

Dual Citizenship Sunday 2 February 2025

Our Call To Submission In The World

1 Peter 2 v 13-3 v 7

If you were to pause and take an honest 'snapshot' of where you find yourself right now - emotionally, physically, spiritually, relationally - are you encouraged, anxious, feeling 'stretched' or calm?

Any discussion about a Christian response to those in worldly authority over us starts by first acknowledging that we have wilfully submitted our lives to the Lordship of Jesus! It is 'for the Lord's sake' (v13), as we 'live as God's slaves' (v16), in 'reverent fear of God' (v18) while we follow the example set by Jesus (v21) that causes us to submit ourselves to human authority. - Why is that? - What is the point of choosing to submit to such authority?

How is such God-centred submission different from blind obedience to worldly authority? Read v21-25. In what ways is Jesus the perfect example of godly submission?

There are specific issues that Peter addresses here (emperors and slaves) Brainstorm some of the human authority that is over us as we go through life. How should we relate to those people or systems in a God-glorifying way as believers?

Spend time praying for our world, society and those in positions of authority. Pray also for our witness and strength to abstain from our own inner sinful desires.

For Peter, chapter 3 v 3 what are the particulars that constitute real beauty?

Are these things worthy to follow in real-life 2025 or are they passé?

Is Peter advocating passive assent toward husbands or active pursuit of Jesus echoing behaviour?

For Peter, what are the “in the same way” (verse 7) attitudes and behaviours that husbands must exhibit? What ‘place’ do wives occupy for husbands?

What is the crucial difference between “live with” and “live over” (see verse 7)?

When addressing husbands, what are some practical reasons Peter cautions against conduct that doesn't echo the attitude and behaviour of Jesus?

If it helps, recall some examples of Jesus 'attitude and behaviour towards women in the gospels