

THE EXILE CREED

1 PETER

CHRISTLIKENESS/HOLINESS

We the people of God, as exiles on earth, commit to an unwavering faith! We know that the exiled life is a holy life. As it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy;" therefore we will strive for holiness knowing that it is only because of God's act of regeneration in us that changes who we are and what we love. We will pursue Christ first abstaining from the passions of the flesh because we know that our relationship with Him will grow our appetite for personal holiness. With the help of the Holy Spirit we will love what is right, pure, true and perfect. **STAND FIRM!**

SUBMISSION

We, the people of God, as exiles on earth, will continually strive for Christ-likeness through the examples he has graciously lived. We will follow the Lord in how we humbly submit with faith and not resentment or disobedience. We will have a gentle and quiet spirit with faith in God to win over a non-believer. We will allow our love for others to eclipse any shortcomings as Christ's love for us covered a multitude of sins. We will follow in the footsteps of Jesus who committed no sin nor did He revile in return but submitted to God-ordained authorities. Just as Christ, we entrust ourselves to the one who judges justly. **STAND FIRM!**

SUFFERING

We the people of God, as exiles on earth, in the face of trial choose to rejoice in our suffering. We can rejoice in suffering because it reveals the worth of Christ, the worthiness of the Christian and the trustworthiness of the Creator. In suffering, we will strive to live righteously, speak wisely and suffer patiently for the glory of God alone. We will choose to remind ourselves who we are in Christ, and rehearse and celebrate the reality and truth of the Gospel knowing that we are truly free from ultimate harm or loss. By God's grace, we will suffer well, trusting the One who keeps us trusting. **STAND FIRM!**

ETERNITY/GOD'S CHARACTER

We the people of God, as exiles on earth, have been chosen to be part of the sovereign, redemptive plan of God for the world. By God's mercy, through the guarantee of Christ's resurrection, we will receive an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading. God has made us his own people, his own possession, recipients of mercy, born again of seed that is imperishable. We believe in God whose Word will not wither like grass nor fall like flowers but will remain forever. **STAND FIRM!**