



23 February 2025

Honor the King

1 Peter 2:13-17

Jeremiah 42:1-16; Romans 13:1-7

The Times We Live In (Luke 21:34-36)

Goals for 2025

Quick Review (1 Peter 1:1-2:12)

Doctrine to Practical Living

- 1 Peter 1:1-2:10 is Peter's doctrinal portion of his letter.
- Starting with 1 Peter 2:11 (last week's sermon) Peter launches into the APPLICATION of DOCTRINE.
- ★ DOCTRINE is the foundation for ALL that we DO in life.
- ☆ ALL of Scripture is PROFITABLE for DOCTRINE (2 Timothy 3:16) so that the man/woman of God may be thoroughly equipped for ALL good works (2 Timothy 3:17).
- ★ (1 Timothy 4:13-16) We are to give ourselves wholly to PURE DOCTRINE found in the Scriptures.
- ☆ What one believes will determine how he/she lives.

Practical Lesson #1 - Abstain (1 Peter 2:11-12)

- ABSTAIN - stay absolutely clear of fleshy (worldly) desires that WAR against your soul.
- (v. 12) Conduct yourselves in an honorable way (godly, holy) among the people of the world.

Practical Lesson #2 - Submit to Human Institutions (1 Pet 2:13-17)

- Government (rule) has been ordained by God. Without government there is ANARCHY – everyone doing what is right his own eyes!

- “submit yourselves” is in the IMPERATIVE MOOD. It is a command of God. This phrase is a military expression of submitting to a superior commanding officer.
- (Romans 13:1) “Let every soul be *subject* to the governing authorities . . .”
“Subject” is in the PRESENT, MIDDLE, IMPERATIVE.
- (Romans 13:1-5) God gives seven reasons for why we are to willingly submit to the government:
 - ① All authorities are sovereignly appointed by God Himself.
 - ② Resisting the government is resisting/sinning against God.
 - ③ Those who resist God’s government will be punished.
 - ④ God’s purpose for the government is to restrain evil.
 - ⑤ God’s design for the government is for good.
 - ⑥ God has ordained the government to punish disobedience.
 - ⑦ One must submit to the government for conscience sake.
- The governments in which Paul and Peter lived were violent and corrupt – YET the Holy Spirit moved them to write these commandments!!!
- Jeremiah’s advice to the remnant that survived Babylon’s attack on Jerusalem. (Jeremiah 42:1-16; 43:1-13)
- “every ordinance” includes all governing authorities to include government, church, family, work place, etc.

WHY? - “For the LORD’s sake” (1 Peter 2:13)

- “for the LORD’s sake” – ALL governing authorities are sovereignly appointed and established by HIM for His purposes! (Romans 13:1-5; Daniel 2:21; 4:17; Jeremiah 27:5-7; Exodus 9:16)
- Because God commands us! This should be enough! (MEDITATE!)
- Christ never preached or taught that His followers were to PROTEST the government. The Church’s responsibility is not to be instruments of changing SOCIETY but INDIVIDUALS – by preaching and living the GOSPEL.

Responsibilities of Governments (1 Peter 2:14; Romans 13:1-5)

- ① Punish evil doers.
 - ② Protection of citizens. Governing authorities provide laws that protect the rights of its people. (Acts 22:22-29; 25:1-12)
 - ① Police: Protection from evil doers from within.
 - ② Army: Protection from evil doers from without.
- ★ All governing authorities are “ministers of God” and they will have to answer to God for their governing. (Hebrews 4:23)

The Will of God: Doing Right (1 Peter 2:15)

- Where do we find the will of God? From His written revealed Word.

- (Matthew 7:21-23) Only those who DO the will of God go to Heaven! All creatures are obligated to the will of the King of kings.
- (Matthew 12:49-50) Those DO the will of God are in the family of God.
- (Ephesians 6:6-7) The will of God is to be done from the heart - sincerely!
- (1 Thessalonians 4:3) Abstaining from all sexual immorality is the will of God for His children. (1 Cor 6:9-10; Rev 21:8; 22:15; Gal 5:19-21)
- (1 Thessalonians 5:18) It is the will of God to give thanks in *everything*. (Romans 1:21-22)
- (Ephesians 5:14-17) We are to walk (live) circumspectly in the world, redeeming the time, knowing that the days are evil, therefore, we must be wise and understand the will of God.
- By doing what is RIGHT we will "silence" (to restrain, to muzzle, to make speechless) those who speak of us as *evildoers* (1 Peter 1:12).
- "ignorance" (not just a lack of knowledge, but a hostile rejection of knowledge) – see Hosea 4:1, 6.
- "foolish" – means one who is "senseless, without reason". The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge and wisdom and one without it, the fear of God, is a FOOL. (Psalm 111:10; Proverbs 1:7, 29; 2:5; 8:13; 9:10; 15:33; Matthew 7:24-29)
- Believers set the "example in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, and in purity. (1 Timothy 4:12)
- (Titus 3:1-2) We are reminded to "be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work, to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men."

AS Bond Servants of God (1 Peter 2:16)

- We are the children of God! (1 John 3:1-2) BUT we are not use our "freedom", "privilege" or "position" as a cloak for vice (evil).
- WHATEVER WE DO WE DO AS UNTO TO THE LORD – NOT MEN! BECAUSE WE ARE GOD'S BOND SERVANTS – OR SLAVES!
→ 1 Corinthians 7:22 → Colossians 3:17, 23
- Believers, at the same time, become SLAVES to others, not esteeming themselves higher than others, because of Christ's example. (Matt 20:26-28; Romans 12:10; Philippians 2:3-8; 1 Peter 5:5)

The Limit of Submission (Acts 4:1-22; 5:17-29)

- God is the King of kings. ALL creatures come under the rule and authority of this one King. ALL creatures are subject to, serve, and will one day answer THE KING. (1 Tim 6:15; Rev 17:14; 19:14; Heb 4:13)
- (Acts 4:19) "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge!"
- (Acts 5:29) "We ought (obligated) to obey God rather than man."

DO IT! (1 Peter 2:17)

- Each of the verbs in this verse have the meaning “to keep on . . .”. Each is in the PRESENT TENSE and IMPERATIVE MOOD. These are things we are to be doing ALL the time.
- Each of the verbs are in the IMPERATIVE mood. God commands us to DO. Not to do these things continuously is SIN and treachery against God.
- “Honor All People!”
 - Every person is created in the image of God (Genesis 1:26, 27; 9:6) and for that reason is to be respected and honored! There are no classes of people in the eyes of believers. When you see yourself as a “slave” of God everyone else deserves more respect than you!
- “Love the Brotherhood”
 - We are to love each other as Christ loves us. (John 13:34-35; 15:12; Galatians 6:10; Ephesians 1:15; Colossians 1:4; Philemon 5)
 - (1 John 3:16, 18) We have an obligation or duty to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. LOVE IS ACTIVE! LOVE WORKS! LOVE SERVES! LOVE IS SEEN! (**Hebrews 6:10-12**)
 - (1 John 3:15) Anyone who does not love his brother/sister is still in darkness and is considered a murderer! And no murderer will inherit the kingdom of heaven. (1 John 2:9, 11; 3:15; 4:20; 5:1-2)
- “Fear God”
 - Psalm 111:10; Proverbs 9:10; Ecclesiastes 12:13; Hebrews 12:9, 28; Revelation 15:4)
 - The “fear of God” is taking GOD seriously — NOT RELIGIOUSLY!
 - PROVERBS 24:21
- “Honor the King” – we are back to verse 13!
 - ★ GOD IS OUR KING! We are citizens for His Kingdom. We exist to serve God and His people. We follow His Laws.
 - ★ But here Peter commands us to honor the leaders of the nation that GOD has us living. God tells His people in captivity “to seek the peace of the city where I have caused you to be carried away captive.” (Jeremiah 29:7)
 - (Romans 13:7) “Render to all their due; taxes to whom taxes are due; customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor!” IT’S A COMMAND!
 - (Matthew 22:21) “Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.”