

## 1 Peter 3: 8-18

Living, Suffering and Rejoicing Together

## 1<sup>st</sup> Century Church

- Psychological and physical pressure – insults, abuse
- Social exclusion
- Temptation to go back to a former way of life
- Seduction of different seemingly easier world views
- Tensions and inconsistencies within the church
- Spiritual doubts about the reliability of God's promises and the future

Keep going!



A Culture Initiated by Jesus

Like-minded

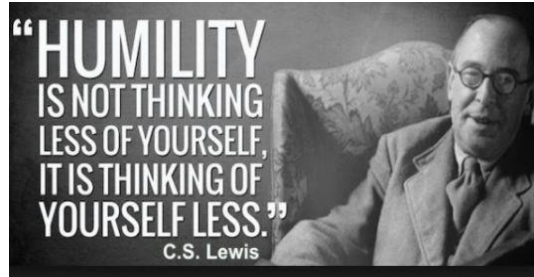


A Culture Initiated by Jesus

Sympathy  
Love  
Compassion



A Culture Initiated by Jesus



## A Culture Initiated by Jesus

Danny Silk says,

‘To Honour (to love respect, elevate and bless), is tested in disagreement, failure and struggling.’

## A Culture Initiated by Jesus

- It’s our calling.
- We have been blessed by God when we have not deserved it.
- We will inherit blessing.

## A Culture Initiated by Jesus

When we suffer:

- We are blessed in our salvation, and relationship with God.
- We will spend eternity with him.
- We have the blessing of a clear conscience.
- We are not to be afraid of threats.
- We are to focus on Jesus and be filled with his Spirit so that we can face any trials.
- We are to be prepared to explain our faith with gentleness and respect.

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