

Living Under Authority

Honouring Those "In Control"

Submit To Every Authority

- 13 – Verse 13-15 is an absolute command
- Submit to immoral, dictatorial, heads of state
- Nero was an insane, wicked, demagogue, who was notorious for his cruelty to Christians.
- God's kingdom is not of this world. We are to be in the world but not of the world
- Don't bring disrepute on Kingdom of God by disrespecting the God ordained authorities of this world
- 1 Sam.15:23 - For rebellion is as the sin of divination

The Challenge of Honouring All Authority

- 1Pet.2:13-25 - Submission To Authority
- Be subject to EVERY human institution -13,14
- This is God's will – 15
- Live as free people – 16 (PBI)
- 17- Honour Your neighbour, Love the church family, Fear God, Honour the Emperor
- 18 -25 Slaves be subject to your masters, be they kind or cruel
- Slaves were possessions, not people.

God Is Our Ultimate Authority

- Submit until they tell you to disobey our God
- Daniel and friends – Dan.1 – non kosher food, meat probably sacrificed to idols
- 3:16-18 – The 3 and the Firey furnace
- Daniel, new kingdom, new king and a lions den– 6:10
- Jesus – Mk.12:14-17; Jhn.17:14-19-6; 18:36;
- Peter and John – Acts.4:18-20
- 1960's Baptist pastors were jailed in Quebec towns for preaching the Gospel. In 80's, Quebec was leading growth.
- In China and Iran the church continues to meet. Heb.10:19-25

The Challenge of Honouring A Master

- At the time of Peter there 60,000,000 in the Roman Empire
- According to Roman law, slaves were not a person but a thing
- To a slave, his master's will was the only law
- Peter tells slaves they were to respect both the kind and unjust master -18-20
- 21- 25 Christ is the example for Roman slaves and Canadian Christians

Living This Truth

- 1Pet.2:18-20 – When mindful of God and we do good to the kind and the unjust leaders and suffer unjustly, this is a gracious thing in the eyes of God. Christ is our example.
- What do we do when governments step outside their laws?
- Acts 22:24-29 Paul used his rights as a Roman Citizen
- Acts 23:1-5 – Paul respected the position of High Priest
- Acts 25:10-12 – Paul used the law to save his life
- Our constitution still gives us rights that we can claim, use and appeal to for our freedoms – Right to Freedom of Assembly, Right To Peacefully Protest, Freedom of Religion
- Honour the government, Obey our God