

SOJOURNERS AND STRANGERS

1 PETER 2:13-25 | SUBMITTING LIKE JESUS

The hammer and the anvil: The hammer said, "I will break the anvil." The anvil did not answer while the hammer reviled, but stayed in its place while the hammer hit the anvil day after day. Month after month, year after year, the anvil patiently received the blows.

However, after a while, *the hammer broke*. And though it does not speak up, for it was too quiet to speak, the anvil might have said, "I have broken hundreds of hammers before, and I shall break hundreds more by patient endurance."

So it is with Christ, and his church, and his gospel. The persecutor may smite, and revile, and cause suffering. A Christian may have an intolerable boss, but the Christian does not revile in return, but patiently bears with them. In the long run that patient endurance will break the persecutor down, and with patient enduring silence the ignorant boss.

Yet, taking on the unbreakable characteristic of the anvil may seem like an impossibility for the Christian. Yet, by the Spirit we are able to model Christ who was crucified, and he did not sin while enduring it. He left us an example. By grace, let us take up our cross and follow him.

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1. 1 PETER 2:13-25. What is something the Lord highlighted to you this morning from the message? Any thoughts or questions?

2. 1 PETER 2:13. What is the first command of this section? What is the purpose for the command? How are you doing in submitting and, therefore, modeling the gospel to others?

3. 1 PETER 2:16. What Peter says, “Live as people who are free,” what does he mean?

4. 1 PETER 2:17. What does it look like in your life, specifically, to honor the emperor? Honor everyone? Love the brotherhood? To fear God?

5. 1 PETER 2:23. How does a Christian entrust himself to God (2:23) when he is suffering or enduring persecution?

6. 1 PETER 2:23. How does Peter interpret Isaiah 53:5 in 1 Peter 2:23? Why is this important to know?

7. PRAY. How can we pray for one another to suffer well for Christ?