

Theme: As God's exile, sojourning people, Christians are called to submit to and honor the authorities God has placed over them.

## I. Intro – Diplomatic Immunity

- A. Define diplomatic immunity
- B. Story on diplomatic immunity issues in London
- C. Even human trafficking among the crimes in 2009
- D. If we are sojourners - do we honor rulers, laws?
- E. Or are we free to ignore because belong to another kingdom?
- F. How do we respond to unbelievers with authority over us?
- G. How does Christian freedom work in practice?

## II. The Call to Godly Submission

- A. The basis - status as aliens and strangers
  - 1. Intro to entire section (2:11)
  - 2. This status has prompted questions
  - 3. Some Christians - I don't have to obey govt
- B. The call - godly submission
  - 1. Submit yourselves (v13) - be subject; subordinate
  - 2. Common call - Pro 24:21; Rom 13:1; Titus 3:1
  - 3. God commands this from His people!!
  - 4. Our new status does not give license for rebellion

## III. Principles of Godly Submission to Civil Authority

- A. This section deals with civil authority
  - 1. Note civil authority (v13, 14, 17)
  - 2. Peter deals with slaves/master, husband/wife later
  - 3. We will really only look at Peter's points today
- B. Principles of Godly submission to civil authority
  - 1. For the Lord's sake (v13) - obedience; cause of Christ
  - 2. To all levels (v13,14) - delegated; internalize submission
  - 3. Authority is for our good (v14; 1 Ti 2:1-4 - good for us & gospel)
  - 4. God's will is good citizenship (v15; Tit 3:1-2, 8)
  - 5. As free men, slaves of God (v16; not evil; serve)
  - 6. Limits to human authority (v13, 17) - correct NIV; Daniel
  - 7. Always be respectful - but fear only God (v17 ESV)
- C. Gratitude and Compassion From the Gospel
  - 1. Applies to submitting to ungodly unbelievers
  - 2. The Emperor was Nero!!! - no excuses!
  - 3. A God centered approach (v13, 15, 16, 17)
  - 4. Gratitude for salvation - ignorance (v15; 1:14; Tit 3:3-8)
  - 5. Have compassion on them - pray for them!

## IV. Applying the Word

- A. Am I walking in godly submission to government?
  - 1. Do I pray for my leaders? (Not imprecatory!)

2. Jaron and Long Road - I pray for you
3. Pastor in Arizona - pray Obama to hell
4. Christians did not do this with Nero and others who were killing them
5. Do my words and prayers show honor - or contempt?
6. We do not help by slinging mud, acting like we are still unbelievers

B. Do I see value of well ordered society?

1. Well ordered, governed society is God's idea!
2. Y2K & bad eschatology - do we do this?
3. Am I a good citizen of this country?
4. Do my actions promote peace, order?

C. Does the Gospel inform my actions and attitudes?

1. Do I remember I was once foolish and lost?
2. Do I thank God for saving me?
3. Do I have compassion on the lost?
4. Do I recognize I am God's slave - by grace?

D. Communion - Our Kingdom Meal

## Living in Godly Submission (Part 1)

1 Peter 2:11-17  
Titus 3:1-9  
July 18, 2010  
Communion  
Numbers 6:24-26

Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. 12 Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us. 13 Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every authority instituted among men: whether to the king, as the supreme authority, 14 or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. 15 For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish men. 16 Live as free men, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as servants of God. 17 Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honor the king. 1 Peter 2:11-17

Fear the LORD and the king, my son, and do not join with the rebellious, Proverbs 24:21

Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Romans 13:1

Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, Titus 3:1

I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone-- 2 for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. 3 This is good, and pleases God our Savior, 4 who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. 1 Timothy 2:1-4

Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, 2 to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and to show true humility toward all men. Titus 3:1-2

This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone. Titus 3:8

I haven't been to church since I don't remember when  
Things were goin' great 'til they fell apart again  
So I listened to the preacher as he told me what to do  
He said you can't go hatin' others who have done wrong to you  
Sometimes we get angry, but we must not condemn  
Let the good Lord do His job and you just pray for them

I pray your brakes go out runnin' down a hill  
I pray a flowerpot falls from a window sill and knocks you in the head like I'd like to  
I pray your birthday comes and nobody calls  
I pray you're flyin' high when your engine stalls  
I pray all your dreams never come true  
Just know where ever you are honey, I pray for you