

GODLY LIVING
(1 Peter 2:11-12)

- I. The TONE of the Appeal (1 Pet. 2:11*a*)
 - A. Addressed to those who are "BELOVED"
 - 1. Reflects admonition to LOVE ONE ANOTHER (cf. 1:22)
 - 2. Implies we are mutual OBJECTS of GOD'S LOVE
 - B. Stated as an APPEAL rather than a COMMAND

- II. The CONTENT of the Appeal (1 Pet. 2:11*b*-12*a*)
 - A. A call to godly INNER DISCIPLINE
 - 1. In relation to the WORLD we are "ALIENS and STRANGERS"
 - 2. In relation to SELF we are AT WAR with the FLESH
 - 3. The key to VICTORY is disciplining our hearts by the SPIRIT'S power
 - B. A call to godly OUTWARD DEPARTMENT
 - 1. Our BEHAVIOR is to be "EXCELLENT"
 - 2. Our BEHAVIOR is under the eye of the NATIONS

III. The AIM of the Appeal (1 Pet. 2:12*b*)--

A. Secondly, the VINDICATION of believers before a HOSTILE world

1. They were accused of being "EVILDOERS"

a. REBELLION against the Roman GOVERNMENT

b. Practicing CANNIBALISM

c. Engaging in INCEST

d. SUBVERSIVE activities

e. Opposing SLAVERY

f. Practicing ATHEISM

g. HATRED of the people

2. They should live in a way that PROVES the critics WRONG

B. Primarily, for the CONVERSION of the CRITICS (cf. Matt. 5:16)

1. They will OBSERVE your GOOD DEEDS

2. Some will GLORIFY God when He "VISITS" them