

**1 Peter 2:13-25** Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to **every human authority**: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. **For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people.** Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves. Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor. Slaves, in reverent fear of God submit yourselves to your masters, **not only to those who are good and considerate but also to those who are harsh.** For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God. But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When they hurled their insults at him, **he did not retaliate**; when he suffered, **he made no threats.** Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. "He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed." For "you were like sheep going astray," but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

#### Different realms of human Biblical authority under God:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ authority

**Colossians 3:18-21** Wives, submit yourselves to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ authority

**Romans 13:1-2** Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for **there is no authority except that which God has established.** The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.

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3. \_\_\_\_\_ authority

**Hebrews 13:17** Obey your spiritual leaders, and do what they say. Their work is to watch over your souls, and they are accountable to God. Give them reason to do this with joy and not with sorrow. That would certainly not be for your benefit.

4. \_\_\_\_\_ authority

**Colossians 3:22-23** Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to curry their favor, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord. Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters...

**How to live honorable in the midst of suffering under unjust authority:**

1. Pray for your \_\_\_\_\_

**1 Timothy 2:1-2** I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people— for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

2. Understand my \_\_\_\_\_ and my life is a pathway to influence.

**Philippians 2:14-15** Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, “children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.” Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ well is an opportunity to show how good God is.

**1 Peter 2:15** For it is God’s will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people.

4. Look beyond the situation onto \_\_\_\_\_.

**1 Peter 2:21** To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

Walk Away: The \_\_\_\_\_ you live, the \_\_\_\_\_ you say, must always be honoring.

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