



Cornerstone Church OF KNOXVILLE

Main point: Live like the exiles you are for the glory of God and the advance of His kingdom

1. Personal holiness
2. Public behavior

#1:

“Global pandemic. Crashed economy. Racial pain. City violence. 2020 has been quite a year. And very soon, a polarized nation elects a president. Are you having fun yet? It often feels to me like the world is spinning out of control and back into primordial chaos. Of course, none of this is new. From a political perspective, consider that the early Christians endured fourteen years of rule by an insane and persecuting Nero. Yet they lived in the confidence of the lordship of Christ – even when they had no clout – as they faced ostracism, discrimination, and even death. They spent their lives ministering the gospel to the world, in both word and acts of love, even as they yearned for Jesus to return. If we could recall why they lived so boldly, perhaps we could recover our confidence as well.”

Scott Dawson

#2: Mark 8:35-37

For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul?

#3:

“It is one of the defining marks of Our Time that God is now weightless. I do not mean by this that he is ethereal but rather that he has become unimportant. He rests upon the world so inconsequentially as not to be noticeable. He has lost his saliency for human life. Those who assure the pollsters of their belief in God's existence may nonetheless consider him less interesting than television, his commands less authoritative than their appetites for affluence and influence, his judgments no more awe-inspiring than the evening news, and his truth less compelling than the advertiser's sweet fog of flattery and lies. That is weightlessness. It is a condition we have assigned him after having nudged him out to the periphery of our secularized life. His truth is no longer welcome in our public discourse. The engine of modernity rumbles on, and he is but a speck in its path.”

David Wells
God in the Wasteland

#4:

“Wherever you are, whatever you are about, this law of sin is always in you; in the best that you do, and in the worst. Men little consider what a dangerous companion is always at home with them. When they are in company, when alone, by night or by day, all is one, sin is with them. Oh, the woful security of poor souls! How little do the most of men think of this inbred enemy that is never from home! How little, for the most part, does the watchfulness of any professors answer the danger of their state and condition!”

John Owen
The Nature and Power of Indwelling Sin

#5: Matthew 5:16

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

#6: Acts 4:18-20

So they called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered them, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.”

#7: Acts 5:27-29

And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, saying, “We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man’s blood upon us.” But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men.”

#8:

“When human government performs its true function, there is no conflict between the believer’s reverence for God as supreme and his loyalty to the state. The recognition of both of these duties was essential then, as now, for the welfare of the Christian church. ‘The antinomian,’ Cook notes, ‘had to learn the fear of God, the zealot his duty to the king.’”

Edmond Heibert
1 Peter