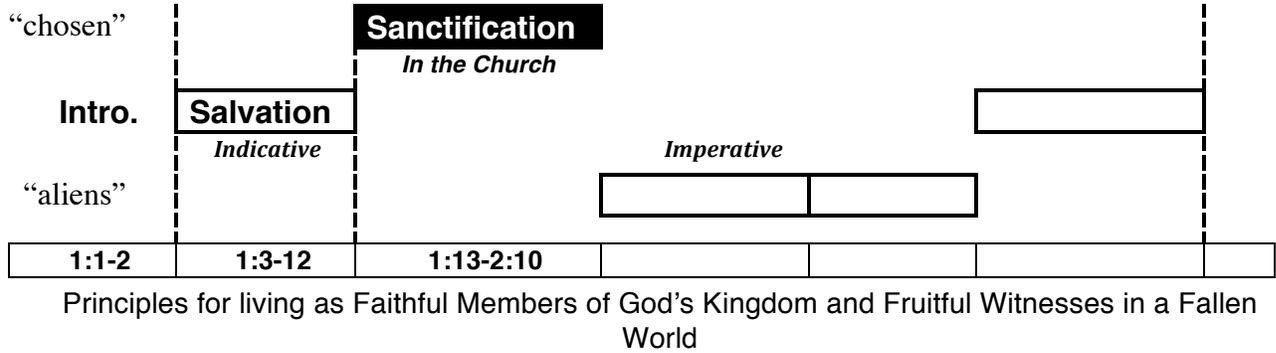


# I Peter

## The challenge of dual citizenship

### I Peter 1:22-2:10



Salvation (hopeful expectation) 1:3-12  
 Principle #1 **We are called to receive a blessing**

Sanctification (holy experience) 1:13-2:10  
 Principle #2 **We are called to be a blessing**  
 by pulling away from our old family - the world.  
 by drawing near to our new family – the church.

The challenges of our new family

### 1) Love one another

**Our calling**

<sup>22</sup> Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere **love** (phileo) of the brethren,

**Our challenge**

fervently **love** (agape) one another from the heart,

**Matt.25:40** “Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me.” **Matt.24:37,39** “You shall love the Lord your God, with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind . . . You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

- L istening to their concerns
- O verlooking their weaknesses
- V aluing their strengths
- E mpathizing with their pain.

### 2) Long for the Word

#### Our calling

**Natural birth**

not of seed which is perishable

<sup>24</sup> For, "All flesh is like grass, And all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, And the flower falls off"

<sup>23</sup> for you have been born again

**Spiritual birth**

but imperishable, {that is,} through the living and abiding word of God.

<sup>25</sup> But the word of the Lord abides forever." And this is the word which was preached to you.

**Fact about the new birth.**

- It is the first step to a new life in Christ.
- It is a birth that does not lead to death.
- It is a birth that comes as the result of hearing the gospel and believing in Jesus as one's personal savior.
- It is the work of the same God who's word called into existence this world from a formless and empty mass.

### Our challenge

**Putting aside**

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, **putting aside** all malice and all guile and hypocrisy and envy and all slander,

**Spiritual terrorism**

**Longing for**

<sup>2</sup> like newborn babes, **long for** the pure milk of the word, that by it you may grow in respect to salvation, <sup>3</sup> if you have tasted the kindness of the Lord.

**The Word**

What are we tempted to do when we are hurting?  
If we are to receive the Word, what kinds of sin are we to put aside and why?

**Topical preaching**

*Topic driven*

*Program support*

*Short term treatment*

**Expository teaching**

*Text driven*

*Life support*

*Long term investment*

### 3) Minister as priests

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Our calling</b></p> <p><b>Coming to Christ, the living stone</b>      <b>who has caused others to stumble</b></p> <p><sup>4</sup> And <b>coming to Him</b> as to a living stone, rejected by men, but choice and precious in the sight of God, <sup>6</sup> For {this} is contained in Scripture: "<i>Behold I lay in Zion a choice stone, a precious corner {stone},</i>"</p> <p>But for those who disbelieve, "<i>The stone which the builders rejected, This became the very corner {stone,}</i>" <sup>8</sup> and, "<i>A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense</i>"; for <b>they stumble</b> because they are disobedient to the word, and to this {doom} they were also appointed.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Our challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>The priesthood ministry</b></p> <p><sup>5</sup> <b>you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices</b> acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <i>And he who believes in Him shall not be disappointed.</i>" <sup>7</sup> This precious value, then, is for you who believe.</p>
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**Jesus should be the center of attention as "the corner stone."**

*Jesus' often competes with:*

- **The church** (tradition, distinctives, people, programs, etc.)
- **Ethics** (justice, morality, peace, etc.)
- **A generic God** (he, she, it, self, ? # \*)

### 4) Tell the story

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Our calling</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Past identity</b>      <b>Present identity</b></p> <p><sup>10</sup> for <b>you once were not a people,</b> but now you are <i>the people of God;</i> you <i>had not received mercy,</i> but now you have <i>received mercy.</i></p> <p><sup>9</sup> But <b>you are</b> a <i>chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for {God's} own possession,</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Our challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him</b> who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;</p>
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How does a church tell the story of God's grace through Christ?  
What are the signs of a healthy church based on these verses?

Love one another  
Long for the Word

Minister as Priests  
Tell the Story