

Submission to the Government
1 Peter 2:13-17
June 29, 2008

Summary: Our role as followers of Christ is to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. We do this by means of excellent behavior while under the scrutiny of others which glorifies God. We also do this with an attitude of submission, in this case to the governing authorities. Walking in submission honors the sovereignty of God and demonstrates doing what is right to a watching world.

1. A. For what purpose does Peter bring up submission in 1 Peter 2:13?

B. How might we understand the significance of “*for the Lord’s sake?*”
Psalm 103:19, Daniel 2:20-22, 4:34-37, Romans 13:1, 1 Peter 2:14

C. If all authority comes from God, and it does, then how should we respond, and why?
Psalm 62:11, Proverbs 3:1-7, Philippians 2:1-13

2. A. In the context of submission, Peter uses another phrase which is synonymous. Can you identify it?
1 Peter 2:15

B. The phrase, “*doing right*” is really one Greek word which has the idea of *doing what is good or beneficial to another*. In what fashion is submission to authority a necessary factor to carry this out?
Micah 6:8, Romans 2:4, 12:3-10

C. What are some practical areas where we can develop a greater submission for the benefit of others?
Hebrews 13:15-17, 1 Peter 2:16-20, 3:1-9

3. A. Remembering that submission is to do the right thing, and that it is the direct will of God, (1Peter 2:15), what kind of opposition do we face?
Romans 8:7-8, Ephesians 6:11-12

B. How then would you explain that submission is central to Christian behavior and attitudes?

Ezekiel 3:1-11, John 3:36 (NASB), 10:27, 15:4-5, Romans 10:9-10

C. What does the way you spend your time and money demonstrate, regarding the priority of surrendering to the known will of God in your life?

John 14:15, 2 Corinthians 5:15, 1 Peter 2:24

4. Submission to the government is not without limits. Discuss what we should do if we are forbidden to do what God commands, or, commanded to do what God forbids. (Exodus 20:1-6/Daniel 3:12-18, Acts 5:27-29).