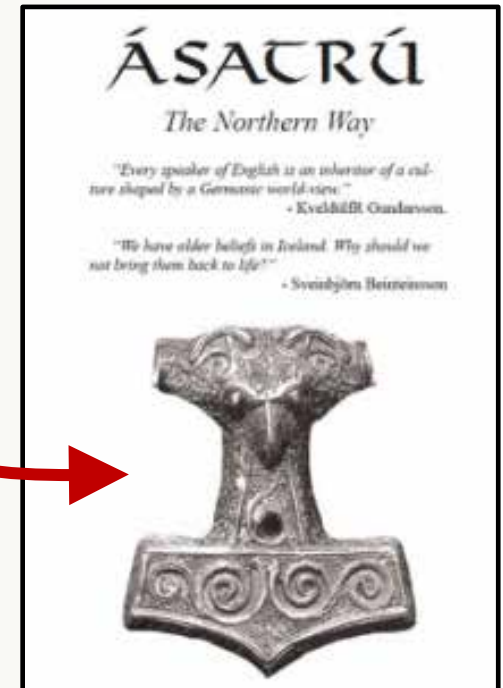
Not all bad, for “family is one of the pillars ...
devoted to their family, clan or extended family,
and tribe,” and “courage ... conspicuous virtue.”

Gods and Goddesses, with tongue-in-cheek
saying, “a religion without a Goddess is halfway to atheism.”

Ostara, goddess of fertility, celebrated at the Spring equinox,
known as Eostre, for **Easter**, symbols are the hare and egg ...

Oh, like rabbits ... they like to celebrate their fecundity

Not all ...



1 Peter 2:11-12 In Culture – Abstain from Sinful Desires

Church of Satan – April of 1966 by Anton LaVey (1930-97)

LaVey published *The Satanic Bible* shortly after

As one would expect, there's **discord** in Satan's church

First Church of Satan split from the above ... Aleister Crowley

First Church's Mission Statement:

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law

“Nine Satanic Statements”: asocial stance against all religions, clearly “nine” chosen to spite the “Ten” Commandments.

Dr. LaVey's diabolical philosophy: “practitioners of the unexpected.... We unsettle people. As a Satanist, it's your responsibility to **toy with people's expectations of you.**

2016 – yes, 50th Anniversary Celebrations

No, I was NOT invited ...



1 Peter 2:13-17 – Toward Officials & Leaders

In the WAR ... against our Souls ... Peter helps us MORE
BE GOOD in a world of Pagans ... oh, much WORSE in A.D. 64
ALL of them were Pagans before their conversion ... *NOT YOU!!!*

Peter goes on and advises us more on **HOW TO LIVE:**

¹³⁻¹⁴ Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right.

There it is again ... the LAW ... obey the law ... Peter adds AGAIN

¹⁵ For it is God's will that by DOING GOOD you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people.

1 Peter 2:13-17 – Toward Officials & Leaders

In the WAR ... against our Souls ... Peter helps us MORE

¹⁶ Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves.

¹⁷ Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God.
Honor the Emperor.

RESPECT – give to Caesar what is Caesar's

Fear God ...

Love the brother-sisterhood ...

HONOR EVERYONE ...



1 Peter 2:18-20 – Through Your Work – Submit, Suffer

18 Slaves, in reverent fear of God submit yourselves to your masters, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh.

19 For it is commendable if someone bears up under the PAIN of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God.

We have ALL suffered a LITTLE ... *at least I think ALL of us have*

Yet, this next verse gets much more brutal ...

20 But how is it to your credit if you receive a BEATING for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God.

BEATING ... I don't want any of that ... yet Peter is crystal CLEAR

Anymore KEYS like this to living “in the world”? ... ahhh, yep!

1 Peter 2:18-20 – Through Your Work – Submit, Suffer

Any more KEYS like this to living “in the world”? ... ahhh, yep!

²⁰ But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? **But if you SUFFER for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God.**

Yes, read that again ... translated:

SUFFER = if you get the **TAR BEAT OUT** of you
for doing good and you **ENDURE IT**
THAT IS COMMENDABLE before God

Key ... KEY? ... not sure I want to know the KEY!

KEY to being commendable **IN A BEATING** is:

How you ENDURE IT

1 Peter 2:18-20 – Through Your Work – Submit, Suffer

Yes, ONE of the KEYS to living “in the world”

One KEY to being commendable to God is ... when you do GOOD
and get A BEATING ... ONE Key is to

ENDURE IT

I cannot imagine ANYONE likeing that

“Enduring” patiently an unjust BEATING
is **ONE Key** to getting along **AND**
to being commendable to God

I don't like it; I don't think YOU like it

God did NOT ask if you LIKED it ...

Worse ... much, much worse ...
is that if you have the power to avoid
the BEATING ... that is okay too ...



1 Peter 2:18-20 – Through Your Work – Submit, Suffer

The KEY here, the REAL KEY here is for TWO people

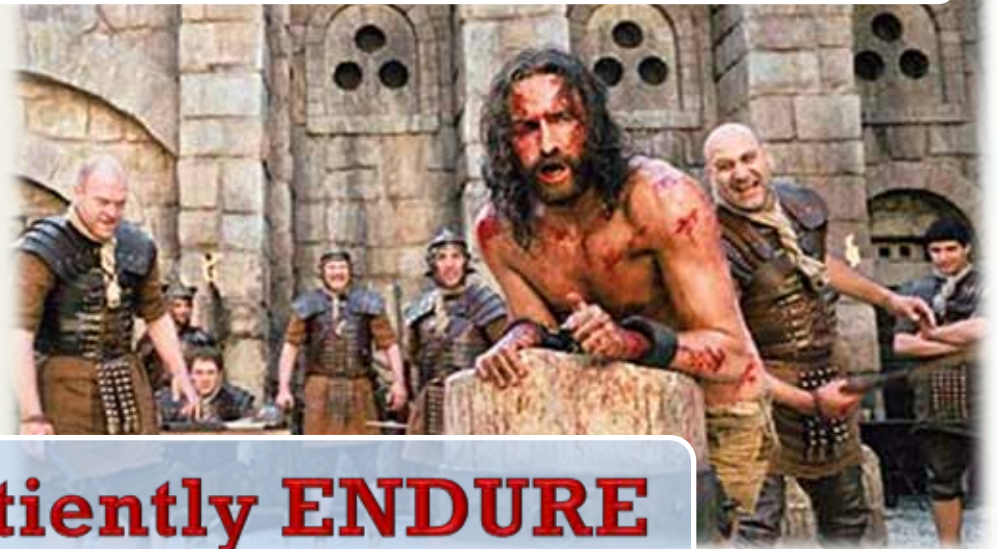
1. Those who **CANNOT** avoid the BEATING and kindly ENDURE are **CERTAINLY** commendable to God
2. Those who **CAN AVOID** and, like Christ, chose to kindly endure, are also commendable to God—perhaps **MORE** commendable!

God did NOT ask if you LIKED it ...

But there is a clear, unambiguous ... SPECIAL blessing for those who ENDURE unjust beatings and unjust treatment ... patiently!

Listen closely: **ONLY if you patiently ENDURE**

KEY: NOT Endure = NO Blessing / Endure = Blessing



1 Peter 2:11-25 – Because Christ Suffered for You

WHY ... oh, Peter goes into GREAT supremely sublime detail

21 To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

22-23 “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.” When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.

24 “He himself bore our sins” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by his wounds you have been healed.”

25 For “you were like sheep going astray,” but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Incoherent to the Pagan ... yet beautiful words to the Christian.

Living as Strangers . . .

How do you LIVE in this World?

1. Live as Pilgrims ... confident of your Home in Heaven
2. Abstain from fleshly lusts that War against your Soul
3. Live the “Good Life”—try to be very **GOOD People**
4. Lastly, but not least ...
NOT in the LEAST ...

Should you SUFFER a beating for being GOOD—***ENDURE***

Those that have **NO CHOICE** – commendable, precious to God

Those that **HAVE A CHOICE**, and endure – most commendable too

**As God's Own Special Possession,
you have a LIVING HOPE**

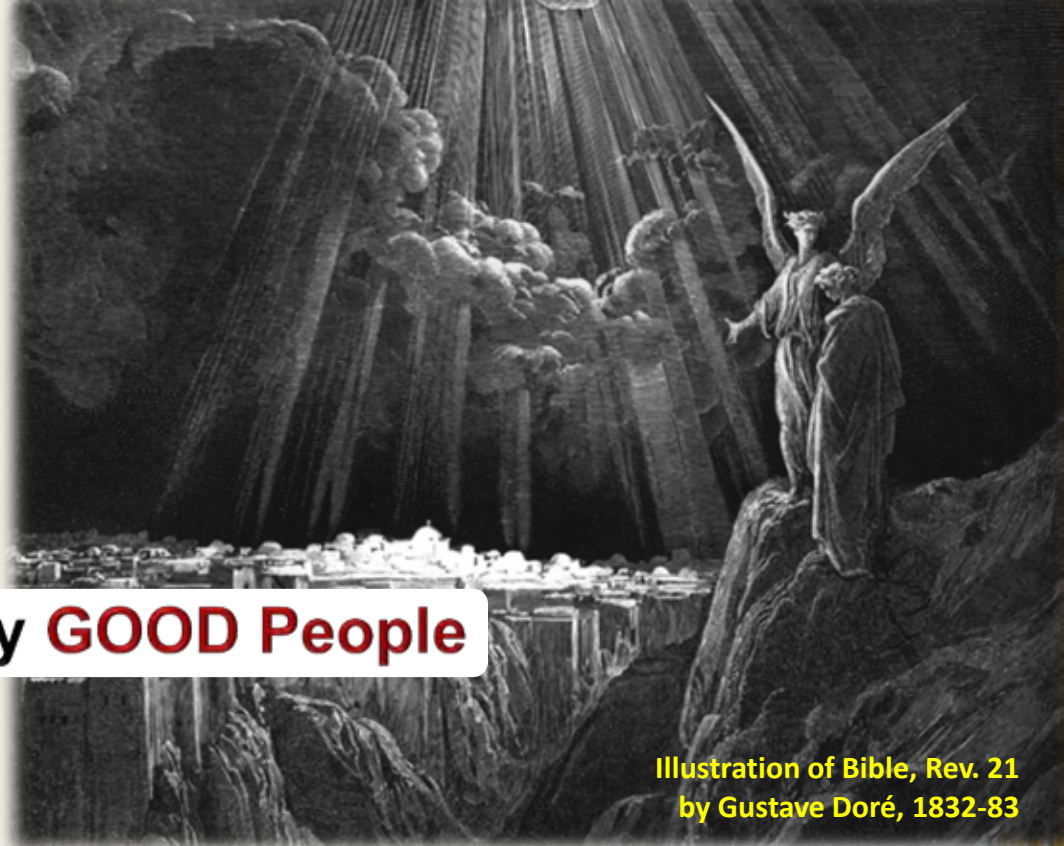



Illustration of Bible, Rev. 21
by Gustave Doré, 1832-83



FBC Woodville
Sunday School Class
Michael G. Maness
see
PreciousHeart.net/SS

May we Pilgrims Endure and

Live a Good Life

This Side of Heaven