



The Strange Strength of Submission

1 Peter 2:13-25

What do we do about government?

Our response to authority reveals what we really believe about God

- Submit to authority (vv. 13-14)
 - To every governing authority
 - For the Lord
 - No matter what
 - Unless it causes us to sin against God
- Do the good that you can do (v. 15-16)
- Honor all, including government, and love each other – but worship God alone (v. 17)
- Remember Jesus and follow his example (vv. 18-25)

F O R F U R T H E R R E F L E C T I O N

- Meditate on 1 Peter 2:13-17, Romans 13:1-7, 1 Timothy 2:1-7, Titus 3:1-2
- Further consider the examples of Acts 4:1-22, Acts 5:17-42, Exodus 1:15-20, Daniel 3, Daniel 6
- Meditate on Psalm 2 and Psalms 95-99
- Read *The Gospel & Religious Liberty* by Russell Moore and Andrew Walker
- Read “3 Principles for Relating to the Government” - www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/3-principles-for-how-relating-to-the-government/
- Watch “God and Government” by Tony Evans - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1tQ2htGw2YQ>
- Listen to “One Pure and Holy Passion” – www.youtube.com/watch?v=UbmqNzUEyEg

Q U E S T I O N S F O R R E F L E C T I O N

1. What stood out to you most from the message?
2. Read 1 Peter 2:13-17 carefully together. What do we learn in these verses about God, government, and ourselves?
3. Read 1 Peter 2:17 again. Which of these four commands is most challenging for you to obey lately?
4. Who is someone – perhaps even someone you know who works in government – who is a great example of what it looks like to obey 1 Peter 2:17?
5. Where have you seen examples of people giving to Caesar what is God’s and giving to God’s what is Caesar’s? In what ways might you be guilty of this?
6. Read 1 Peter 2:15 again along with Matthew 5:13-16. Given the situations in our country and communities, what are some specific opportunities where we can do good and shine the light of Christ?
7. Read 1 Peter 2:23. What would it look like on a practical level to entrust yourself to him who judges justly? How would someone even be able to tell that you are doing that?
8. Read Psalm 95. What are some reasons in this Psalm for trusting and worshipping our great King?
9. Spend some time praying together for our nation, that we would truly be one nation under God and as believers we would live in obedience to the Lord in all matters.
10. Spend some time praying for the persecuted church around the world. Many of our brothers and sisters in Christ suffer regularly under oppressive governments. Remember Hebrews 13:3.