

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

ETS: Peter explained what Christ did and how it enabled believers to live as exiles.

ESS: What Christ did enables us to live as exiles.

OSS: I want people to understand how we can live as exiles

PQ: Do you understand how to live as an exile?

UW: How?

**ME**

Have you ever wondered...

- [HOW does a DVD work?](#)
- [HOW does the internet work?](#)
- [HOW radios pick up only the frequency they are tuned to?](#)

In 2006 Discovery Network started a show “How do they do it?”

- Another TV show also on Discovery is “How it’s Made”?

Why are these Long-running shows?

- We like to know the “HOW” of things we do not understand!

Natural **curiosity** built into humans

- **Science** is about trying to understand the “**HOW?**”

HOW does a scientist try to understand the How?

According to the Khan Academy...

- Make an **observation**
  - In making an “observation” we see “**WHAT**” is happening
- Ask a **question**
  - WHY is this happening?
- Form a **hypothesis**, or testable explanation.
  - Try to **give HOW** it is happening
- Make a prediction based on the hypothesis
  - **Prediction** based on **HOW** we think it is happening
- Test the prediction
  - Was the prediction **right**?
    - If so, we know the how!
  - Was the prediction proven **wrong**?
    - If so, we don't know the how
- **Iterate**: use the results to make new hypotheses or predictions.

**WE**

Last week, **1 Peter 2:11-3:1** = 10 Commandments of WHAT to do while living as “Exiles”

**1 Peter 2:11-25** “Dear friends, I urge you as strangers and exiles to...

- Command #1: *abstain from sinful desires that wage war against the soul.*
- Command #2: *Conduct yourselves honorably among the Gentiles, so that when they slander you as evildoers, they will observe your good works and will glorify God on the day he visits.*
- Command #3: *13 Submit to every human authority because of the Lord, whether to the emperor as the supreme authority 14 or to governors as those sent out by him to punish those who do what is evil and to praise those who do what is good. 15 For it is God’s will that you silence the ignorance of foolish people by doing good.*
- Command #4: *16 Submit as free people, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but as God’s slaves.*
- Command #5: *17 Honor everyone.*
- Command #6: *Love the brothers and sisters.*
- Command #7: *Fear God.*
- Command #8: *Honor the emperor.*

- Command #9: *18 Household slaves, submit to your masters with all reverence not only to the good and gentle ones but also to the cruel. 19 For it brings favor if, because of a consciousness of God, someone endures grief from suffering unjustly. 20 For what credit is there if when you do wrong and are beaten, you endure it? But when you do what is good and suffer, if you endure it, this brings favor with God.*

**1 Peter 3:1** Command #10: *“In the same way, wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands...”*

**1 Peter 2:11-3:1** = 10 Commandments of WHAT to do while living as **“Exiles”**

### WHY are these commandments important?

- **Reality:** Christians were the **“minority”** when Peter wrote this letter
  - In many parts of the world, Christians are the **“minority”** today
- **Reality:** The MAJORITY in **America** are growing ignorant about the Bible
  - **Misconceptions** about the **Scriptures**
    - Just like the early Christians were being accused of being **“Cannibals, incestuous, atheistic”**

- **Biblical Christians** are increasingly being accused of being **hateful and bigoted**.
- **Problem:** As “**Exiles**” we already have enough **pressure** on us!
  - **Pressures** of being the “**minority**”
    - **Result:** Feeling a sense of **hostility**
    - **Result:** Feeling a sense of **oppression**

**WHY** are these commandments important?

- **1 Peter 2:21** “**For you were called to this** (e.g. to do the things just commanded),
  - **WHY?** **because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.**

Answered: **WHAT** we are to do as “**Exiles**” —the **commands**

**WHY** we are to be **DOING** those things?

- **1 Peter 2:12** “**Conduct yourselves honorably among the Gentiles, so that when they slander you as evildoers, they will observe your good works and will glorify God on the day he visits.**”
  - **WHY** the commands? To keep from **invalidating** your **testimony!**
    - *Remember, the MAJORITY is always watching the MINORITY to look for a*

*slip up—something to accuse the minority of doing!*

- “**Exiles**” –who are being **watched** by the MAJORITY—need to make sure they don’t give into the “**Desires of the flesh which wage war against your soul!**”

**BIG Question: HOW do we do live out these commands?**

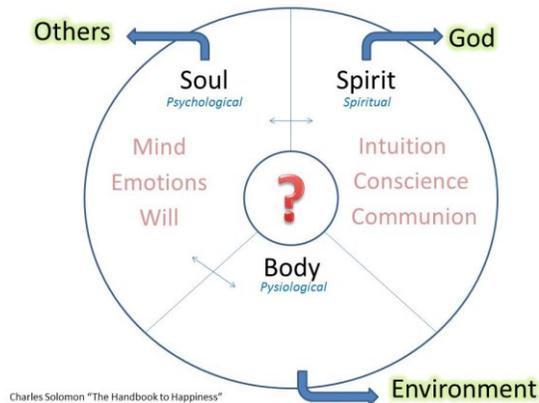
How do we (“**Exiles and strangers**”) live out the Christian life as a minority?

- How do we keep from giving into the **pressure** from the secular majority?
- How in the world is it possible to live the Christian life—especially in a **hostile world**?

Last week, we started to delve into the **HOW**

**Trichotomy:** Humans have three parts: **Body, soul and spirit**

- The body *interacts* with our soul
- The soul *interacts* with our spirit



**Center = Self** (“the flesh”)

- **Prior to salvation**, the unbeliever is not **really conscious** of SELF at the center (1 Peter 1:14)
  - Prior to Christ, a person is “**Ignorant**” about SELF
    - We were born with “**Self at the Center**” (1 Peter 1:18)

**There is no realization of SELF at the Center until confronted with the Gospel**

- **Until** a person is confronted with the **Gospel**--  
*We are all living in rebellion against God*—there is **no sense of living in rebellion** against God but rather just a sense of “**This is how I am and that justifies what I do.**”

**WHEN** a person is confronted with the **Gospel**, the Holy Spirit reveals to them that they are living in **rebellion** against God!

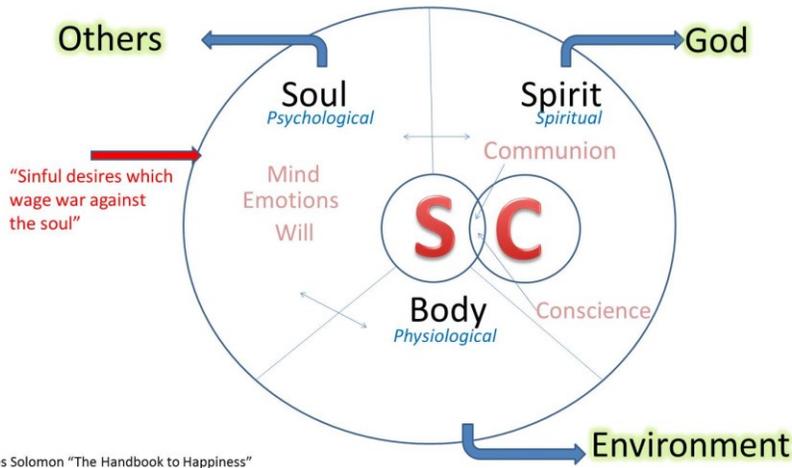
- WHERE is the **convicting** happening? The person's **soul!**
- WHERE is the **convicting** happening? The person's **spirit!**

The unbeliever has **two choices** at this point:

- **CHOICE #1:** Reject the Holy Spirit's conviction
- **CHOICE #2: Humility and Repentance**
  - Turn from sin and self and trust Christ alone for salvation

**WHEN/IF** a person, turns from sin and self and trust Christ alone for salvation suddenly he/she becomes **AWARE** of something they were not aware of before: **SELF!**

- **Aware** of **SELF** because **Christ** is now in **communion** with his/her spirit!
  - (“Jesus came into my heart.”)
    - **SELF (“the flesh”)** has ALWAYS been there, but the unbeliever is not *aware of SELF because there is not counter to self! BUT when a person becomes a believer, SELF is exposed!*
      - The believer realizes a **sinful nature** resides in him/her believer!



Furthermore, WHEN a person, turns from sin and self and trust Christ alone for salvation his/her **citizenship is changed** from this earth to heaven—he/she now becomes an “**exile.**”

“**Exiles**” are now AWARE of the WAR with the Soul: **1 Peter 2:11** “Dear friends, I urge you as strangers and exiles to *abstain from sinful desires that wage war against the soul.*”

- There has ALWAYS been a WAR with your soul, but unbelievers DO NOT recognize the WAR with their souls b/c they don't have CHRIST illuminating the WAR. (E.g., “Lost”, “Blind” and “Dead”)

“**Exiles**” are now AWARE of the WAR with the Soul!

**Goal** for Satan/demonic hordes is to **NEUTRALIZE** the believer (i.e., invalidate any testimony)

**BIG Question: HOW do we do live out these commands?**

**HOW do we do these things when Satan is waging war against our soul?**

**CHRIST'S EXAMPLE IS THE HOW**

**1 Peter 2:22-23** “He did not commit sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth; 23 when he was insulted, he did not insult in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten but entrusted himself to the one who judges justly.

- **HOW** did Christ “not commit sin”?
- **How** was there “no deceit was found in his mouth”?
- **HOW** was it that “when he was insulted, he did not insult in return”?
- **HOW** was it that “when he suffered, he did not threaten but entrusted himself to the one who judges justly.”

First, WE were born with **SELF** at the **Center** and Christ was not!

- **Christ** was *not* born with SELF at the Center—*He did not have a sinful nature!*
  - Christ did “**not commit sin**” because HE **COULD NOT** sin

- **Evidence:** There was “no deceit was found in his mouth”!

*HOW is Christ's Example the HOW if He could not sin and we can?*

**1 Peter 2:23** “when he was insulted, he did not insult in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten but entrusted himself to the one who judges justly.

Nigh of Jesus' arrest

- Peter drew a sword to fight
  - Cut of servant of the high priest's ear!

Jesus made this statement to Peter: **Matthew 26:52-54** “Then Jesus \*said to him, “Put your sword back into its place; for all those who take up the sword will perish by the sword. 53 Or do you think that I cannot appeal to My Father, and He will at once put at My disposal more than twelve legions of angels? 54 How then would the Scriptures be fulfilled, which say that it must happen this way?”

- Jesus could have defended Himself against an unjust arrest and it would not have been a sin!

The cross is the biggest display of **injustice!**

- A sinless man is being crucified as a **common criminal!**
  - A sinless man was **beaten** for no reason!
  - A sinless man was **mocked** for no reason!

Jesus could have righteously defended Himself against injustice!

- It would NOT have been a sin for Christ to have called angels to His rescue!

### **CHRIST'S EXAMPLE IS THE HOW**

HOW is Christ's Example the HOW if He could not sin and we can?

Looking back over these commands, do you see a common word?

**Peter** uses a word a **few times** in his commandments which most people recoil from!

- The SBC used this word in the *Baptist Faith and Message in 2000* and the media went nuts over it!
  - Of course, the media didn't report the **whole context** of the word

It is a word that is LOADED with **pre-built in emotion** in our culture!

What is the word? “**SUBMIT!**”

- **1 Peter 1:13** *Submit to every human authority because of the Lord\*
- **1 Peter 1:16** *Submit as free people, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but as God's slaves.*
- **1 Peter 1:18** *Household slaves, submit to your masters with all reverence not only to the good and gentle ones but also to the cruel.*
- **1 Peter 3:1** *“... wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands...”*

Many have a visceral reaction to that word!

- People refuse to submit to a breathalyzer test
- People refuse to submit to a drug test
- Many couples refuse to use the word “submit” in marriage vows

AMERICANS don't like to submit!

- We are free thinkers
- We are independent
  - We refused to submit to the British
    - “Don't tread on me”
    - “Give me liberty or give me death”

**CHRIST'S EXAMPLE IS OF COMPLETE SUBMISSION**

**1 Peter 2:23** “when he was insulted, he did not insult in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten but entrusted himself to the one who judges justly.

- **Evidence:** when he was insulted, he did not insult in return”!
- **Evidence:** “when he suffered, he did not threaten but entrusted himself to the one who judges justly.”

*Peter recounts WHAT Christ DID to show WHY Christ is the Key to the HOW!*

- HOW do we live as “Exiles” in a way that our testimony is NOT destroyed?
- HOW do we live out these 10 commandments Peter gives?

**Answer to the HOW:** **1 Peter 1:24** “so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness....”

- The word “**Died**” is not the usual word used in the New Testament translated as “died”
  - Instead, this is the **only time** this particular word is used.
    - The word is used outside of the New Testament to speak of **having departed from or removed from or completely alienated from.**

Peter is saying Christ's sacrifice enables the believer to be **completely departed** from their sins—to be completed **“Dead TO sin so that we might live for righteousness”**

- We DO NOT have to **“Submit”** to sin!
  - **Romans 6:14 “Sin is not your master”**

You become an **“Exile”**, a *spiritual* minority, when you put your faith and trust in Christ!

- You **experience** an change in **Identity**
  - **New Identity** in **relationship** to the **world**: **“Strangers and exiles”**
  - **New Identity** in **relationship** to **sin**: *Dead TO Sin!*
    - NOT **“Dead IN sin”**—like an unbeliever (**Eph. 2:11**)--but **“Dead TO sin!”**

**“Exiles”** have **“Died to sin”** and having **“died to sin”** we **“should live for righteousness”**

- Exiles have **“Died to sin”** and having **“died to sin”** we have the **ability**, *through Christ*, to **“live for righteousness”** IF we will do what Christ did—SUBMIT!
  - Unlike Christ, we still have a sin nature, so we can still sin
  - Like Christ, sin is NOT our master
    - NOT because we have *lost* our sin nature

- BUT because our sin is no longer our master!

Since we have “**Died to Sin**” we are **able** to carry out these **10 commandments!**

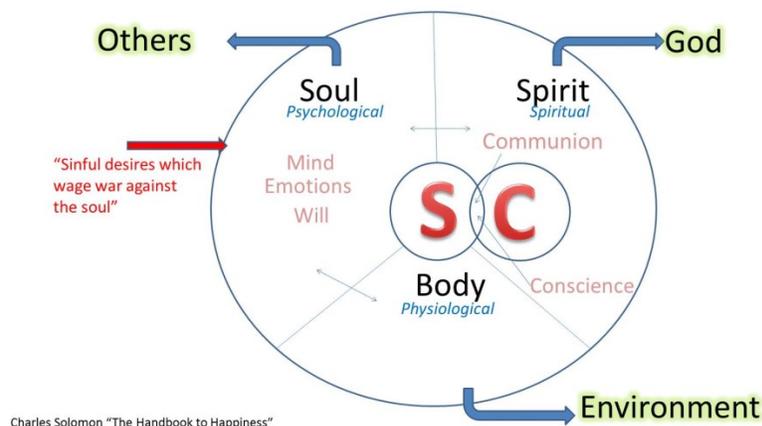
WHY are these **commandments?**

**1 Peter 1:24** “so that, having died to sins, we *might* live for righteousness....”

- Notice “so that, having died to sins, we *might* (or should) live for righteousness”!
  - We can still **choose** NOT to “Live for righteousness!”

WHY would a **believer NOT** choose to “Live for Righteousness”?

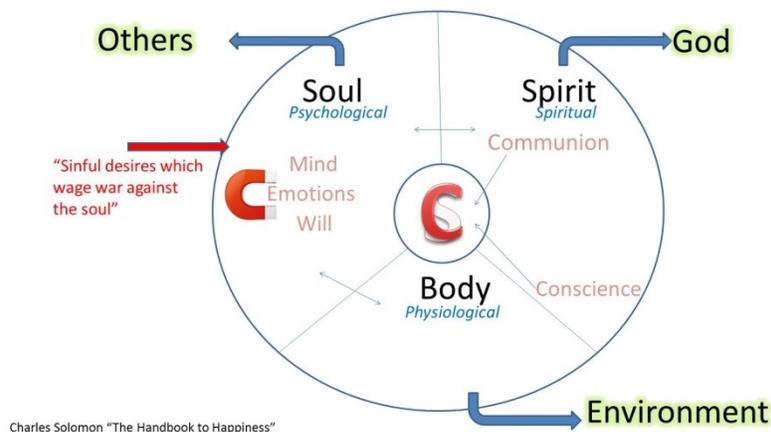
- **SELF** is still at the center!
  - Christ has **infiltrated SELF** but not completely **ECLIPSED SELF!**



## HOW do we live out these commands?

- *Christ has to ECLIPSE Self!*
  - SELF has to be **reduced** to nothing!
  - SELF has to be **weakened** to a state where SELF no longer has any CONTROL over the believer's life!

## **CHRIST'S EXAMPLE IS OF COMPLETE SUBMISSION**



## HOW can Christ **eclipse** my "SELF"?

- By recognizing **WHAT** you are **“Dead, Departed from, alienated from sin”**

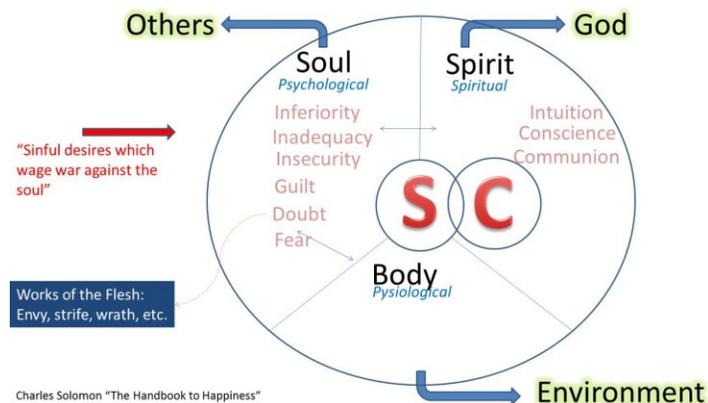
## **Magnet Illustration of Accepting/Understanding**

- The more you and I understand (**MIND**) what Christ did **“on the tree”** ....

- The more you and I rest (**Emotions**) in what Christ did “**on the tree**” ....
- The more you and I make choices (**will**) because of Christ did “**on the tree**” ....
  - *The more CHRIST eclipses SELF*
    - The weaker SELF becomes
      - The more of the **Fruit of Spirit** we exhibit!
        - The less of the “**works of the flesh**” we will display!

## PQ: Are You Living in Complete Submission to Christ?

How do you know if you are not living in submission to Christ?



How do you know if you are not living in submission to Christ?

- Your reaction to these commands is an indicator!

Many “Christians” recoil at these commandments! They don’t want to totally submit!

- They are driven by SELF with very little of Christ at the center!
  - Give into the “*sinful desires that wage war against the soul.*”
  - Don’t *Conduct yourselves honorably among the outsiders*
  - Refuse to *Submit to every human authority because of the Lord*
  - Use their “**freedom in Christ**” as a cover up for evil
  - Don’t *Honor everyone.*
  - Constant tension between them and the *brothers and sisters.*
  - Don’t *Fear God.*
  - Don’t *Honor the emperor (President)*
  - Don’t *submit to your masters (i.e., employers) with all reverence*
  - Wives don’t *submit yourselves to your own husbands*

How do you know if you are not living in submission to Christ?

- WAR in the believer’s SPIRIT, the believer often struggles with **physical results** in the BODY.

- **Tension**
- **Ulcers**
- **Nervous stomach**
- **Heart palpitations**
- **Eating disorders**
- **Fatigue**
- **Insomnia**

Next Week:

- What is Submission?
- How does a person submit?
- When does submission happen?
- Is submission a one-time event
- What is evidence of submission?

