

# LIVING IN EXILE

1 Peter 3:8-12— Good for Evil

April 24, 2016

Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called... -1 Peter 3:9

## I. A LIST OF CHRISTIAN VIRTUES

1. Unity of mind (Eph. 4:3).
2. Sympathetic (Matt. 9:36).
3. Brotherly love (John 13:34; 1 Thess. 4:9).
4. Tender-hearted (Luke 7:11-15).
5. Humble-minded (James 4:6).
6. Not seeking revenge (Rom. 12:18-20; Heb. 10:30).
7. Blessing others (Rom. 15:29).

## II. LOVE LIFE AND WANT GOOD DAYS? TRY THIS...

1. Keep your tongue from evil (James 3:1-12).
2. Don't lie or lead others astray (Acts 5:3; Heb. 6:18; Rev. 21:8).
3. Turn from evil and do good (John 5:14; Matt. 5:16).
4. Seek peace; pursue it until you find it (Ps. 34:14; Matt. 5:9).

## III. GOD IS FOR THE RIGHTEOUS

- God has a unique and covenantal love for his children. We are special (Gen. 6:8; 2 Chron. 16:9; Ps. 1).
- God does not respond to everyone's prayers (vs. 12; Isa. 1:10-20; 1 Pet. 3:7).
- God is against those who are evil. His "face" is against them. Who does evil? Those who reject the Lord (Num. 6:22-27; 1 Pet. 2:8).

**KNOW:** Our text for today is basic Christianity. When we obey, we are blessed, but when we do not, we do not receive a blessing, and if we refuse to obey the gospel, we can expect God to turn from us.

**DO:** Practice a biblical faith.

### Suggested Reading:

*Holiness: God's Call to Sanctification*, by Joel Beeke

*The Hole in Our Holiness*, by Kevin DeYoung

*A Long Obedience in the Same Direction*, by Eugene Petersen

### Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

#### Please read 1 Peter 3:8-12

1. Peter is fond of giving us lists of dos and don'ts. People say that Christianity isn't about dos and don'ts. So, is it, or isn't it?
2. Of the list of Christian virtues, which ones are easy to do? How do we make them a part of our life?
3. Peter tells us in verse 9 that if we bless others we will obtain a blessing. Do we give to get in Christianity? Are we hedonists at heart?
4. We discussed whether God hears or responds to the prayers of the lost? What are your thoughts on that discussion? When does God hear the prayer of the "lost"?
5. Read Hebrews 10:30-31 and discuss in relation to 1 Peter 3:12.
6. How does a Christian who wants to obey our passage for Sunday actually do so? What are some steps in the right direction?