

From the Pastor:

The next passage describes how we should view ourselves and how we should be conducting our lives. 1 Peter 2:11-12 reads, “Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul [life], having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation.”

The words “sojourners” and “pilgrims” are from two different Greek words [sojourners – paroikos; pilgrim – parepidemos] which have similar meanings. From Danker’s Lexicon “paroikos” [sojourner] means “pertaining to being a resident foreigner...one who lives in a place that is not one’s home.” Whereas “parepidemos” “pertains to staying for a while in a strange or foreign place.” Therefore, a pilgrim [parepidemos] is a temporary resident (one who passes through); whereas, a sojourner [paroikos] is a more permanent resident of a place that is not his home.

The point is: we must view this world as not being our home. We are not a part of it and should not become a part of it. Paul in Philippians 3:20 wrote, “For our citizenship is in heaven...” Peter just wrote in 1 Peter 2:9 and 10 that we are God’s “own special people,” and we “are now the people of God.”

We must understand that we are children of God’s kingdom and family (1 John 3:2). Our conduct must be in harmony with that truth (Ephesians 4:1; 1 Thessalonians 2:12).

Therefore, Peter continued by saying, “abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the life.” As Christians we must not be conformed to the ways of this world which are the ways of selfish lust and pride as John wrote in 1 John 2:15-17. “Do not love the world or the things in the world – the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life – is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.”

1 Peter 2:12 is fairly self-explanatory. We must always conduct ourselves in a godly way. People may criticize what we believe; but, they should not be able to find fault with how we live.

“The day of visitation” refers to the time when God comes to judge in the future. The Greek word is “episkope.” The meaning according to the Online Bible Greek Lexicon is “that act by which God looks into and searches out the ways, deeds, character of men, in order to adjudge them their lot accordingly, whether joyous or sad.”

God will reward us (and all others) according to our works – how we live (Psalm 62:12; Job 34:11; Jeremiah 17:10; Matthew 16:27; Romans 2:6; 1 Corinthians 3:8; 2 Corinthians 5:10). As you can see there are many scriptures (and this doesn’t list all of them) that show that God will reward us according to how He has judged what we do.

Peter is emphasizing that though we live in the world we must not let the ways of this world influence how we live.

	Victoria	Corpus Christi	Harlingen
Sunset Today in:	6-31pm	6:33pm	6:35pm
Sunset Friday 3-13	7:35pm	7:36pm	7:38pm



Victoria

Sermonette: Steve Ruiz
Sermon: Jack Hendren

Corpus Christi

Sermonette: Jerod Brunick
Sermon: Arnold Mendez

Harlingen

Sermonette: In Accord
Sermon: Michael Watts

“In mercy and truth atonement is provided for iniquity; and by the fear of the Lord one departs from evil.”
Proverbs 16:6

Announcements and Schedule

Sabbath 3-7	Regular times and locations for all congregations.
Sabbath 3-14	Regular times and locations for all congregations. Mr. Moody will be in Corpus Christi. Mr. Jim Chapman will be in Victoria. Mr. Joel Meeker will be the guest speaker from McKinney. Mr. Mendez will be in Harlingen.

BLACK TIE BALL IN HOUSTON AREA (APRIL 11TH)...TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

The Houston North congregation cordially invites you to this year's formal dinner dance which will take place Saturday evening, April 11th in Spring, Texas...just north of Houston. A fine meal, live music, dancing and fellowship with brethren at a beautiful location is a great way to celebrate the spring holy days. Last year, after enjoying a lovely meal, 160 people danced the night away to a variety of music genre. You won't want to miss out this year! Seating is limited, so don't wait to purchase tickets. For additional details and to purchase tickets, please visit the event website at: <https://buytickets.at/cogwablacktieball2020/261955>

FI Summer Continuing Education Registration Announcement

The faculty and administration of Foundation Institute are excited to announce our ninth annual Summer Continuing Education program.

This year we will be able to offer two one-week sessions, the first from June 8-12 and the second from July 13-17. Since we are using our new classroom facility, we will be able to accommodate up to 48 students for each session, so we believe we will have adequate room for any who wish to attend.

The tuition for each one-week session is \$75 per person or \$125 per couple, and this includes all instructional materials and a light lunch each day. We also plan to work with local hotels to offer special rates for housing in the immediate area.

Details about classes and instructors will be announced later, but we need your help in planning and preparing. Registration for the Summer Continuing Education classes will open at 10 a.m. Central time on Sunday, March 22. At that time you may go to the foundationinstitute.org website, click on the "Continuing Education" tab, and complete and submit the registration form. You will be able to indicate which session you wish to attend or if you are able to attend either session. By Friday, March 27, we will send an email to notify you whether you have been accepted or placed on a waiting list. Once you receive your acceptance email, you may send in your tuition to confirm your reservation.

Thanks for your interest and help. We look forward to hearing from you and welcoming you to this year's Summer Continuing Education program.

There is an announcement on the information table for anyone interested in a Spanish and English Tour of Israel in 2021.

Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember

Harlingen: There will be a Bible Study followed by a covered dish social on the Sabbath of March 14th.

Corpus Christi: There will be a Bible Study followed by a brown bag social on the Sabbath of March 21st.

San Antonio Pot Luck: The next potluck will be on March 7.

Passover service: The evening of Tuesday, April 7 at 8:00 p.m.

Night to Be Much Observed: Wednesday evening, April 8.

1st Day of Feast of Unleavened Bread: Thursday, April 8.

Last Day of Feast of Unleavened Bread: Wednesday, April 15