

I. We are Called to Keep our Behavior Excellent Among the Gentiles

- A. That means we are to have a hold on our lives whereas we conduct ourselves in a manner that is morally appropriate (according to the standards of God) on a consistent basis.
- B. That means we are to have a hold on our lives whereas we present ourselves as a living advertisement of the Character of God and the Kingdom of God to the unbelieving world on a consistent basis.
- C. That means that our character, conduct, conversations, commitments, customs, codes and choices must be a living advertisement of the Character of God and the Kingdom of God to the unbelieving world on a consistent basis.
- D. We are to maintain a life that is holy unto the Lord, anticipating the rejection of unbelievers as they speak evil of this life that is holy unto the Lord.
- E. We are to maintain a lifestyle that is God-honoring, knowing that unbelievers will attack our good name and reputation or even falsely accuse us of evil intent in relation to this God-honoring lifestyle.
- F. We do this understanding that as our lifestyle reflects the character of God, it can bring unbelievers to recognize and embrace the character of God and trust in the person and work of Jesus Christ for a salvation from their sin unto a right standing and right relationship with God.

II. Principles To Help Us Keep Our Behavior Excellent Among the Gentiles

- A. We must train our minds on a consist basis to embrace the reality that we are no longer to live for ourselves but for Jesus Christ who saved us from sin unto a right standing and right relationship with God. He saved us so that we may know Him, become like Him and be useful to Him as we wait on His return.
- B. We must learn, embrace and meditate on God's order for character, conduct, conversations, commitments, customs, codes and choices.

- C. Let us identify the specific things we need to do in the areas above, seek wise counsel, create a strategy of execution, and do these things in subordination to God.
- D. We must do what we need to do in the areas above according to our covenant with God and not according to our mood or the mood of others.
- E. We can expect difficulties, distractions, disappointments, and even devastations along the way as we seek to do what we need to do in the areas above.
- F. We must be accountable to others in the body of Christ in order to stay consistent in these areas.

Key Points to Consider:

1. We all are called to be a living advertisement for the Character of God and the Kingdom of God to an unbelieving world.
2. We can expect the unbelieving world to reject us and the lifestyle we demonstrate.
3. We can expect the unbelieving world to falsely accuse us according to the lifestyle we demonstrate.
4. God shows the reality of His character and the message of His Gospel to an unbelieving world through Christians who live a life of moral excellence in their character, conduct, conversations, commitments, customs, codes and choices.