

# 1 Peter 1:14

by John Gill

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*As children of God, we must deny ungodliness and worldly lusts, and instead imitate Christ in holiness and righteousness.*

**Scripture:** Romans 12:2, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Galatians 5:24, Ephesians 5:8, Colossians 3:2, 1 Thessalonians 4:7, Titus 2:12, James 1:22, 1 Peter 1:14, 1 John 2:15-17

**Topics:** "Transformation in Christ", "Obedience"

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## Description

John Gill emphasizes the call for believers to live as obedient children of God, highlighting the importance of imitating Christ in holiness and righteousness. He warns against conforming to former lusts and worldly desires that once characterized their lives in ignorance. Instead, believers are encouraged to embrace their new identity in Christ and reject the sinful behaviors of their past. The sermon underscores the transformative power of faith and the necessity of living in accordance with the Gospel. Gill reminds the congregation that, having received knowledge and grace, they are called to a higher standard of living.

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## Transcript

Ver. 14. As obedient children,.... Or "children of obedience". This may be connected either with what goes before, that seeing they were children of God, by adopting grace, and in regeneration brought to the obedience of faith, to whom the inheritance belonged, therefore they ought to continue hoping for it; or with what follows, that since they were manifestly the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus, being begotten again to a lively hope, they ought to be followers of him, and imitate him in holiness and righteousness, and show themselves to be obedient ones to his Gospel and ordinances, as children ought to honour, and obey, and imitate their parents:

not fashioning yourselves to the former lusts in your ignorance.

The phrase is much the same with that in Ro 12:2 "be not conformed to this world"; for to be conformed, or fashioned to the world, is to be fashioned to the lusts of it; and to be fashioned to the lusts of it is to indulge them, to make provision for them, to obey them, to live and walk in them; which should not be done by the children of God, and who profess themselves to be obedient ones to the Gospel, which teaches otherwise; and that because they are lusts, foolish, hurtful, and deceitful ones, ungodly ones; the lusts of the devil, as well as of the world, and of the flesh, and which war against the soul; and because they are "former" ones, which they served in a time of unregeneracy, and were now convinced and ashamed of, and therefore should no longer live to them; the time past of life being sufficient to have walked in them: and because

they were lusts in ignorance, which they had indulged in a state of ignorance; not of Gentilism, though this might be the case of some, but of Judaism; when they knew not God, especially in Christ, and were ignorant of his righteousness, and of the exceeding sinfulness of sin, as committed against a law that was holy and spiritual; nor did they know Christ, and the way of salvation by him, but thought they ought to do many things contrary to his name; nor the work of the Spirit in regeneration, saying with Nicodemus, how can these things be? nor the true sense of the Scriptures, the sacred oracles, that were committed to them; much less the Gospel, which was hidden from them, and they were enemies to: but now it was otherwise with them; they were made light in the Lord, and had knowledge of all these things; and therefore, as their light increased, and the grace of God, bringing salvation, appeared unto them, and shone out on them, it became them to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts, and not to walk as they had done before, since they had not so learned Christ.

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Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/john-gill/1-peter-114/>

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