

## MESSAGE 5-10-08

This world is not my home - 1 Peter 1:1-9

Today we commence a series in 1 Peter -

The theme of 1 Peter – Principles of behaviour while we are visiting this planet!

Two very descriptive words - 1 Peter 2:11

•“ I urge you, as *aliens* and *strangers* in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul”.

•Aliens – refugees without legal rights

•Strangers – temporary residents

Three reasons why we should live differently 1 Peter 1:2

**Reason no. 1** – I know who I belong to.....

•Chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father....

•The powerful message of the gospel We are a. Loved b. Accepted c. Forgiven d. Healed

The early church believers were socially marginalised -

•**theme – disconnected and disenfranchised not by their choice but by the attitudes of those around them –**

•**So Peter says (1 Peter 1:6) “we suffer grief in all kinds of trials”**

Social identity is based on a. power b. possessions c. position

The believer’s identity is based on who we are in God’s family - not by social perceptions

As a member of God’s family

•“grace and peace are mine in abundance”

•I have all I need to live a life that is a. significant b. satisfying c. secure

**Reason no.2** I am a changed person

•“through the sanctifying work of the Spirit”

•Sanctification – other words “saint” “holy”

•Basic meaning “set apart for a special use”

•Simple sense “living the life of Christ”

2 Thess 2:13

But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers loved by the Lord, because from the beginning God chose you to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth

Two aspects of sanctification

•Permanent, past event – status already conferred

•Heb 10:10

•“we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all”

Sanctification is also a process

•“Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation” - 1 Peter 2:2

•Growth, maturing and application

•Not about accumulating knowledge but living out what I already have

Rom 6:1-4 just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.”

**Reason no.3** I have a purpose

•“for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood”

•Obedience is not optional! But you have a choice!

Col. 2:6 “And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to live in obedience to Him.”

***True obedience is not an act, but an attitude***

it is a key that unlocks doors -

- it unlocks the door of blessing Deut 11:26-28

- it unlocks the door of healing Ex. 15:26

- it unlocks the door to overflow Luke 5:5

conclusion - Rom 12:1,2