

# RECAP

- **Our Identity**
  - **Elect** - chosen, selected, pick out; speaks to care/concern
    - Chosen people, holy nation, royal priesthood, God's special possession
  - **Exiles** - foreigners, strangers, sojourners; temporary residents in a fallen world
- **Jesus is Living Stone - He is our:**
  - **Cornerstone** if we accept Him
  - **Stumbling Stone** if we reject Him

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- **How?**
  - **Abstain from sinful desires** - refrain from acting on the impulses that belong to our fallen nature, the drives to live independently from **God**
  - **Live good lives** - be holy
- **Why?**
  - **Identity** - live as exiles because we are exiles
  - **Mission** - nonbelievers will observe our good deeds over a longer period of time and some will turn to **Jesus as a result (Matt 5.16)**

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## How exiles relate to government

- **General principle** - submit (voluntary yield to; obey) to governing authorities regardless of their stance towards Christianity
- **Limits on submission**
  - **For the Lord's sake** - disobey government if obedience to gov't = disobedience to God
  - **Honor everyone including emperor** - authorities are not superior to anyone else
  - **Fear God** - only God is to be treated with reverent awe

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Don't use freedom government gives  
as cover-up for evil

- **Abortion** - at best the lesser of two evils and always a tragedy
- **Stand your ground** - have you asked **God** under what conditions **He** is okay with you shooting someone created in **His** image?
- **Recreational use of marijuana** - can you be led by the **Spirit** and under the influence of marijuana (or **Jack Daniels**) at the same time?

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Don't use freedom government gives as cover-up for evil

- **Euthanasia** - withdrawing life support to allow death is not same as introducing medicine to cause/speed up death
- **Gambling** (including sports betting) - have you asked God how much of His money He is good with you gambling away?