



STANDING FIRM  
IN A HOSTILE WORLD

# HOPE AS EXILES

1 PETER

## 1 Peter 2:13-17

<sup>13</sup> Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme,<sup>14</sup> or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good.<sup>15</sup> For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people.<sup>16</sup> Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God.<sup>17</sup> Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.



# SCHOOL of ROCK

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## 1 Peter 2:13-17

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**“What happens when people fool themselves into believing that it’s possible to separate our politics from our religion? For starters, you create the illusion of a public square that’s religiously neutral, or at least partially neutral. But what you really have is a square rigged against organized religion. Organized religions are kept out. Unnamed idols are let in. Imagine an airport security metal detector that doesn’t screen for metal but for religion standing at the entrance of the public square. The machine beeps anytime someone walks through it with a supernatural big-G God hiding inside one of their convictions, but it fails to pick up self-manufactured or socially constructed little-g gods. Into this public square the secularist, the materialist, the Darwinist, the consumerist, the elitist, the chauvinist, and, frankly, the fascist can all enter carrying their gods with them like whittled wooden figures in their pockets. Not so for the Christians or Jews or Muslims. Should they enter and make a claim on behalf of their big-G God, the siren will sound like a firetruck. What this means is that the public square is inevitably slanted toward the secularist and materialist. Public conversation is ideologically rigged.”**

**Johnathan Leeman**

1)

**Governments should *justly* punish *criminal* offences that violate *explicit* and *relevant* Biblical commandments.**

**“But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood.**

**And for your lifeblood I will require a reckoning: from every beast I will require it and from man. From his fellow man I will require a reckoning for the life of man.**

**“Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image.”**

**Genesis 9:4-6**

**“Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer.”**

**Romans 13:1-4**

**“Because the sentence against an evil deed is not  
executed speedily, the heart of the children of man is  
fully set to do evil.”**

**Ecclesiastes 8:11**

2)

**Governments should write legislation that recognizes the separation of church and state, and the progressive nature of God's revelation.**

**“To them, also, as a body politic, he gave sundry judicial laws, which expired together with the state of that people, not obliging any other now, further than the general equity thereof may require.”**

**WCF Chapter 19, Section 4**

**“When you build a new house, you shall make a parapet  
for your roof, that you may not bring the guilt of blood  
upon your house, if anyone should fall from it.”**

**Deuteronomy 22:8**

3)

**Governments should write legislation drawing from the collective wisdom of common grace and the Bible.**

**“Proverbs 10:4 NIV reads, “Lazy hands make for poverty, but diligent hands bring wealth.” A wise ruler, no doubt, will look for ways to maximize industry and not reward laziness. Certainly this has implications for welfare policies. How easy it is for a nation’s welfare policies to abet laziness and so exacerbate poverty. However, Proverbs 29:7 reads, “A righteous man knows the right of the poor.” And 29:14 says, “If a king faithfully judges the poor, his throne will be established forever.” A good king, like a good shepherd, doesn’t leave some of the sheep behind. He seeks to bless and benefit all. He is going to judge them and their circumstances with fairness. He is going to consider the causes of poverty and ask what might contribute to entrenched cycles of poverty. Wisdom, then, is figuring out how to put these last two points together, and that might change from circumstance to circumstance.”**

**Johnathan Leeman**

## 1 Peter 2:15-17

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

**“Jesus came not to destroy people but to save them. To accomplish that, he had to defeat the great oppressor, Satan; he had to redeem sinners from the guilt of sin. His hands did not grasp a sword, but were stretched out to be pierced with nails. He did not lift a spear but received the thrust of a spear in his side. He did not come to bring the judgment, but to bear it...for us.”**

**Edmund Clowney**

**“Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.”**

**1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2:12**

**“People often respond to the call for submission to authority with resentment or defiance. But when the authority in view is duly constituted by God, submission is a beautiful expression of confidence in God’s sovereign disposal of all of life’s affairs. One need not agree with rulers’ political convictions or social policy in order to honor them in a way that honors God. Living today in a contentious political atmosphere gives us the perfect opportunity to put on display our ultimate allegiance to God.”**

**Sam Storms**

**Fear God**

**Love the brotherhood**

**Honour all people**

**Honour the emperor**

**Wayne Grudem**