

EXILES - SUBMITTED

SMALL GROUP NOTES 24/02/19

Geoff Maile (Canterbury)

John Bailey (Whitstable)

SCRIPTURE

1 Peter 2: 13-25

SCRIPTURE CONTEXT

This passage gives some clear guidelines for our submission to authority. Our identity as exiles could easily lead us to dismiss the world's authorities, submitting only to Christ, especially where the world isn't operating in a way that brings glory to God. Yet, what we find in verses 13-17 is Peter charging us to submit to 'every human institution'. However, this is in order that we might bless, influence and serve the world from our position of freedom in Christ, which compels us to do good, punish evil, praise God and love people, trusting in His goodness and greatness to bring His kingdom into the world today. We are to imitate Christ, who submitted to the point of death for a far greater victory. As we serve Him, we share in His suffering, and it is His victory and power that enables us to live these godly lives of submission.

QUESTIONS FOR STUDY AND DISCUSSION

1. Why are we called to submit to earthly institutions? What do you think the dangers are for us to avoid, both in submission and were we to not be submissive?
2. In verse 16 Peter talks about our fundamental freedom. How does this affect our outworking of submission?
3. How can Jesus' example encourage and inspire us in our submission?
4. What comfort can we find here for when we are treated unjustly?