

1 PETER 2 vs 1

¹ Therefore put aside all **malice**, and all **guile**, and **hypocrisy**, and **envy**, and all **slander** / Peter says, in a very imperfect world, in an angry world, lost and stumbling around; these 5 words are not fashionable in the kingdom of God... where peace and joy reign. Peter heard Jesus say: sufficient for each day is the **evil** thereof -- **Matthew 6**.

What is malice? It is the desire to see another suffer; to want another experience pain, injury, or distress... it is ill will, and holding a grudge, no matter how reasonable or unreasonable or a passing mischievous impulse, done to harm to another. It is not the way of God our Father, God gave His Son; it is not the way of Jesus Christ, He gave His life; it is not the way of the Spirit of God who brings us love and joy and peace.



² As newborn babes, **desire the sincere milk of the word**, that you may grow by **it** / we grow by consuming the Word of God. Learn this truth and we can say: Your words I found and I did eat them, and Your word became for me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; for I am called by the name of the Lord God of hosts -- **Jeremiah 15:16**:

³ If you have tasted that the Lord is gracious / that the Lord is good.

⁴ **And coming to Him, as to a living stone, rejected of men**, but chosen of God, and precious / very costly, of inestimable value,

⁵ You also, **[1]** as living stones, are built up as a spiritual house for **[2]** a holy priesthood to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ / Peter is talking to us, Jesus said, I will build My church -- same thing, that's us! We offer up our prayers, and our praise and giving thanks to God... each day... when we renew and refresh our thinking -- **Romans 12**... and consider all the wonderful truths -- all the lessons of the heart... the Lord Jesus taught his students.

The only body of priests in the church of Jesus Christ... is all of us; and we have One high priest after the order of Melchizedek -- **Hebrews 6**. There are no other priests; since there is no more need for a bloody sacrifice. Those who say differently peddle just a bunch of unscriptural hocus pocus... fabricated, artificial drama, traditions to be seen of men... in order to send them \$\$\$ money... created in the halls of faithless history.

⁶ For this is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Zion a chief **cornerstone**, chosen, precious: and **he who believes on Him** will not be disappointed -- **Isaiah 28:16**.

⁷ **For to you who believe He is precious**: but to those who do **not** believe, He is **the stone** which the builders rejected, the same is made **the chief cornerstone** -- **Psalms 118:22**,

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⁸and a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, **for they stumble who are disobedient to the word**: and to this stumbling they were appointed -- **Isaiah 8:14**.

⁹But you are **[1] a chosen generation [2] a royal priesthood, [3] a holy nation, [4] a purchased possession**; that you should show forth the praises of Him, who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; / and to all who believe Messiah came, they are a selected people to the last generation...

¹⁰for you were once not a people, **but are now the people of God**:

you had not obtained mercy, **but now have obtained mercy** -- **Hosea 1,2** / specific promises given to **the House of Israel** going into Assyrian captivity 650BC... due to their faithlessness to the LORD God... carrying with them ALL the promises of God to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob... promised to become **Ephraim, a multitude of nations; and Manasseh, a great nation** at the end of the time of the Gentiles -- **Genesis 48**.

¹¹**Beloved, I urge you as strangers and pilgrims to abstain from fleshly desires** / epithumia, meaning **strong desires** -- good or bad, **which war against the soul** / God who is spirit, must be worshiped in spirit and truth;

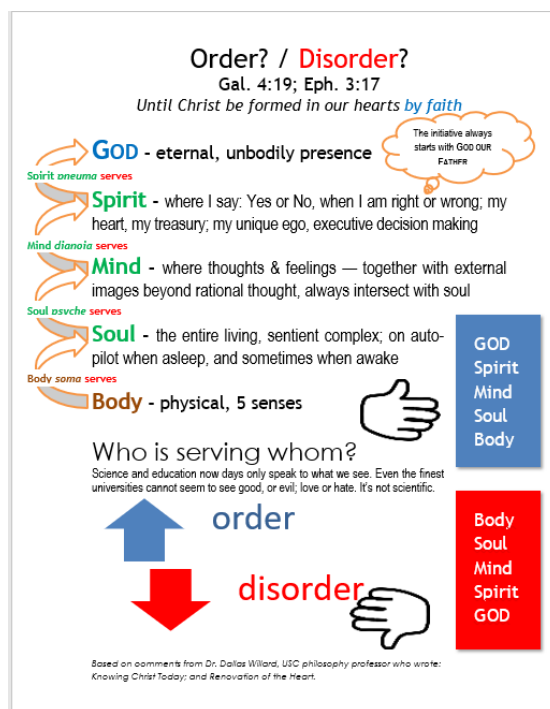
Jesus said to his disciples, Go first to the lost sheep of the House of Israel... and Peter was doing that; he was writing to those who were displaced... strangers and pilgrims on their lifelong journey,

flesh is the paper-thin covering of the gift of life God created and makes available for all of us. It is our contact with the world, including the most demonic world.

Dr. Dallas Willard USC pointed out: An orderly life learns: our **flesh** is to serve our soul; our **soul** is to serve our mind; our **mind** is to serve our spirit... **and our spirit is created to serve God**. Any disruption in the way we are wired is **disorder**.

The weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but spiritual... joy and love and peace found in God's word,

by the daily renewing of our mind... learning the ways of the Lord... we bring into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ -- **2 Corinthians 10**;



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¹² **keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles: so that, when they as evildoers slander you they may by your good works, which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation** / the angry, heartless world detests the people of God, without any reason, because we are escaping the global prison camp; nonetheless, representing the Lord Jesus, we pursue excellence in all things,

¹³ **Submit yourselves for the sake of the Lord to every human ordinance** / Peter says, pay your taxes, and drive on the correct side of the road; and if you drink beer don't ride your camels... and other things like that! God likes order; the lawless always lead to anarchy – those who only do what they think is right is never a good thing; it always turns out badly:

whether it be to the king, as supreme authority;

¹⁴ **or to governors** / or sheriffs and police officers; or those trying to figure out how to keep the potholes in the streets filled, **as sent by Him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of those who do right.**

¹⁵ **For so is the will of God,**

that doing right you silence the ignorance of foolish men / because God knows there are plenty of fools who populate the planet; **so as far as possible, be at peace with all men** -- Ephesians 4:

¹⁶ **As free men and women, do not use your liberty as a covering to do evil, but as the servants of God** / as one no longer a slave to the world... made free by the blood of the Savior who suffered and gave His life for us; we can learn from Him; we can be law-abiding citizens. If some law is contrary to the things of God, then we obey God rather than men,

¹⁷ **Honor all men and women; love the community** / Jesus said, love one another,

fear God / and it is okay not to water down the word: **fear**. Dr. Dallas Willard, USC philosopher also said, God is powerful, so if His power is anything like electricity, then He is dangerous... and we better learn how to approach Him correctly,

honor the king.