

LIVING FREE UNDER AUTHORITY

Sunday, October 19, 2025 -- 1 PETER series -- msg 16 -- Pastor Andrew Coleman

1 PETER 2:13-17

English Standard Version (ESV)

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. **15** For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. **16** Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. **17** Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.*

REVIEW & CONTEXT:

Peter's overarching theme is _____ amid suffering and exile.

- **Ch. 1–2:12:** Christians are a _____ people, set apart to declare God's excellencies even while living as *sojourners and exiles* in a hostile culture.
- **Ch. 2:13-3:12:** Peter now applies _____ to **social relationships** — government, work, marriage, and community — showing that submission is not weakness but spiritual strength that glorifies God.
- Thus, submission to human authority is an expression of _____ in God's sovereignty, not compromise with evil.

SUBMISSION to HUMAN AUTHORITY:

1) Submit for the _____ (vs 13-14)

"Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution..."

Be subject plainly means to submit... to willing bring yourself _____.

for the Lord's sake this is the motivation for our submission.

We are representing the _____ to the world.

We influence the way people think about God.

to every human institution means the divinely permitted structures for _____.

emperor and governors

Emperor _____! a horrific, diabolical, maniacal emperor who persecuted Christians

punishing those who do evil — this is a role of civil _____.

- for _____ of evil
- for _____ of evil does

praising those who do good — this is part of civil _____.

2) Silence the Critics by _____ vs 15

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

Notice: This is the _____ of God. This means God designed it to work this way.

Notice: By doing good, mockers of God can't criticize the truth.

By respecting authority (when it is not contrary to God's authority) we win _____.

TITUS 3:1-3 Paul gives instructions to Titus as he trains new leaders...

1 Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, 2 to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people. 3 For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another.

In other words, our submission to authority and doing good can be a _____.

3) Live as _____ People, Yet as _____ of God. vs 16

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

We are people freed by God not from authority but from _____ to _____.

ROMANS 8:2

For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

JOHN 8:36

So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

GALATIANS 5:13

For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

4) SUBMISSION APPLIED TO ALL OF LIFE: 4 COMMANDS!

Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

- **Honor everyone** — This is not _____ around the world.
This is a radical command... slaves, poor, rich, various _____.
This points to every human being is made in the _____ of God.
God values them, so you value them! You don't get to _____.

- **Love the Brotherhood** — This means love _____.

1 JOHN 5:1

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him.

- **Fear God** — When we fear God we don't have to _____ or what he can do to us.
PROVERBS 9:10 *The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.*

- **Honor the Emperor** — Peter circles back to both HONOR and the EMPEROR (vs 13).
Proclaim Christ by honoring your _____.

MATTHEW 5:43-45 *Love your enemies and **pray** for those who persecute you.*