



# exiles

IN A FOREIGN LAND

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THE LETTER OF FIRST PETER

# 1 Peter 3:13-17

Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? <sup>14</sup> But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, <sup>15</sup> but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy,

# 1 Peter 3:13-17

always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect,  
<sup>16</sup> having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered,

# 1 Peter 3:13-17

those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup> For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

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# Matthew 5:10

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

## Luke 6:22-23

Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! <sup>23</sup> Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.

# **Gospel Living in a Hostile World**

How do we maintain a gospel witness in the midst of a hostile culture?

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# **Gospel Living in a Hostile World**

Either we will walk in fear of people or we will honor Christ the Lord as holy.

# **Gospel Living in a Hostile World**

Fear of people extends to holding people in awe, being controlled or mastered by people [or what they think of you], putting your ultimate trust or hope in people, or needing people or what they give you.

# **Gospel Living in a Hostile World**

Put Christ in a category by himself—the highest place, the greatest value, the most supreme treasure, the greatest admiration, the most cherished prize, the one you esteem and honor and love the most out of all persons and all things in the world.

# **Gospel Living in a Hostile World**

Either we will be troubled [anxious and fearful] by the times or we will have hope-filled hearts.

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