

**A Lively Hope in Troubled Times**  
**A Servants Submission**  
**1 Peter 2.13-20**

**[Last Week** we looked at how we should be Crowns of Glory for our Lord Jesus Christ rather than rottenness to His bones. How we live our lives, the things we say and do, as Born-Again Christians, will either Glorify God or will disparage God. What does the world see about God by the way you live your life?]

**[The Setting]**

[The Christians that Peter was writing to were going through tough times. It was open season on Christians, they were being accused and slandered by the enemy. They accused them of,]

- [1. Incest because they called their wives or husbands brother or sister.]
- [2. Cannibalism because of the Lord's Supper.]
- [3. Insurrection because they said Caesar is not Lord, but Jesus is Lord.]

[They were hunted and killed because they were like the Lord Jesus and the servant is not better than the master. Anyone that lives for the Lord Jesus will find themselves going against the tide.]

**[Adrian Roger used to say,]**

*["We are twice born people in a world of once born people."]* [Adrian Rogers]

*["The chief weapon that God has given us, other than our faith in Him,*

*is a principle that many of us don't like to practice. **Submission.**"]* [Adrian Rogers]

**[Chuck Swindoll writes:]**

["Most People respond to injustice in one of three ways. Some respond aggressively by blaming authorities, the source of injustice, or even God for

allowing such struggles. Others respond passively by feeling sorry for themselves and creating cocoons of self-pity. And still others postpone dealing with the problem by burying their emotions and trying to ignore the injustice.]

[However, Peter provides a jarring alternative-one that defies our natural tendencies and common sense. It goes against the grain of our natural desires, **but it's the only solution that works**. Peter presented new hope with one word: **submission**."] [Charles Swindoll, for Lifes Challenges, (: Insight for living, 2002), 24]

**["This principle is such that it will close the mouths of those who oppose us." ]**

*[Notice verse 15 "For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may **put to silence** the ignorance of foolish men:" ]*

[The word **silence** here literally means to mussel like you would mussel a yapping dog.]

**Lets Consider:**

**A. The Principle of Submission (vs 13) - In submission there is,**

1. **A Yielding** - **"Submit yourselves . . ."** [- Submission is when one equal yields to the authority of another equal, not for the sake of the equal, but for the glory of God.]

[To submit to someone does not mean you are of lesser value or strength, it merely means you having willingly yield to the other party.]

2. **An Ordering** - ". . . To every ordinance of man . . ." [- Word Study - Submission - hupotasso hoop-ot-as'-so (gk) - 1) to arrange under, to subordinate 2) to subject, put in subjection - A Greek military term meaning "to arrange [troop divisions] in a military fashion under the command of a leader". In non-military use, it was "a voluntary attitude of giving in, cooperating, assuming responsibility, and carrying a burden".]

[The Ordinances of man are those laws, hopefully designed to make our communities safer and more prosperous for everyone. Man's ordinariness should provide a sense of order to our lives.]

3. **An Honoring** - ". . .for the Lord's sake . . ." [- Submission does not demean you it exalts you. Notice that our submission as the children of God is not for the sake of the authority or even the community it is to be for the Lord's sake. As we studied last week **for the Glory of God.**]

## B. The Places of Submission

[The Authorities in our lives,]

- [God – Our Supreme Authority]
- [Family – Our Familial Authority]
- [Church – Spiritual Authority]
- [Government – Your civil authority]

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A. The Principle of Submission – In Submission there is,  
1. An Yielding  
2. An Ordering  
3. An Honoring

**We are to submit to, (In our text)**

1. **Our Government (vs 13-14)** [- Submit yourselves to **every ordinance of man** for the Lord's sake: whether it be **to the king**, as supreme; <sup>14</sup>Or unto **governors**, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.]

2. **Our Endearment (vs 17)** [- Notice all four authorities are present in our text.]

- [In our **social** life (vs 17) - "*Honor all men . . .*"]

[Honor comes from a Greek word that means preciousness. **All men ought to be precious in our sight.**]

- [In our **church** life (vs 17) - ". . . *Love the brotherhood . . .*"]
- [In our **spiritual** life (vs 17) - ". . . *Fear God . . .*"]
- [In our **political** life - ". . . honor the king." (1 Tim 2.1-3).]

1 Tim 2.1

[Nero was emperor of Rome - Raised in a murderous family he committed his first murder as a teenager, he murdered his first teenage wife, then murdered his second wife. In order to marry his third wife he murdered her husband. His mother annoyed him so he arraigned for her murder.]

*[1 Tim. 2:1-3 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; <sup>2</sup>For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. <sup>3</sup>For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; ]*

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- B. The Places Of Submission**  
1. Our Government  
2. Our Endearment – Others

[Peter said honor the king because submission is necessary. There could be no civilization without government.]

### 3. **Our Employment (vs 18-19).**

[Servant means household slave. Not a paid servant. Many slaves were well educated like doctors, and teachers. Aristotle said slaves and masters had nothing in common, but a slave was a tool of the master like a rake or a shovel.]

[We are to submit not only to the good but also to the forward.]

[1) Forward - skolios skol-ee-os' (gk) – 1) **crooked, curved** 2) metaph. 2a) perverse, wicked 2b) unfair, surly, forward.]

*["There is no better place for a Christian to demonstrate the grace of God than under the Authority of an ungodly boss or government. Any pagan can rebel and complain when things are wrong."]*

### **C. The Problems of Submission - Our submission,**

Acts 5.29

1. **Must be Proper (Matt 22.21)** [- Submission is not always the same as obedience; **your ultimate loyalty belongs to God.** All human authority is limited.]

[Never give to Caesar the things that belong to God.]

**[Our Lord Jesus Christ said,]**

*[Matthew 22:21 . . . Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's. ]*

2. **Must be Providential (Acts 5.29; Rom 12.18)**

[- Based on clear Biblical commands.]

[The apostles were teaching about Jesus and the authorities said be quite, you are upsetting the status quo. Their response:]

*[Acts 5:29 Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, **We ought to obey God rather than men.**]*

Rom 12.18

[Some commands are qualified, while some are not.]

*[Romans 12:18 **If it be possible, as much as lieth in you,** live peaceably with all men. ]*

[If anyone commands us to do something that is antithetical to the commands of God, **then we obey God.**]

**[Biblical examples of providential submission include,]**

- [Pharaoh ordered all mail children to be killed, **the midwives** refused.]
- [They told **Daniel** not to pray, Daniel prayed on.]

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**["The Church is not the servant of the state. The Church is not the master of the state. The Church is the conscience of the state."]**

**3. May seem Unprofitable (vs 19-23) [- At time submission may result in persecution.]**

**[What do you do when your good results in evil?** Appeal to the supreme court of the universe.]

[Jesus is our example of submissive suffering (vs 21-23).]

[When Jesus suffered wrongly He took,]

- **[Undeserved Suffering (vs 22) - "Who did not sin, neither was guile found in His mouth."]**
- **Unretaliating Suffering (vs 23) - "Who when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not . . ."**
- **Unfrustrated Suffering (vs 23) - ". . . but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously."]**

[Because Jesus submitted unto God, God has highly exalted Him. He has a name that is above every name.]

**4. Will always be Prosperous (vs 24-25; Rom 8.28) [- God will always have his hand upon you, always when you are suffering in submission to Him.]**

- **[His providence will work our suffering for our purification (vs 24) - ". . . that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness . . ."]**

**[Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. ]**

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2. Must be Providential

- **[His providence will use our suffering toward His presence (vs 25) -**  
*For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.*

CrossRoads Baptist Church, Sunday, January 17, 2021

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