



HONORING HUMAN AUTHORITY

1 Peter 2:13-17

August 25, 2024
Pastor Trevor Cooper

Good morning Church! As we read through 1 Peter, we see the heart and focus of his letter to these Christians of multiple congregations: to know the Triune God and His work to bring salvation to those who believe by faith in Jesus Christ and live out faith in their conduct. This informs us how God's people are to relate to the sociopolitical authority of the world in which they live. I want to teach you what the Bible says and let each of us bring our convictions and perspectives to God so the Spirit of Christ can transform us more like him.

"Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, **14** or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. **15** For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. **16** Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. **17** Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor." **1 Peter 2:13-17**

1. HONOR and SUBMIT to Human Authority for the Sake of the LORD. (v 13-15)

- Christians should Not REBEL against Authority.
- Christians should URGE Governments to Fulfill their PROPER Role. (v 14)

"But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare." **Jeremiah 29:7**

*"Everyone must submit to governing authorities. For all authority comes from God, and those in positions of authority have been placed there by God. **2** So anyone who rebels against authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and they will be punished."* **Romans 13:1-2**

2. CHRIST Enables Believers to FREELY LIVE. (v 16)

- Christian freedom rests not on escape from SERVICE but on a change of MASTER.
- Christians are NOT excused to do EVIL.

2. WE are Called to RESPECT All, LOVE the Church, FEAR God & HONOR Authority (v 17)

Verse 17 helps Christian live in all relationships:

- Social
- Ecclesial
- Spiritual
- Political

We are to pray for them, obey them (unless contrary to God's Word), and yet watch over civil governments, reminding them that God ordained them to rule, protect, and keep order.

Salvation through Jesus Christ

*The single most important decision a person could ever make in their lifetime is to receive Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord. The Bible says, "all have sinned and fall short of God's glory" and we don't deserve eternal life because the wages of sin is death". Yet through God's love, only "Christ gives us eternal life by grace through faith"... it is a gift of God. God's word says, That if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is LORD and believe in your heart God raised Him from the dead YOU WILL BE SAVED. **The Bible says to REPENT of your sins. BELIEVE in Jesus receiving His forgiveness.** Then, identify with Christ and start living a new life in obedience to God by being BAPTIZED.*