

# YOU ARE A PILGRIM, PILGRIM

## I PETER 2:11-12

BACKGROUND: “Dearly beloved” is the more accurate translation in verse 11. “The word ‘stranger’ is the translation of a Greek word which literally means ‘to have one’s home alongside of.’” ‘Pilgrims’ is from a word which literally means ‘to settle down alongside of pagans.’” Kenneth S. Wuest, Word Studies in the New Testament, Volume II: I Peter, p.58.

***YOU ARE LOVED.*** Before anything, Peter wants you to know you are loved by God. The intensity of God’s love for you can only be measured by Jesus’ willingly enduring the pain of a cruel cross. Our Lord has poured that same love into your heart by the Holy Spirit Whom He has given us. As pilgrims, you love the pagans not because of who they are. You choose and practice love because of who you are. (**I Peter 2:11, I John 3:16 fn 3:16[1<sup>st</sup>], Romans 5:5 fn 5:2-5, I John 4:7-8, fn 4:7-21, I John 4:13-21, fn 4:13, fn 4:19**) *How are you equipped to lead someone to Christ?*

***YOU ARE NOT HOME YET.*** Since your citizenship is in Heaven, you do not belong here. Though the earth in all its beauty is wonderful, Heaven will be infinitely better. (**I Peter 2:11, fn 2:11, Philippians 3:20, fn 3:20, Hebrews 11:13-16, fn 11:13-16, Hebrews 13:14, fn 13:14, Revelation 21:1-5, fn 21:5, John 14:1-4, fn 14:2-3**) *Why is Heaven your home?*

***YOU ARE EXHORTED*** to make your Christ life attractive to all. “Effective evangelism flows from the power of a righteous life.” John MacArthur, The MacArthur New Testament Commentary: I Peter, p. 141. (**I Peter 2:12, fn 2:12, Matthew 5:14-16, fn 5:14-16, Titus 3:8, fn 3:8, II Corinthians 6:3-10, fn 6:3, fn 6:8-10, Romans 10:14-15, fn 10:14**) *How could you make your life more winsome for Christ?*

*Are you taking time to experience the presence of the Holy Spirit with the Living Word teaching you and giving you His joy, His love, and His peace?*

