

**1 Peter**  
**Part Four: Landmines**  
**Pastor Rick Henderson**      **February 25-26, 2023**

**SERIES THESIS:** Let your **IDENTITY** drive your **ACTIVITY**.

**1 PETER 2:9-10** *But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, **a holy nation**, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.*

**1 PETER 2:9** *But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, **a holy nation**, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.*

Jesus **MADE** us into **A** holy nation, not **MAKERS** of holy nations.

**1 PETER 2:11** *Dear friends, I urge you, as **foreigners** and **exiles**, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul.*

*Peter conceptualizes the relationship of Christians to society as that of visiting strangers or resident aliens, those who appreciate, respect, and value their host land but nevertheless maintain their own distinct identity within it. —Karen H. Jobes*

**1 PETER 2:11** *Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage **war** against your soul.*

We're not in a **WAR**, but there's a **WAR** in us.

Love the sinner. Hate the sin.

Love the sinner. ~~Hate the sin.~~ Hate your own sin. *I fixed it for you.* —Peter

**1 PETER 2:12.** ***Live such good lives among the pagans that**, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.*

Our purpose isn't to get people to **AGREE** with us, but to **WORSHIP** with us.

**ARC VALUE:** Take truth seriously.  
*We'll follow it wherever it leads.*

**1 PETER 2:13-17** *Submit yourselves **for the Lord's sake** to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people. Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves. Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.*

Always **SUBMIT** to authorities.  
Sometimes **SUBVERT** authorities.  
Rarely **DISOBEY** authorities.

*In no sense do I advocate evading or defying the law, as would the rabid segregationist. That would lead to anarchy. One who breaks an unjust law must do so openly, lovingly, and with a willingness to accept the penalty. I submit that an individual who breaks a law that conscience tells him is unjust, and who willingly accepts the penalty of imprisonment in order to arouse the conscience of the community over its injustice, is in reality expressing the highest respect for law. Of course, there is nothing new about this kind of civil disobedience. It was evidenced sublimely in the refusal of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego to obey the laws of Nebuchadnezzar, on the ground that a higher moral law was at stake. It was practiced superbly by the early Christians, who were willing to face hungry lions and the excruciating pain of chopping blocks rather than submit to certain unjust laws of the Roman Empire. —Dr. Martin Luther King*

**1 PETER 2:18-21** *Slaves, in reverent fear of God submit yourselves to your masters, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh. For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God. But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.*

#### **ROMAN SLAVERY:**

- Slavery was based on economic status and sometimes the outcome of a war.
- It had nothing to do with race or ethnicity. Europeans had African slaves. Africans had European slaves.
- Slavery was rarely permanent. Most slaves were free by age 30.
- Slaves could own businesses, property, and even other slaves.

The gospel doesn't **ENDORSE** subjugation—it **EMPOWERS** submission, servanthood, and suffering well.

My identity is in Jesus, and he **IDENTIFIED** as a suffering **SERVANT**.

**1 PETER 2:22-25** *“He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.” When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. “He himself bore our sins” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by his wounds you have been healed.” For “you were like sheep going astray,” but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.*