

Submitting to (Earthly) Authority

Perspective, Parameters and Practice

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1 Peter 2 Background

- Written Between 62-64AD
- Nero Ruled from 54-68AD
- Romans, Titus and 1 Timothy written between 56-64 AD
- The three P's – Perspective, Parameters and Practice

Perspective

1 Peter 2:9-11 But you are a **chosen people**, a **royal priesthood**, a **holy nation**, a people for **God's own possession**, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; 10 for you once were not a people, but now you are the people of God; you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. 11 Beloved, I urge you as **foreigners** and **strangers** to abstain from fleshly lusts, which wage war against the soul.

Parameters

1 Peter 2:13-15 Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether to a king as the one in authority, 14 or to governors as sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and the praise of those who do right. 15 For such is the will of God, that by doing right you silence the ignorance of foolish people.

Parameters

Romans 13:1-2 Every person is to be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God. 2 Therefore whoever resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves.

Parameters

Titus 3:1 Remind them to **be subject** to rulers, to authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good deed,

Romans 13: 3-5 For rulers are not a cause of fear for good behavior, but for evil. Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do what is good and you will have praise from the same; 4 for it is a **servant of God** to you **for good**. But if you do what is evil, be afraid; for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for it is a servant of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil. 5 Therefore it is necessary to **be in subjection**, not only because of wrath, but also for the sake of conscience.

Parameters

1 Peter 2:16-20 Act as free people, and do not use your freedom as a covering for evil, but use it as bond-servants of God. 17 Honor all people, love the brotherhood, fear God, honor the king. 18 **Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are good and gentle, but also to those who are harsh.** 19 For this finds favor, if for the **sake of conscience toward God** a person endures grief when suffering unjustly. 20 For what credit is there if, when you sin and are harshly treated, you endure it with patience? But if when you do what is right and suffer for it you patiently endure it, **this finds favor with God.**

Parameters

1 Peter 2:21-25 For you have been called for this purpose, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you would follow in His steps, 22 He who committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in His mouth; 23 and while being abusively insulted, He did not insult in return; while suffering, He did not threaten, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously; 24 and He Himself brought our sins in His body up on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live for righteousness; by His wounds you were healed. 25 For you were continually straying like sheep, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls.

Practice

1 Peter 2:12 **Keep your behavior excellent** among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God on the day of visitation.

Practice

- **Romans 12:14-21** Bless those who persecute you; **bless and do not curse**. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. 16 Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation. 17 **Never repay evil for evil to anyone**. Respect what is right in the sight of **all people**. 18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, **be at peace with all people**. 19 Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written: “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord. 20 “But if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.
- **Titus 3:2-3** **to slander no one, not to be contentious, to be gentle, showing every consideration for all people**. 3 For we too were once foolish, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another.

Practice

- 1 Timothy 2:1-4 First of all, then, I urge that requests, prayers, intercession, and thanksgiving be made in behalf of all people, 2 for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. 3 This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who wants all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Stay On Mission

Matthew 28:19-20 Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to follow all that I commanded you; and behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”