

becoming



who

you are

Culture & the Christian

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1 Peter 1:1-3

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1 Peter 1:1-3

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to God's elect, exiles scattered throughout the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

John 3:3

Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again."

John 3:6

“Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.”

1 Peter 1:3

...given a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

1 Peter 4:3-4

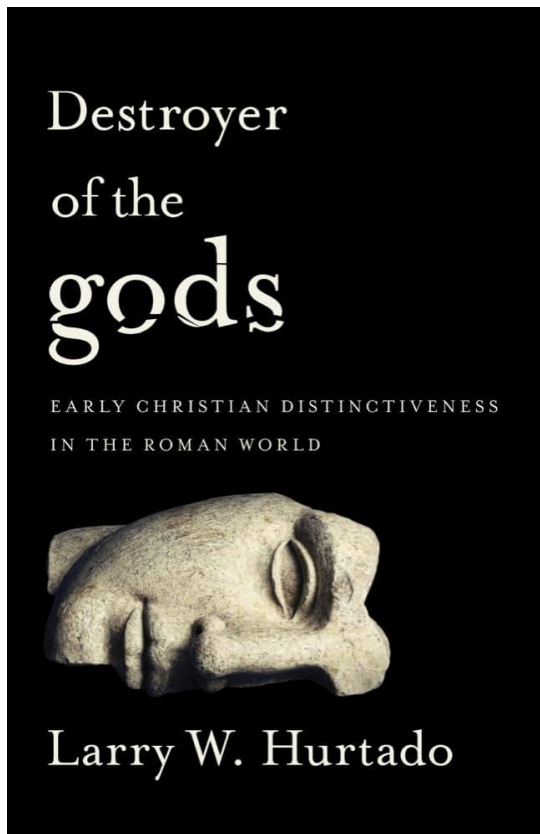
For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do—living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry. They are surprised that you do not join them in their reckless, wild living, and they heap abuse on you.

Three Ways We Typically Engage Our Culture:

Accommodation

Colonization

Separation



Five Elements of the Early Church's Social Vision:

Multi-Racial & Multi-Ethnic

Highly Committed to Caring for the Poor & Marginalized

Non-Retaliatory, Marked by a Commitment to Forgiveness

Strongly Against Abortion & Infanticide

Revolutionizing the Sex Ethic

“The early Christian community was both offensive and attractive. But believers did not construct this community as a way to reach Roman culture. Rather, each of the five elements listed above characterized the early church because Christians sought to submit to biblical authority. They are all commands as well as implications of the gospel.”

- Timothy Keller, *How to Reach the West Again*

1 Peter 1:2

Exiles...who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with his blood.

“For Christians are no different from other people in terms of their country, language or customs. Nowhere do they inhabit cities of their own, use a strange dialect, or live life out of the ordinary...They live in their respective countries, but only as exiles; they participate in all things as citizens, and they endure all things as foreigners... They share their meals but not their sexual partners. They are found in the flesh but do not live according to the flesh. They live on earth but participate in the life of heaven. They are obedient to the laws that have been made, and by their own lives they supersede the laws. They love everyone and are persecuted by all. They are not understood and they are condemned. They are put to death and made alive. They are impoverished and make many rich. They lack all things and abound in everything. They are dishonored and they are exalted in their dishonors.”

- Epistle to Diognetus