

**STUDY QUESTIONS FOR EXILE AND THE KINGDOM: THE OUTCAST**

+ Read 1 Peter 2:11-17

+ Also, click these links to learn more about the Lutheran Two Kingdoms Doctrine referenced in the sermon: Exile and the Kingdom: The Civil Kingdom, May 10th:

[General Definition](https://www.livinglutheran.org/2016/10/luther-helps-todays-citizens/) of the Doctrine

[Simple Explanation](https://lutheranreformation.org/theology/kingdom-left-luther-temporal-authority/) and General Application of the Doctrine

[Scholarly Explanation](https://www.elca.org/JLE/Articles/931?gclid=CjwKCAjwqdn1BRBREiwAEbZcR-CUNSDZuz1PwVZgNdV9YppugIDA3lKo0onRcbCAvOxn0Fj018RntBoCeq0QAvD_BwE), Application and Ecumenical Implications of the Doctrine

*Answer the following questions based on your reading.*

**God’s Story**

1. In 1 Peter 2:11-12, Peter addresses his audience as aliens and exiles. By doing so, he identifies the peculiar world situation in which the people he is writing are living. In the midst of their strange times, Peter advises the exiles to conduct themselves honorably. Why does he say they should do that?
2. Surprisingly, 1 Peter 2:13 advises the Christians to accept the authority of human institutions, the civil kingdom, in particular. For whose sake are they asked to obey the civil authority?
3. 1 Peter 2:15 shows how Christians are able to silence the ignorance of the foolish. How is this done according to the scripture?
4. As servants of God, Christians are a certain kind of people. What kind of people is that according to 1 Peter 2:16?
5. Anything good can be used wrongly. How might Christian freedom be used inappropriately according to 1 Peter 2:16? What is the right way to use that freedom, according to 1 2:17?

**My Story**

1. Think about your life at the current moment. In what ways might you conduct yourself to live honorably as St. Peter advises?
2. Consider your views on current day temporal or civic authorities. What does it mean to you to accept the human authority of the civil kingdom? Is it easy for you or not? Why or why not?
3. St. Peter encourages Christians to always do what is right. How does that help silence ignorance and foolishness?
4. As you live out this time of quarantine where some of your cherished freedoms have been restrained, how are you managing to remain free while also living responsibly in the care of yourself and others?
5. Reflect on the good things in your life at the moment. How might any of these good things be used wrongly. How so you assure yourself and God that you are using the good things of your life the right way?

