

Showing Forth His Excellencies

TEXT: 1 Peter 2:9-10

INTRODUCTION:

- A. BOOK WRITTEN **TO GIVE HOPE** AND **PREPARE FOR TIME OF TRIAL**.
 - 1. "Begotten again" - Babes who inherit.
 - 2. Gird up the loins of your mind.
- B. **Verse 9**. SPECIAL PEOPLE TO GOD.
 - 1. Called out of darkness into the light.
 - 2. That we might "**show forth his excellencies**." "Moral worth" (**A.T. Robertson**).
- C. WE SHOW GOD'S MORAL WORTH **IN VARIOUS RELATIONSHIPS**.

I. TO THE GENTILE (2:11-12).

- A. CHRISTIANS DESCRIBED AS **SOJOURNERS AND PILGRIMS**.
 - 1. We may live here, but ... (**Romans 12:2**).
 - 2. Musn't become too attached (**1 John 2:15**).
 - 3. Fellow-citizens with the saints (**Ephesians 2:19; Philippians 3:20**).
- B. AS CHRISTIANS WE MUST ABSTAIN FROM WORLDLY LUSTS.
 - 1. Prime element in temptation (**James 1:14**).
 - 2. War now being waged (**Galatians 5:16-21**).
- C. WE'RE GOD'S AMBASSADORS. **DO WE REFLECT HIS LIGHT?** (**Matthew 5:16**).

II. TO THE CIVIL GOVERNMENT (2:13-17).

- A. SUBJECT TO **EVERY** ORDINANCE OF MAN. WHY?
 - 1. For the Lord's sake (**Romans 13:1-7**).
 - a. **God** ordained and **upholds** government (**verse 1**).
 - b. **To disobey is to disobey God** (**verse 2**).
 - c. For conscience' sake (**verse 5**).
 - 2. Our subjection will put to silence those who would accuse us.
- B. ANY EXCEPTIONS? (**Acts 5:29**). HOWEVER! (**verse 16**).

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III. SERVANTS-MASTER – WORKER EMPLOYER (2:18-25).

- A. INSTRUCTIONS TO THE SLAVE:
 - 1. Obey **even the cruel or crooked.**
 - 2. Glorify God.
 - 3. Example of Jesus.
- B. EMPLOYEES HAVE OPTIONS ... AND **OBLIGATIONS (Colossians 3:22-25).**

IV. THE CHRISTIANS WIFE AND HER HUSBAND (3:1-7).

- A. MUST SUBJECT HERSELF **EVEN TO UNBELIEVING (verses 1-2).**
 - 1. Object - Gain the husband.
 - 2. True desire of the husband (**verses 3-4**).
 - 3. The example of Sarah (**verses 5-6**).
 - 4. Recognizes the possibility of abuse.
- B. HUSBANDS - WHY EMPHASIS ON THE WIFE? (**verses 7**).

V. TO ONE ANOTHER (3:8-12).

- A. UNITY AND PEACE (**Ephesians 4:1-3**).
- B. LOVE THE UNDERLYING FACTOR (**Philippians 2:1-4**).
- C. IMITATORS OF JESUS (**Philippians 2:5-11**).

CONCLUSION:

- A. OUR LIGHT, LIKE THE MOON'S, IS REFLECTED LIGHT.
- B. OUR LIGHT MAY BE ECLIPSED.
- C. ARE WE REFLECTING GOD'S GOODNESS?