

LIVING IN EXILE

1 Peter 2:18-23—Glorious Suffering

April 3, 2016

KNOW: Biblical submission is not firstly about yielding to the will of the emperor, or your employer, or your husband. It is about embracing the order of God, trusting in the sovereignty of God and bowing before the majesty and Lordship of Jesus Christ.

Context

- Peter is giving instructions on how to live as aliens and exiles in hostile territory (2:11).
- Peter is giving instructions on how to live honorably among the Gentiles so that people will glorify God (2:12).
- Peter is explaining how to 'put to silence the ignorance of foolish people' (2:15).
- Peter's initial call is for submission: to the government (2:13-17), to your master (2:18-23), and in the family (3:1-7).

I. The Posture of Submission (2:18-20)

- Submission is a part of the Christian life.
- Submission is not circumstantial but positional.
- Submission may lead to suffering...endure it.
- Submission is a gracious thing when mindful of God.
- But don't suffer for doing wrong.

II. The Pattern of Submission (2:21-23)

- Christ has set for us an example.
- He submitted to the will of the Father.
- He suffered at the hands of man.
- He did not defend himself or threaten.
- He suffered for us.

III. The Protection of our Submission (2:23)

- When we entrust everything to God we are secure.
- When we entrust everything to God we proclaim his excellencies.

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please read 1 Peter 2:18-23

1. The sermon started out by asking "How has your faith impacted the way you live?" How has it?
2. Why is submission so difficult for us?
3. What areas of your life do you have difficulty submitting in?
4. Are there any verses that you can meditate on to promote a proper and Biblical spirit of submission?
5. Can any of you share a time when you had a harsh and unfair boss and how you handled that situation? Would you handle it differently now? How?
6. In what ways do you think submission and suffering 'proclaim the excellencies of God'? Do any of you have any stories that can testify to this?
7. Is it ever acceptable for Christians to refuse to submit? What examples can you think of in the Bible? How can we determine when godly defiance is appropriate?