**Sermon Notes on 1 Peter 2:11-25**

We are (and always are intent to remain) who we are, no matter what is happening in the world around us.

Verse 11: We are “foreigners and exiles.”

A literal understanding?

A spiritual understanding –

We, therefore:

* Abstain from sinful desire

Note Galatians 5:19-21

* Live such good lives among the pagans …

Note Matthew 5:16

Two results:

Even though accused, people will see that we are godly.

We bring glory to God and bring others along …

Note 2 Corinthians 2:16

Verses 13-20: Thoughts on submission [to government; to slave owners]

How do we live under systems which are often not righteous?

1. Respect and pray for those in authority (v.17)
2. Recognize that God puts people in authority for a reason (Romans 13).
3. Remember that God will “commend” us for unjust suffering.

How does submission look, especially when it calls us to disobey God?

Note Peter in Acts 4:19-20; Daniel and friends in Babylon …

“There may be times, therefore, when the Christian will fulfill his highest duty to

the state by refusing to obey it and by insisting on obeying God.”

(William Barclay Commentary on 1 Peter)

Jesus is ultimately and always our Lord and best example (verses 21-25) …

Some Questions for Your Consideration

1. Name one situation where it is difficult, but very important for you to live a godly life. Being respectful of others, how can you show the Lord to the people involved?
2. How does it help you to live more fully as Jesus teaches when you realize that your citizenship here is only temporary?
3. How does citizenship in heaven make a greater demand on your life?
4. What is the best way to defend your life in Christ? Would you argue? Would you sue someone? What does Peter tell us to do?