

Sermon Notes

Submit to the Government

1 Peter 2:13-17

Christian Sanich, 10/29/2017

Text sermon questions, during the sermon, to (602) 824-8030

2:13a Submit to every human authority-system, b/c of the Lord.

To submit is to follow those in the authority position, who lead - follow their directions, their rules, their laws.

2:13b-14 Submit to government (leaders).

God gives government authority for the punishment of those who do evil and the praise of those who do good.

But what if they aren't doing what God wants?

What if they are even wicked?

2:15-16 This is the will of God to silence the ignorance of foolish people by us doing good.

The good is submitting to the government.

Also, the good is doing what God says is good, morally.

Choose to be a bond-servant of God and do everything He says.

2:17 You should honor all, be loving the brethren, be fearing God, be honoring the king.

Is there a government leader that you need to honor by ceasing to speak disrespectfully about him/her?

What is a government law you don't obey?

What do you want to change about that?

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Application questions for 10/29/17 sermon

1 Peter 2:13-17

Submit to the Government

How have you understood “submission”? What does it mean, and maybe more important, what does it look like in relationships/institutions? How has your understanding changed?

(Keep this one on the brief side.)

Why do you think God would ask us to submit to government?

If the government is not doing what God wants, or the individuals in authority are wicked, why would God want us to submit?

What do you understand as the exception(s) to submitting to government? In other words, when don't you submit to their laws/commands?

What are the ways you would know the government law is clearly conflicting with what God wants of you? Give some real-life scenarios you can imagine - what should you do, and why?

When you disagree with government policies/laws, but they are not making you disobey God, what should you do?

(Make sure to get here with at least 20 minutes remaining. Try to have everyone answer the next two questions.)

What is a government law you don't obey? Is there something you want to change about that?

Is there a government leader that you want to honor by ceasing to speak disrespectfully about him/her?

What will that be like?

Is there anything you are struggling with regarding submitting to government, either what it should look like, or with willingness to do it?

Do you have a question for the group? It might be something you don't understand that others could help with, or something you think should be covered that hasn't.

(Make sure to get to this question, and try to have everyone answer.)

What is something going on in your life or thinking that we should know?

Bonus (if time):

Do you think we can tell for sure what another group of people should have done or not done in their circumstances, whether they should have submitted to the government, or if their defiance of the government was right? Why?