



EXILES:

JOYFUL OR CYNICAL?

1 PETER

**If you're offended
by Jesus, then you
won't like me.**

exile = parepi-demos,
alongside the community

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alongside the community

Irony is an expression, truth, or story that seems deliberately contrary to what you expect.

“Irony, ironically, is a profoundly biblical theme that does not figure strongly in the thinking of most Christians.

“Yet no other religion rivals the Christian faith in providing such a foundation for a strong view of irony. . . .

“Irony, in short, is not merely a subject for writers or cultural commentators; it is a key part of the Christian understanding of life.”

Os Guinness

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- **insult** (4:14)

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meddler = allotri-episkopos

4. DO NOT be ashamed if you suffer as a **Christian**, but DO **glorify God** in that name (4:16).

“Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me.

“And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts.

“But who can endure the day of his coming,
and who can stand when he appears? For he
is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap.”

Malachi 3:1-2

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Entrust is **ultimate**. Doing good is **immediate**.

1. First, we do good.

Instructions for Exiles

- Be sober-minded.

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- Honor everyone.

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- Fear God.

“For Christians are not distinguished from the rest of humanity by country, language, or custom. For nowhere do they live in cities of their own, nor do they speak some unusual dialect, nor do they practice an eccentric lifestyle.

“This teaching of theirs has not been discovered by the thought and reflection of ingenious men, nor do they promote any human doctrine, as some do.

“But while they live in both Greek and barbarian cities, as each one’s lot was cast, and follow the local customs in dress and food and other aspects of life, at the same time they demonstrate the remarkable and admittedly unusual character of their own citizenship.

“They live in their own countries, but only as aliens; they participate in everything as citizens, and endure everything as foreigners. Every foreign country is their fatherland, and every fatherland is foreign.

“They marry like everyone else, and have children, but they do not expose their offspring. They share their food but not their wives.

“They are ‘in the flesh,’ but they do not live ‘according to the flesh.’ They live on earth, but their citizenship is in heaven.

“They obey the established laws; indeed in their private lives they transcend the laws. They love everyone, and by everyone they are persecuted.

“They are unknown, yet they are condemned;
they are put to death, yet they are brought to
life.

“They are poor, yet they make many rich; they are in need of everything, yet they abound in everything.

“They are dishonored, yet they are glorified in their dishonor; they are slandered, yet they are vindicated.

“They are cursed, yet they bless; they are insulted, yet they offer respect.

“When they do good, they are punished as evildoers; when they are punished, they rejoice as though brought to life.

“By the Jews they are assaulted as foreigners, and by the Greeks they are persecuted, yet those who hate them are unable to give a reason for their hostility.”

The Epistle to Diognetus



1. First, we do good.
2. Second, **we watch**.



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1. First, we do good.
2. Second, we watch.
3. Third, **we remember home**.

“That is why the disciples to the world were misfits. To an upside-down person, a right-side up person seems upside down. To a sinner, a righteous person is an oddity and an abnormality.

“A Christian’s goodness is a rebuke to the wicked; his being right-side up is a reflection upon the worldling’s inverted position.”

Billy Graham