

Living as Exiles Pt. 4
1 Peter 2:13-3:1

ETS: Submission of self begins with an admission

ESS: If you are not willing to admit you won't submit

OSS: I want people to understand why submission is necessary for salvation and sanctification

PQ: Have you been broken?

UW: Submission?

GOD

Turn to 1 Peter 2

We have been **camped** out in **1 Peter 2** for three weeks!

- Why? Because we ran into **10 commands** of Peter
 - We had to ask “Is Christianity all about a series of ‘do’s’?”
- Why? Because some of these commands seemed to be **“over the top”**
 - HOW do we do these commands?

PRIOR to Salvation: We naturally did not want to DO these commands!

- **1 Peter 2:11-25** We *naturally* didn't want to:
 - *Abstain from sinful desires*
 - *Conduct yourselves honorably among those we disrespect.*

- *Submit to every human authority*
- *Submit as free people*
- *Honor everyone.*
- *Love the brothers and sisters.*
- *Fear God*
- *Honor the emperor*
- *Household slaves, submit to your masters*
- *wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands*

AFTER salvation:

- We *want* to DO some of these commands!
 - We want to “*Abstain from sinful desires*” b/c we see how destructive sin is!
 - We want to “*Love the brothers and sisters*” b/c they are part of the Family of God
 - We want to “*Fear God*” b/c He saved us and we recognize He is God!
- We know we *should* DO some of these commands!
 - We should *Conduct yourselves honorably among those we disrespect* so they will have nothing against us if they try to slander us
 - We should *Submit to every human authority*
 - We should *Submit as free people*
 - We should *Honor everyone.*
 - We should *Honor the emperor*
 - We should *submit to your masters* (in our case, it would be our employers)

- *Wives* should *submit yourselves to your own husbands*

We know the reason we SHOULD do these things is so that

- Our **testimony** of how Christ changed us won't be **hindered**
- We can **point** others (i.e., spouse, employer, family members, friends, etc.) to the Savior by the **change** they see in our **actions** and **attitudes!**

CONCLUSION:

- We WANT to obey some of these commands—but we seem to always fail!
- We know we SHOULD obey these commands—but it is a real struggle to do so.

BIG STRUGGLE: *HOW* to obey these commands!

REASON for STRUGGLE: SELF

- SELF is *often* still at the **center** of our **soul, spirit and body**
 - **CHRIST** has **entered** our **spirit** which means our **conscience** is now **sensitive** to sin and we have **communion** with **God**

- **CHRIST** has **entered** our **spirit**, which means He has **influence** over our **soul** (**mind, will and emotions**)
- **CHRIST** has **entered** our **spirit**, which means He has **influence** over our **body**
- **YET....SELF** is still there—*often still at the center*

REALITY: *SELF still wants to rule!*

- Knowing this, the “**god of this world**” (2 Cor. 4:4), Satan, has led the spiritually “**lost and blind**” to *create a world system that appeals to SELF!*
- With a *world system that appeals to SELF*, Satan can **entice** the spiritually “**awakened**” to *fall back into pleasuring and appeasing SELF!*
 - **SATAN** tries to take advantage of our **FREE WILL!**

GOOD NEWS:

- Peter reminds us in **1 Peter 2:24** that we have “**died to sins**”

1 Peter 2:24 “**He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree; so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.**”

- **Death to sins** came at the **moment of repentance**—of **changing** your **mind**—about your sin!

- **Salvation** came when you realized following **SELF** was keeping you from a **relationship with God**.
- The process of **Salvation** began when you **choose** to “**depart**” from your sin, to “**alienate**” yourself from sin.
- WHEN you **changed your mind** about sin (**Repentance**) and **turned to Christ** to be your **deliverer** from the eternal **consequences** of your sin, you became a part of the family of God!

BAD NEWS: “*we might live for righteousness* –

- Carrying out commands like these is NOT a guarantee!
 - WHY? Because we still have **FREE WILL!**

WE all know that being a believer is *NOT* a guarantee that you are “*going to live for righteousness*”!

- Stories abound of believers—prominent believers—who “**FALL**” into sin!

YOU know of **YOUR struggle** to obey God!

- After salvation, we have all **chosen** to **rebel** against our Savior
 - YOU may even feel **trapped** right now by a sin (s) in your life!

- The idea of **carrying out commands** seems **impossible**

Spa Shootings

- Seven of the eight victims in Tuesday's attacks on three massage parlors in the Atlanta area were women. Six of those women were Asian.
- According to the [New York Post](#): "Investigators have not yet ruled out hate crime charges, the AP said, but there are legal requirements to be met. Prosecutors must prove the victims were targeted because of factors like race or gender to meet the standard, according to federal law. Successful prosecutions usually involve text messages, internet posts or witnesses who can back up claims about the accused's views. *So far, that sort of evidence hasn't turned up against the accused shooter.*"
- We do know that the shooter "patronized at least two of the spas he targeted" and he "insisted he was motivated *not* by racial hate, but by a sex addiction, and was trying to "eliminate" the "temptation" the spas made him feel."

The shooter was a member of a *conservative Southern Baptist Church* in Georgia.

- He was baptized in 2018

- He was part of a high school group that met for Bible study once a week before school and helped a backyard Bible club with songs and games for kids.

This young man thought that killing these women would “**Eliminate**” the *temptations* he was feeling!

- That is what SELF says...
 - YOU have to DO
 - YOU have to FIX it

HOW do you carry out these commands?

**SUBMISSION is required for salvation,
SUBMISSION is required for SANCTIFICATION!**

Sanctification-to live in a way **set apart** unto God; to live in a way that **pleases God!**

- I *think* this young man wanted to live “set apart” for God, yet he had this struggle with sexual addition.
 - Satan has led the “lost and the blind” to create and promote a world system that caters to SELF!

For example, this week at the Grammy’s Cardi B and Megan Thee Stallion performed “soft porn” on television.

- They performed a song that National Public Radio proclaimed as the “Song of the Year”!
 - The title is so vulgar I’m not going to say it!

Satan has led the “lost and the blind” to create and promote a world system that *caters to SELF!*

How do we live out these commands?

- We still have SELF even after salvation!
- We live in a world with systems, media, etc. devoted to catering to SELF!

HOW do we SUBMIT for Sanctification?
SUBMISSION REQUIRES ADMISSION

We **submit** for **sanctification** *the same way* we **initially submitted** for salvation!

- **Salvation** came to you when you **admitted** your **need** for a **deliverer** from your sins!
 - Likewise, living *set apart* for God begins with **ADMISSION**

What must we **admit** after salvation?

ADMIT SELF WANTS TO SIN

- **1 Peter 1:14** “As obedient children, do not be conformed to the desires of your former ignorance.”
 - **Admit** that you can be “conformed to the desires of your former ignorance.”

- **1 Peter 2:1** “Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all slander.”
 - **Admit** you can still be engaged in “malice, deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander.”

Last week we looked at **Romans 7:21-25** and we noted that the Apostle Paul talked about his battle with his SELF *after* salvation.

- His road to victory started with an **ADMISSION**
 - After reviewing his struggle with sin, Paul came to the **admission** that he was a ‘**Wretched**’ person (Romans 7:24).
 - Paul **admitted** he was in a “**dying body**” that was **susceptible** and **attracted** to sin (Romans 7:24).

This **ADMISSION** came **AFTER** Salvation!

ADMIT SELF WANTS TO SIN

- After salvation, there is a war in our spirit between Christ and SELF
 - SELF still wants to sin!
 - SELF does not want to obey most of these commandments!
 - SELF is attracted to sin
 - SELF wants to be in control!
 - SELF doesn’t want to keep these commands
 - SELF doesn’t want to “**Live for righteousness**”

Because of our *desire for sin* coupled with our **new desire** to please God, we find ourselves in a state of turmoil!

This young man, with hormones firing, wanted to sin!

- His SELF wanted to seek out pleasure through pornography, visiting spas, etc.
 - YET, he knew this was wrong
 - There was a battle raging in his spirit!

SUBMISSION REQUIRES ADMISSION

ADMISSION: *I DON'T have the power to do what I NOW want to do!*

- The believer has a NEW HEART – Christ has entered in—BUT *the believer does not have the ability to live out what his/her new heart wants to do!*
 - I can't FIX SELF!

PROOF: When the preacher says

- “Believers if you want to live for God raise your hands” –the hands go up
- “Believers are you struggling with sin” –the hands will go up!
- “Believers, if you want to dedicate your life to Christ raise your hands” –the hand go up!

Believers **want** those things-Why? Because Christ has entered into our spirit!

- After submitting to Christ for salvation, we now **want** to live for Him!
- After submitting to Christ for salvation, we are now **fully aware** of the struggle against sin!

PROBLEM: We turn to SELF and the message of this world as the solution!

- **Message of the world:** Overcome by doing!
- **Message of the world:** Sheer willpower is what you need!

This is the **mindset** we have all grown up with!

- We **achieve status, power, etc.** by **doing** and by **sheer willpower!**

RESULT:

- **Spiritual burn out**—we give up!
 - We grow **ambivalent** towards God and His people!

How do you start even beginning to live out these commands?

SUBMISSION is required for SANCTIFICATION!

You have to admit WHAT SELF is!

- You have to admit **powerless** to live out these commands!
- You have to admit SELF is ‘**Wretched**’

In **Romans 7:14-24** Paul describes why WE are “**wretched**”

- **V. 14:** We are “**fleshly, sold into bondage to sin.**”
- **V. 15:** We keep doing “**the very thing [we] hate.**”
- **V. 17:** Because we keep doing “**the very thing [we] hate**” is **proof** that “**sin ... dwells in [us].**”
- **V. 19:** “**For the good that I want, I do not do, but I practice the very evil that I do not want.**”
- **V. 21:** “**evil is present in [us]**” even though we “**want to do good.**”

SUBMISSION REQUIRES ADMISSION

ADMIT SELF IS POWERLESS AGAINST SIN

- ADMIT you are *powerless* to live out these **commands!**
- ADMIT you are not able to *stand up* against sinful desires!
- ADMIT that “**DOING**” things like attending church, giving money for missions, being a Sunday School

Teacher, reading your Bible etc. *does not empower you* to stand against sin!

- *DOING* things for God *does not* give you the victory over sin!

This young man thought that he could make SELF live out the commands of Scripture!

- He thought he could make SELF live a “set apart” life!

SUBMISSION BEGINS WITH ADMISSION

ADMIT CHRIST IS THE SOLUTION

Peter wrote in **1 Peter 2:24** “He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree; so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

- Christ’s death enables us to “die to sin” and His death enables us to “live for righteousness”
 - **CONTRAST: DIE to LIVE!**
 - We have to “DIE to sin” so that we might “LIVE for righteousness”
 - **TRANSFER: “By HIS wounds, YOU were healed”**
 - Healed from what? The **penalty** for your sins!

- Christ “brought our sins in His body up on the cross, so that we might die to sin”
- Christ “brought our sins in His body up on the cross, so that we might live for righteousness.”
- Christ “brought our sins in His body up on the cross, so that we might be healed

We’ve been using **Romans 7** as a **parallel** passage...

- **PROBLEM:** We **cannot win** the battle against sin in our own strength (Ro. 7:14-24)
- **CONDITION:** “Wretched” and trapped in a “dying body” (Ro. 7:24)
- **SOLUTION:** “Thanks be to God through our Lord Jesus Christ” (Ro. 7:25)

Paul expand on HOW Christ is our solution in **Romans 8**

- **Romans 8:1** “Therefore, there is now *no condemnation* for those in Christ Jesus,”
 - You’ve been “healed” of any “Condemnation”
 - “No condemnation” = not having to “pay” for your sins!
 - Why? Because Christ “bore you sins in His body on the tree!”

WHY is there “now **no** condemnation for those in Christ Jesus”?

- **Romans 8:2** “For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus *has set you free* from the law of sin and of death.”

WE are no longer bound by SELF!

- SIN no longer has power over us!

This young man may have failed to grasp the fact that SIN had NO POWER over him!

WE no longer have to try to please God by keeping the “Requirements of the Old Testament laws!”

- We don’t have to worry about how much we DO — as if DOING pleases God!

Christ has broken the bonds of SIN and SELF

ADMIT CHRIST IS THE SOLUTION

PROBLEM: Free Will

- *Even though Christ is the solution, we can CHOOSE to allow SELF to RULE*

MAYBE the young man had heard that sin has no power over you, yet he still felt that SELF had to fix the problem.

WE still need CHRIST to ECLIPSE SELF!

HOW do we ALLOW CHRIST to ECLIPSE SELF?

In his second letter to the “**Exiles and Strangers**”, Peter gave a more elaborate answer: **2 Peter 1:3-4** “His divine power has given us *everything required for life and godliness* (HOW?) through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. 4 By these (His divine power and knowledge of Christ) he has given us very great and precious promises, (WHY?) so that through them you may 1) share in the divine nature, 2) escaping the corruption that is in the world because of evil desire.”

What has Christ given us?

- What has Christ give to us that—if we *choose to grasp and claim*—will make CHRIST the center instead of SELF?
- What has Christ given to us that will move SELF out of the center and make CHRIST the driving force of our soul, spirit and body?

CLAIM YOUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST

Dying to SELF begins with **KNOWING WHO** you are “in Christ”!

- **Chosen by God** (1:1)

- Purified by the Holy Spirit (1:2)
- EXILES (1:1, 11)
- Guarded by God's Power (1:5)
- Priests-holy and royal (2:5,9)
- A spiritual house (2:5)
- Living Stones (2: 5)
- A holy nation (2:9)
- A people belonging to God (2:9)

When SELF wants to follow after sin, remind SELF WHO you are in CHRIST!

- Like Paul, you have to “crucify” SELF!
 - CRUCIFY SELF by reminding SELF that you are NOT the same person you were before salvation!

CLAIM THE POWER OF CHRIST

2 Peter 1:3a “His divine *power has given us everything required for life and godliness...*”

- CLAIM the truth that Christ has **broken** the **power of sin** over self!
- CLAIM the truth that sin is **NOT** your **master**!

Acts 1:8 “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you, and you will be my witnesses in

Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

- **1 Peter 1:1a-2a** You have been “Chosen” through the “Sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit.”
 - The Holy Spirit has **regenerated** you
 - The Holy Spirit has **set you apart** unto God!
 - The Holy Spirit has made you “**Holy**”!

1 Corinthians 1:24 “Yet to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, *Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God,*”

- *Christ, “the power of God and wisdom of God”* is YOUR **Cornerstone** (1 Peter 2:4-8)
 - You are part of HIS house!
- *Christ, “the power of God and wisdom of God”* has made US “a people for His possession” (1 Peter 2:9)

Through the POWER of Christ working in you,

- You can *Abstain from sinful desires*
- You can *Conduct yourselves honorably among those we disrespect.*
- You can *Submit to every human authority*
- You can *Submit as free people*
- You can *Honor everyone.*
- You can *Love the brothers and sisters.*
- You can *Fear God*
- You can *Honor the emperor*

- You can *submit to your masters*
- You can *submit yourselves to your own husbands*

CLAIM THE POWER OF CHRIST

Remember what Peter wrote in **1 Peter 1:5** “*You are being guarded by God’s power through faith for a salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.*”

Allowing Christ to reign at the center requires **claiming His power** over sin!

- **Philippians 3:10** “*My goal is to know him and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of his sufferings, being conformed to his death,*”

Allowing Christ to **reign** at the **center** requires **claiming His power** over the “god of this world” –Satan

- **Hebrews 2:14, 15 & 18** “*Now since the children have flesh and blood in common, Jesus also shared in these, so that through his death he might destroy the one holding the power of death—that is, the devil—and free those who were held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death... For since he himself has suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are tempted.*”

- Claim that Christ will give you the power to say “**NO**” to sin and self!

- Christ is “able to help you” when SELF is tempted!

HOW do you know the “power of His resurrection”?

- ADMITTING your **NEED** for **Christ** to be in **control!**
- ADMITTING that **Christ** has **broken** the **power** of sin and death!
- SUBMITTING to **Christ’s authority** in your life!

CLAIMING WHO you are in Christ....

CLAIMING CHRIST’S POWER....

- *Requires a volitional choice!*
 - *You have to CHOOSE to allow Christ to ECLIPSE SELF!*

2 Timothy 1:7 “For God has **not** given us a spirit of fear, but one of **power**, love, and sound judgment.”

Through CHRIST you have the **POWER** to obey these commands!

- **Submission to Christ** = saying “**NO**” to **SELF!**
 - **Submission to Christ** requires “**Crucifying SELF with Christ**”
 - **Submission to Christ** requires “**Dying daily to CHRIST**”

Too many believers have a “spirit of fear” and not of **POWER!**

2 Timothy 1:8 “So don’t be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, or of me his prisoner. Instead, share in suffering for the gospel, *relying on the power of God.*”

CLAIMING WHO you are in Christ....

CLAIMING CHRIST’S POWER....

- *Requires a volitional choice!*
 - *You have to CHOOSE to allow Christ to ECLIPSE SELF!*

Paul expands more on what Peter states in his letters

- **Romans 6:11** “So, you too *consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.*
 - WHERE did Paul “Consider himself dead to sin”?
 - In his SOUL
 - In his **mind!**
 - In his **will!**
 - In his **emotions!**

Your SOUL affects your BODY!

- If you “**Consider yourself dead to sin**” in your **soul**, THEN you will not carry out the deeds of sin in your body!

- If you don't allow **sin to reign** in your **mind**, you won't carry out **sinful acts** with your body!
- If you don't allow sin to **control** your **emotions**, you won't have the **effects** on your body!
- If you don't allow sin to **control** your **will**, you won't carry out **sinful acts** with your body!

Your SOUL affects your BODY!

WHERE did Paul “Consider himself dead to sin”?

- In his SOUL

Why in the SOUL?

- Because that is what the “god of this world” attacks!
- Because that is what the **system** of this world is geared to appeal to!

HOW did Paul “Consider himself dead to sin”?

- **Galatians 2:20** “I have been crucified with Christ, and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”
 - WHERE did Paul see himself as “Crucified with Christ”?
 - In his **mind**!

Paul wrote in **1 Corinthians 15:31** “I affirm, brothers and sisters, by the boasting in you which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, that I die daily.” (NASB)

- Where did Paul “Die daily”?
 - In his Soul!
 - Died to *what* **SELF** wanted to **THINK** about!
 - Died to *how* **SELF** wanted to **USE** his **BODY!**

Romans 6:11 “So, you too *consider yourselves* dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

- WHERE did Paul “[Consider] himself “Alive to God in Christ Jesus”?
 - In his **SPIRIT!**
 - HE was conscience of God’s **POWER**
 - HE was conscience of God’s **PRESENCE**
 - He communed with God through **PRAYER**

Your SPIRIT interacts with your mind!

- Conscience of God’s **POWER** in your **Spirit** = Affects the **WILL (Soul)**
- Conscience of God’s **POWER** in your **Spirit** = Affects the **EMOTIONS (Soul)**
- Conscience of God’s **PRESENCE** in your **Spirit** = Affects the **WILL (Soul)**

- Conscience of God's **PRESENCE** in your Spirit = Affects the **MIND (Soul)**
- Conscience of God's **PRESENCE** in your Spirit = Affects the **EMOTIONS (Soul)**

WHEN you are Conscience of God's **PRESENCE** & **POWER** in your Spirit = Affects **how** you use your **BODY!**

WE

ALL of this boils down the one word we constantly see in this passage: **SUBMIT!**

- Christ provided us the example of submission to the will of the Father!
- **WE** are called to follow His example and submit ourselves to **CHRIST!**

SUBMISSION only comes through BROKENNESS!

Salvation comes when a person is **broken** over **sin!**

- Broken by how your sin **separated** you from God!
- Broken by how your sin had **harmed** or **destroyed** your life

Salvation does not come by...

- Being baptized as a baby

- Being a church member
- Attending a church
- Knowing about God or Christ

Salvation comes when a person is **broken** over **sin!**

- Admits his/her **NEED** for redemption!
- Submits to God's offer of salvation through Christ!

Sanctification, living as a person set apart to God, comes only when broken of SELF!

- **BROKEN** of **SELF'S** desire to **DO** for God rather than **BE** with **GOD!**
- **BROKEN** of **SELF's** desire to “**have a form of godliness**” but deny God's power to rule and reign in your life!
- **BROKEN** of **SELF's** desire to “dabble” in sin!
- **BROKEN** of **SELF's** desire to impress people rather than please God

Obey these commands—and all others—are **NOT** possible without **SUBMISSION** to God!

PQ: Have you been broken?

- Broken because of your sin?
- Broken of SELF?