

- 1 Peter - Resident Aliens → Series 8 / 1st message
- 1:1, 2 - Profile of a believer - Intro - what is the Xian's position in
 The World I He is a stranger to this world
- II He has been selected out of this world
- III He has been scattered throughout the world

→ The Xian the world is no longer user-friendly

Intro = start w/ Colossians article statement. This is a totally new adjustment in our thinking, our mind-set = we've been conditioned to believe the world (USA) is friendly to Xianity -

As society becomes more tolerant - it is less tolerant for Xians faith.
 - We tolerate everything but righteousness. WAKE UP!

Scattered: to be the conscience, the world = that Jesus not come they would not have known sin = they got rid of him.

Presidential election = issue Economics - American may vote believing economics is the major issue - not = righteousness - "exalteth a nation."

15 yrs ago, I said - "Some day 1 Peter will be the most relevant book in Bible" - that day is here.

- The picture church can be misleading = TV stages, 9th person believe = give inaccurate view. Looking at these, it is easy to believe the church is welcome in the world. Yet the N.T. view is opposite = stranger, foreigner, Pilgrim

- Need to re-evaluate our position in relation to this world - strangers in this world

- the controlling metaphor of 1 Peter

"I think it not strange..." why are we so surprised at the hostility of world = things are just getting normal, biblical."

MS = Mess of Ministry = Ministry grows out of Theology - Truth expressed through, revelational - Ministry must be consistent w/ Theology = a check & balance

It is established that we are living in a Post-Xian era → not Bill Clinton - under 12 yrs of Conservative leadership, things got worse than ever had been -

So the only question is = where does the Church, Xian fit into this = what is our position, place in this world - actually, we are being forced to a biblical position = Why are we surprised as though something has gone wrong? The world is acting exactly as

it should → according to its nature.

Selected = as Israel, called-out to be a witness for God = can only do this if we are different, not like the world

I've been looking for something to sing about = Holiday season is a sad season = I'm always divided - happy/sad
In the middle of this paradox, Peter breaks into doxology: that's one of the peculiar things about Xmas = they sing at the most unlikely times.
Praise to God for His great Salvation - 1- to a living hope
2- to an inheritance 3- to a Salvation to be revealed = there's more to it than we realize - we have not seen it all yet. "Sing the ocean" "only the top."

Inheritance to us

I- Hope 1- it is living 2- born to it 3- by Resurrection 4- according to His mercy

II- Inheritance 1- character (1- ~~impassible~~ imperishable) 2- undefiled 3- unfading
2. certainly (kept in heaven for you & us) & we are protected by the power of His true faith

III- Salvation - this is the climax of passage = all that has preceded = in a word, a Salvation ready to be revealed in last time - our end is a beginning
our beginning will end but

Intro = sermons last 2 weeks - "frightening, scary, depressing - to realize what's happening - Xmas laughed at, etc: I don't like doomsday messages -
Is there anything to rejoice over - what's there to sing about?"

Aliens - Selected (1) our relation to this world is determined by O's choice of us.

We either belong to O or this world - stranger to ways of O or ways of this world - things going on right now are alien to believers

(2) O is the lord of history - in control, overseer - laughs at evil men (Psa 2)

(3) the future belongs to O's people.