

1 Peter 2:13-25 **Born Again Believers Living Pure before Unbelievers**

Submission to Government (cf. Rom 13:1-5)

13 Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, whether to the king as supreme, 14 or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do good.

15 For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men — 16 as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as bondservants of God. 17 Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.

Employees (Isa 53:7-9)

18 Servants, be submissive to your masters with all fear, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the harsh. 19 For this is commendable, if because of conscience toward God one endures grief, suffering wrongfully. 20 For what credit is it if, when you are beaten for your faults, you take it patiently? But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God.

Example of Christ

21 For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:

22 "Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth";

23 who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously; 24 who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness — by whose stripes you were healed.

25 For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

NKJV

Facts Revealed:

Submission to Government [1 Peter 2:13-17, Romans 13:1-5]

- ✚ Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, whether to the king as supreme, or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do good.
- ✧ Civil government is ordained by God to punish those who do evil and reward those who do good.
- ✧ Obedience toward governing ordinances is a testimony that the people of God are honorable law abiding citizens which works to exalt the name (reputation) of the Lord.
- ✧ What outsiders see in the behavior of believers is their basis for how they view God.
- ✧ When the leaders of various governing bodies become evil they bring the wrath of God against themselves and the people they govern and both the leader and the people will suffer the consequences. [1 Samuel 12:14-45]
- ✧ Believers who claim to be God's people must set the example of righteousness by doing good, so those who seek occasion to blaspheme God may be put to silence. [1 Peter 2:15, 2 Samuel 12:14]
- ✧ We have been set free from sin, but we may not use our liberty as a covering for evil, but as bondservants to God.

✧ Paul worded it thus:

But now having been **set free from sin**, and having become **slaves of God**, you have your **fruit to holiness**, and the end, **everlasting life**. [Romans 6:22]

✧ Therefore, honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.

Employees [1 Peter 2:18-20]

✧ Employees, be submissive to your employers with all fear, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the harsh.

✧ Believers must be exemplary employees, because they serve God and their actions reflect on the Lord. [Ephesians 6:5-8, Colossians 3:22-25, 1 Timothy 6:1-2, Titus 2:9-10, 1 Peter 2:18-20]

✧ It is commendable for a Saint of God to endure suffering for the sake of the Lord for doing good.

✧ It is not commendable to patiently endure suffering for doing wrong, you deserve it.

✧ But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God. [1 Peter 2:20, Romans 8:16-17, Philippians 1:29, 2 Timothy 3:12, 2 Timothy 4:5, James 5:10]

Example of Christ [1 Peter 2:20-25]

✧ Christ set the example of enduring suffering for doing good.

✧ Jesus committed no sin, nor was deceit (dishonesty) found in His mouth;

When He was reviled, Christ did not revile in return;

When He suffered, He did not threaten.

Jesus committed Himself to God who judges righteously;

Jesus Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness — by whose stripes you were healed.

✧ The price for our healing was paid by the stripes Jesus bore in his body by the whips of the soldiers at His trial and crucifixion.

✧ We are called to follow the example of Christ.

✧ Having died to sin, we must live for righteousness.

✧ For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls. [1 Peter 2:25]