The title 'BETWEEN TWO WORLDS' is rendered in a white, hand-drawn, distressed font. The word 'BETWEEN' is on the top line, 'TWO' is smaller and positioned between 'BETWEEN' and 'WORLDS', and 'WORLDS' is on the bottom line. The text is surrounded by numerous short, white, radiating lines that create a starburst or sunburst effect. The entire graphic is set against a dark blue, textured background.

BETWEEN
TWO
WORLDS

A STUDY OF FIRST PETER



1 Peter 1:22-25

²² Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart. ²³ For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.

²⁴ For, “All people are like grass,
and all their glory is like the flowers of the field;
the grass withers and the flowers fall,
²⁵ but the word of the Lord endures forever.”
And this is the word that was preached to you.

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1 Peter 1:13-16

¹³ Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. ¹⁴ As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. ¹⁵ But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; ¹⁶ for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.”

What is the source
of your desires?

1 Peter 1:22-25

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Matthew 22:36-40

³⁶ “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

³⁷ Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

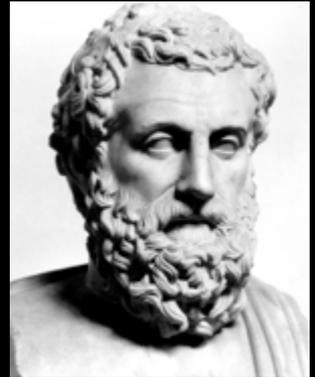
Aristotle's Three Types of Friendship

Friendship of Utility

Friendship of Pleasure

Friendship of the Good

Aristotle
Nichomachean Ethics Book VIII



What is your motivation
for loving others?

1 Peter 1:22-25

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“It is a serious thing to live in a society of possible gods and goddesses, to remember that the dullest most uninteresting person you talk to may one day be a creature which, if you saw it now, you would be strongly tempted to worship, or else a horror and a corruption such as you now meet, if at all, only in a nightmare. All day long we are, in some degree helping each other to one or the other of these destinations.

Lewis, Clive
The Weight of Glory



“It is in the light of these overwhelming possibilities, it is with the awe and the circumspection proper to them, that we should conduct all of our dealings with one another, all friendships, all loves, all play, all politics. There are no ordinary people. You have never talked to a mere mortal. Nations, cultures, arts, civilizations – these are mortal, and their life is to ours as the life of a gnat. But it is immortals whom we joke with, work with, marry, snub, and exploit – immortal horrors or everlasting splendors.”

Lewis, Clive
The Weight of Glory



How do you view the
yourself and others?

1 Peter 1:22-25

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²⁵ but the word of the Lord endures forever.”
And this is the word that was preached to you.

Isaiah 40

¹Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem and proclaim to her
that her hard service has been completed,
that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the
Lord's hand double for all her sins...

⁶“ All people are like grass,
and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field.

⁷ The grass withers and the flowers fall,
because the breath of the Lord blows on them.

Surely the people are grass.

⁸ The grass withers and the flowers fall,
but the word of our God endures forever.”

The efficacy of the eternal word of the Lord is contrasted with the glory of humanity, a glory impressive in the imperial age of Rome, one of the greatest empires the world has known. Even so, the greatest glories of humanity are quickly fading in comparison with the eternal glories achieved by Christ's suffering. If Peter's readers were facing a choice of loyalties, he shows them the even greater majesty of God's powerful word, which creates the eternal reality into which they have been reborn. He appeals to Scripture to teach them that despite circumstances causing their suffering, they are nevertheless participating in the eternal plan of God.

Jobes, Karen. (2005). *1 Peter*
Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.

Do you take comfort
in the good news
of God's enduring love?



Harriet Tubman (1823-1913)
nurse, spy and scout



Harriet Tubman (1823-1913)
nurse, spy and scout

"I can't die
but once"

Who do you know who
needs to know there is
freedom?