

“This World Is Not My Home”

1 Pet. 2:11-12

Introduction:

- A. “Strangers and pilgrims” are temporary residents.
- B. Bill Hall’s story of their years in Australia.
- C. The song: “This world is not my home” (Hymns for worship - No. 230)
- D. *If this world is not our home then why ...*

Discussion:

I. Value it So Highly.

- A. Too involved in accumulating wealth (Matt. 6:20-21)
- B. Too concerned with making a living (Matt. 6:25-33).

II. Seek its Approval.

- A. Accept that the world thinks Christians strange (1 Pet. 4:3,4)
- B. Accept that the world hates us. (John 15:18,19)

III. Become So Entangled in It.

- A. We must avoid entanglement (2 Tim. 2:3, 4; cf. Lk. 8:14).
 - 1. Cannot turn loose when duty calls.
 - 2. Have spiritual TB (too busy).
- B. Entangled in things right within themselves.
 - 1. Sports.
 - 2. Pleasure.
 - 3. Civic
 - 4. Hinders church in planning meetings and services.
- C. Entanglement can be avoided.
 - 1. Be up front when participating in activities – church comes first.
 - 2. Leave time and energy for spiritual exercises.

IV. Conform to It.

- A. Be not conformed, but transformed (Rom. 12:2)
 - 1. Transformed = Metamorphose
 - 2. Conform = To shape to the form.
- B. Conform in various areas.
 - 1. Speech.
 - 2. Dress.
 - 3. Habits.

V. Resist Leaving It.

- A. No one should want to leave it prematurely.
 - 1. All seem to have built-in natural fear of death.
 - 2. Should want to finish our work here. (Cf. John 4:34; Phil. 1:23-25)
- B. Yet, one should not live in horror of death.
 - 1. For ourselves (2 Cor. 4:16-5:3)
 - 2. For fellow Christians (1 Thess. 4:13-18)
 - 3. Like watching friend board a plane for home, knowing we will follow soon.

Conclusion:

- A. Are you prepared to go home?
- B. Have you obeyed the gospel?
- C. Are you a faithful Christian?