

Theme: As God's exile, sojourning people, Christians are called to submit to the authorities God has placed over them - even if they are ungodly and unjust.

I. Intro – Our Method - and Q&A

- A. Three weeks on difficult topic of submission
- B. Many good questions last week
- C. What about American revolution? Democracy?
- D. This week - Bible and slavery?
- E. We will teach text - not whole Bible on topic
- F. Handle these in Q&A in early August

II. Slaves Submission to Masters

- A. The group - slaves
 - 1. Slaves - not quite like in Old South, but bad
 - 2. Accepted/entrenched in Romans empire
 - 3. Not an ethical treatise on slavery - practical
 - 4. How should Christians slaves act?
 - 5. Also whole community in view (v16; 21-25)
- B. Slaves - submit to your masters
 - 1. Participle - submitting - back to v13
 - 2. Another example of 'every human creature'
- C. The basis - our relationship to God

- 1. v13 - for the Lord's sake - all submission
- 2. v18 - 'respect/fear'; v17; only 'fear' God in 1Pe
- 3. v19 - conscious of God
- 4. v20 - commendable before God

D. The extent of submission - even crooked masters

- 1. v18 - not only good; even 'crooked' (not 'harsh')
- 2. v19 - unjust suffering
- 3. v20 - endure suffering for doing good

E. Excursus: suffering and our rights

- 1. Go over Paul using rights - not wrong
- 2. This does not mean Christians forfeit rights
- 3. But balance out with attitude in suffering
- 4. A key issue - what will advance Gospel?
- 5. Remember - we are called to suffering (v21)

III. Christ's Suffering - And Ours

A. Christ - the example of suffering (vv21-23)

- 1. Christ left us an example (v21 - writing letters; steps)
- 2. The example of Christ (reflections on Is 53)
 - a. Suffered for doing good - not evil (v22; 53:9)
 - b. Note verbal nature of evil in these verses

- c. Did not retaliate or threaten (v23)
 - d. He trusted in God (v23; himself not in Gk)
 - e. He entrusted Himself, situation, persecutors
- B. Christ - our Savior, Shepherd, and Overseer (vv24-25)
- 1. Christ bore our sins on cross (v24; Is 53:12)
 - 2. Christ healed us of sin (v24; Is 53:5)
 - 3. Sheep going astray; have returned (v25; Is 53:6)
 - 4. He is Shepherd, Overseer of us - trust Him!
 - 5. He did this to turn us from sin (v24) - don't retaliate!

- 2. He feeds us so we see He is all we need
- 3. He feeds us so we can trust in God
- 4. Come and eat - and go and serve

Living In Godly Submission (Part 2)

1 Peter 2:11-12; 18-25
 Isaiah 53
 July 25, 2010
 Communion
 Psalm 20:1-5

IV. Applying the Word

- A. Do we understand the heart of submission?
- 1. Do I recognize my submission is for Christ's sake?
 - 2. Do I recognize how Christ submitted?
 - 3. Does my response to look like Christ - or world?
 - 4. What will win them to Christ?
- B. Christ - the Shepherd of Our Soul
- 1. Do we see the great salvation we were given?
 - 2. Do we see how Christ has served us?
 - 3. Will we follows in His steps for others?
- C. Communion - served by Christ
- 1. Christ offers Himself for us at the Table

Slaves, submit yourselves to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh. 19 For it is commendable if a man bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because he is conscious of God. 20 But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. 21 To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. 22 "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." 23 When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. 24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. 25 For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.