

The Call To Submission

1 Peter 2:13-17

Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every authority instituted among men: whether to the king, as the supreme authority, 14 or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. 15 For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish men. 16 Live as free men, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as servants of God. 17 Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honor the king. (1 Peter 2:13-17 NIV)

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Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. 2 Consequently, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. (Romans 13:1-3 NIV)

Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, 2 to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and to show true humility toward all men. (Titus 3:1-2 NIV)

The Christian is called to submit to their governing authorities.

1. The authorities that exist have been established by God; therefore to rebel against the authorities is to rebel against God.

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2. To avoid punishment

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3. It's a positive witness to the world

For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish men (1 Peter 2:15 NIV)

We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. (2 Corinthians 5:20-21 NIV)

4. To have a clear conscience.

Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also because of conscience. (Romans 13:5 NIV)

5. Because God commands us.

There are times when we are called to defy the laws of the land.

Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. 19 But Peter and John replied, "Judge for yourselves whether it is right in God's sight to obey you rather than God. 20 For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard." (Acts 4:18 NIV)

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. 25 Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another — and all the more as you see the Day approaching. (Hebrews 10:24-25 NIV)

The freedom to serve

Live as free men, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as servants of God. (1 Peter 2:16 NIV)

Four characteristics of God's servants

Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honor the king.
(1 Peter 2:17 NIV)

1. They show respect for everyone
2. They have a special love for fellow believers
3. They fear God
4. They honor their leaders