CHURCH AND GOVERNMENT | 1 PETER 2:13-17 WAVE CHURCH SD | JULY 19, 2020

John 21:18-19 (ESV) ¹⁸ Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go." ¹⁹ (This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, "Follow me."

THE HARDEST THING GOD WILL ASK OF YOU IS TO SUBMIT

1 Peter 2:10-12 (ESV) ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. ¹¹ Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. ¹² Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

#1 MYTH OF CHRISTIANS CONCERNING POLITICS: GOD HAS A SIDE

Joshua 5:13-15 (ESV) ¹³ When Joshua was by Jericho, he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, a man was standing before him with his drawn sword in his hand. And Joshua went to him and said to him, "Are you for us, or for our adversaries?" ¹⁴ And he said, "No…but I am the commander of the army of the LORD. Now I have come." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped and said to him, "What does my lord say to his servant?" ¹⁵ And the commander of the LORD's army said to Joshua, "Take off your sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy." And Joshua did so.

Matthew 5:44-45 (NLT) *Pray for those who persecute you!* ⁴⁵ *In that way, you will be acting as true children of your Father in heaven. For he gives his sunlight to both the evil and the good, and he sends rain on the just and the unjust alike.*

1 Peter 2:13-14 (ESV) ¹³ 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.

BE SUBJECT = <u>SUBMIT</u>

• To accept or yield to a superior force or to the authority or the will of another person. Military word meaning to put oneself under another in rank.

SUBMIT FOR THE LORD'S SAKE

1 Peter 2:9 (ESV) But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

Matthew 17:24-27 (ESV) ²⁴ After Jesus and his disciples arrived in Capernaum, the collectors of the two-drachma temple tax came to Peter and asked, "Doesn't your teacher pay the temple tax?" ²⁵ "Yes, he does," he replied. When Peter came into the house, Jesus was the first to speak. "What do you think, Simon?" he asked. "From whom do the kings of the earth collect duty and taxes—from their own children or from others?" ²⁶ "From others," Peter answered. "Then the children are exempt," Jesus said to him. ²⁷ "But so that we may not cause offense, go to the lake and throw out your line. Take the first fish you catch; open its mouth and you will find a four-drachma coin. Take it and give it to them for my tax and yours."

1 Peter 2:15 (ESV) For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people.

SUBMIT TO SILENCE FOOLISH PEOPLE

1 Peter 2:16 (ESV) *Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God.*

SUBMISSION BRINGS FREEDOM

REAL FREEDOM IS ALWAYS FOUND UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF GOD

1 Peter 2:17 (ESV) Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

HONOR ALL PEOPLE APPROPRIATE TO THEIR LEVEL OF AUTHORITY

"It is a paradox of the Christian life that the more profoundly one is concerned about heaven, the more deeply one cares about God's will being done on Earth." – J.I. Packer

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