MISSIO DEI FELLOWSHIP

A Submitted Life: Our Submission to Others

Acts 26:1-14

Keywords: Salvation • Providence • Submission • Lordship of Christ • Government
Government

INTRODUCTION

Recap: The Submitted Life

01 **Jesus Christ**
The ultimate submitted life — never resisted the Father’s will.

02 **Our Justification**
Faith is the submitting of our lives to God through Christ alone.

03 **Our Sanctification**
We are called to walk in daily submission; resistance is kicking kicking against the goads.

INTRODUCTION

Today’s Focus

How a life submitted to God is seen in how we submit to one another.

Key Truth

There is no way to separate submission toward one another from our submission to God in our day-to-day lives.

Grasp this and many decisions become clearer. Resist it and you will find the goads of God pricking you.

STARTING POINT

Ephesians 5:21

"...and being subject to one another in the fear of Christ."

Filled with the Spirit
This command flows from being filled with the Spirit (5:18). True Spirit-filling produces mutual submission.

Fear of Christ
Our posture toward one another carries weight because we will give account to our Lord.

Imitation of Christ

We belong to the Lord and are called to imitate His submitted life.

KEY VOCABULARY

Four Related Terms

Hupotassō
To arrange under / submit

Positioning under authority

Hupakouō
To listen under / obey

Acting on instruction

Hupeikō
To give way / yield

Willful yielding

Peitharcheō
To obey authority

Persuaded by real authority

KEY VOCABULARY

What These Terms Share

1. They involve a voluntary or required yielding of one’s will to to another’s authority.
2. They are commanded of believers toward legitimate authorities.
3. They stand in contrast to rebellion, self-will, resistance, and insubordination.
4. They are never merely external compliance; when rightly exercised exercised they flow from a heart submitted to God.

KEY VOCABULARY

The Opposite Posture

Antitassō

To arrange yourself against or opposite.

Opposing or resisting someone or something.

Apeitheō

The absence of being persuaded.

Refusing to give in — disobedience.

SUBMISSION TO GOD

The Foundational Starting Point

Romans 8:7
The fleshly mind is at enmity with God; it does not and cannot submit to God's law.

Romans 10:3
They did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God, seeking to establish their own.

Hebrews 12:9
We ought to be subject to the Father of spirits and live — sharing in His holiness.

James 4:7
Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. from you.

SUBMISSION TO GOD

James 4:6–7 — The Goads of God

> *"God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God."*

Until your heart stops rationalizing, fighting, and redefining, nothing changes. Everything begins here — whether at the point of salvation or as a believer bowing again to God's way.

GOVERNING AUTHORITIES

Romans 13:1–5

Little Room here for Maneuvering

1. Every believer is to be subject to the governing authorities — they are they are established by God.
2. Resistance brings judgment; the authority is God’s servant for your good.
3. The normal Christian posture is submission and respect, not rebellion.
4. Hupotassō here is a heart posture, not mere external compliance. compliance.

GOVERNING AUTHORITIES

Titus 3 & 1 Peter 2

Titus 3:1–5

Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey…

We once were foolish and disobedient. Christ's kindness appeared. We can show the same spirit toward those who rule.

1 Peter 2:13–17

Submit for the Lord's sake…

God is more concerned with how we represent Him than with our rights. Our freedom in Christ is never an excuse to disobey.

CONCLUSION

Key Principles

A **Submission begins with God**

Fight horizontal submission and you are really fighting God.

B **Posture and practice**

You willingly place yourself under another. That mindset must show in what you do — and what you refuse to do.

CONCLUSION

Key Principles (cont.)

C **Public witness**

We either adorn the gospel with faithful submission or deny it through stubborn hearts.

D **Submission depends on grace**

God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Each day we we choose goads or grace.

CONCLUSION

A Life That Stops Kicking

Gladly arrange yourself under God’s order — first under Christ, then under the authorities He established, and toward one another in the fear of Christ.

May the Spirit fill us so that our submission is not grudging duty but joyful imitation of the One who never resisted the Father’s will.

LOOKING AHEAD

Next Week

We will continue to unpack this idea of submission to one another.

BENEDICTION

May our God cause you to rejoice in the Lord, to be made complete in all aspects, and to be comforted by the Spirit. May He move in and among us to be like-minded in the Word and to live in peace with one another.

Amen