

FIRST PETER

The Christian's Life in Exile —Part 14

2:13-17— “Submitting to Governing Authorities”—June 7, 2015

“God, the supreme Lord and King of all the world, has ordained civil magistrates, to be, under Him, over the people, for His own glory, and the public good: and, to this end, has armed them with the power of the sword, for the defense and encouragement of them that are good, and for the punishment of evil doers.” —The Westminster Confession of Faith, XXIII. I.

The Christian's Election and Exile—1 Peter 1:1-2

The Christian's Living Hope—1 Peter 1:3-12

The Christian's Life in Relation to God—1 Peter 1:13-2:3

The Christian's Position in the People of God—1 Peter 2:4-10

The Christian's Obligations as the People of God—1 Peter 2:11-3:12

- Living Honorable and Missional Lives—1 Peter 2:11-12

Submitting to Governing Authorities—1 Peter 2:13-17

- This passage begins what is sometimes referred to as the *Domestic Code*.

¹³ *Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme,*
¹⁴ *or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good.”*

ὑποτάσσω—*hypotasso*—“To be subject. To submit.”

“...every human institution...”

Why?

Examples: *The Emperor and governors.*

Main Point: Christians may suffer for doing what is right, but additional suffering should not be brought upon oneself by acting _____.

¹⁵ *For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people.”*

- This verse is linked with the preceding verses and provides a basis for the previous command.

“..the ignorance of foolish people.”

Main Point: As Christians live honorable lives as good citizens, they show the _____ of their critics who cannot discern the difference between good and evil.

¹⁶ *“Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God.”*

- This command is given in light of the previous command. Christians are to “be subject...as people who are free.”
“...a cover-up for evil...”

δοῦλος — *doulos* — “Bondslaves” “Servants.” This image is consistent with the ideas of *redemption* and *ownership* introduced in 1:18-19.

Main Point: Ironically, it is in _____ to God that Christians are truly free.

¹⁷ *“Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.”*

- These statements serve as a summary of Peter’s commands regarding the Christian’s humility.

“The City of _____”	[Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.]	“The City of _____”
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Main Point: Christians are live as honorable people who, while _____ governing authorities, recognize the higher authority of God and His Word.

What is Peter doing in this passage?

Peter wants Christians to recognize that all _____ originates with God.

Peter wants to remind Christians that we live in a world of _____ authority structures.