

“WHEN SUBMITTING IS NOT EASY”

I Peter 2:18-20

MAIN IDEA: Submitting to your authorities will sometimes result in suffering for what is right.

8/12/18

FIRST PETER

- *Introduction (1:1-2)*
- *Salvation (1:3-2:12)*
- *Submission (2:13-3:12)*

- *To the Government (2:13-17)*
- *To Masters (2:18-25)*

I. _____ WITH _____ (I Peter 2:18).

A. The _____ described

- The one _____ authority: a _____ slave serving in a particular _____
- The one _____ authority: a _____
 - *Slavery was rampant in Rome: over _____ million slaves, a third to half the people!*
 - *Many slaves were treated _____, some were treated very _____.*
 - *Neither _____ nor _____ was advocated, but rather _____ responses.*
 - ❖ The emphasis is on changing the _____, not reforming the _____ (I Cor. 7:20-24).
 - ❖ To abolish the system would have _____ society _____.
 - ❖ It was better for the _____, revolt condemning them to certain _____.
 - ❖ It protected the _____ of Christians (they were not revolutionaries).

B. The _____ described

- The _____ to which you submit
 - *The _____ master: mild, pleasant, gentle, agreeable, reasonable*
 - *The _____ master: unfair, harsh, perverse*
- The _____ by which you submit
 - *In an era when slavery is not prominent, the likely application is to _____.*
 - *_____ instead of _____ is urged.*
 - *The _____ of the authority doesn't release you from responsibility to _____.*
 - *God holds each _____ for his/her _____.*

A Note of Caution . . . don't press this command beyond Peter's _____.

- ✓ He is not necessarily saying that you should never make a _____ change.
- ✓ He is not advocating that a wife should submit to an _____ husband.
- ✓ He is not teaching obedience to authority when asked to violate _____.

- The _____ with which you submit: all _____ or _____ (cp. I Pet. 2:17; Rom. 13:7)

II. _____ FOR _____ (I Peter 2:19-20).

A. _____ are you suffering? The _____ for suffering is important!

- The _____ kind of suffering (I Pet. 2:19, 20b): for doing _____ and _____
 - *You did what is _____.*
 - *You suffered _____ for the _____ that you did.*
- The _____ kind of suffering (I Pet. 2:20a): for doing _____ and _____
 - *You did what is _____.*
 - *You suffered _____ for the _____ that you did.*
 - ❖ It could be _____ chastisement from the _____ (cp. I Cor. 5:4-5; 11:27-34).
 - ❖ It could be _____ chastisement from _____ (I Pet. 2:19-20).

B. _____ are you suffering? The _____ to suffering is important!

- When suffering for doing _____, the response of patient endurance is _____.
- When suffering for doing _____, the response of patient endurance is not _____.
Instead of _____ the suffering, you should be _____ the sinning!

Suffering from men. . . four possible situations:

- ✓ _____ reason/_____ response—_____ to God (cp. Gen. 4:1-8—Cain)
- ✓ _____ reason/_____ response—_____ to God (cp. II Sam. 12-20—David)
- ✓ _____ reason/_____ response—_____ to God (cp. Numb. 11:10-15—Moses)
- ✓ _____ reason/_____ response—_____ to God (cp. Gen. 37-50—Joseph; I Sam. 18—II Sam. 1—David; Dan. 3—Shadrach/Meshach/Abd Negro; Dan. 6—Daniel)

- ❖ In responding to authorities which God has placed over you, there must be _____ . . . don't rebel.
- ❖ In doing what is right, there will at times be suffering. . . patiently _____ the trial.
- ❖ In handling your suffering, realize that God is more intent on changing _____ than changing your circumstances.

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I. SUBMIT WITH RESPECT (I Peter 2:18).

A. *The relationship described*

- The one *under* authority: a household slave serving in a particular home
- The one *in* authority: a master
 - *Slavery was rampant in Rome: over 60 million slaves, a third to half the people!*
 - *Many slaves were treated harshly, some were treated very well.*
 - *Neither revolt nor abolition was advocated, but rather biblical responses.*
 - ❖ The emphasis is on changing the *heart*, not reforming the *society* (I Cor. 7:20-24).
 - ❖ To abolish the system would have *destroyed society economically*.
 - ❖ It was better for the slave, revolt condemning them to certain *death*.
 - ❖ It protected the *reputation* of Christians (they were not revolutionaries).

B. *The responsibility described*

- The *authority* to which you submit
 - *The good master: mild, pleasant, gentle, agreeable, reasonable*
 - *The evil master: unfair, harsh, perverse*
- The *application* by which you submit
 - *In an era when slavery is not prominent, the likely application is to employers.*
 - *Submission instead of rebellion is urged.*
 - *The character of the authority doesn't release you from responsibility to submit.*
 - *God holds each responsible for his/her response.*

A Note of Caution . . . don't press this command beyond Peter's *intent*.

- ✓ He is not necessarily saying that you should never make a *job* change.
- ✓ He is not advocating that a wife should submit to an *abusive* husband.
- ✓ He is not teaching obedience to authority when asked to violate *Scripture*.

- The *attitude* with which you submit: all *fear* or *respect* (cp. I Pet. 2:17; Rom. 13:7)

II. SUFFER FOR RIGHT (I Peter 2:19-20).

A. *Why are you suffering? The reason for suffering is important!*

- The *right* kind of suffering (I Pet. 2:19, 20b): for doing *good* and *right*
 - *You did what is right.*
 - *You suffered unjustly for the good that you did.*
- The *wrong* kind of suffering (I Pet. 2:20a): for doing *evil* and *wrong*
 - *You did what is wrong.*
 - *You suffered justly for the wrong that you did.*
 - ❖ It could be *direct* chastisement from the Lord (cp. I Cor. 5:4-5; 11:27-34).
 - ❖ It could be *indirect* chastisement from *man* (I Pet. 2:19-20).

B. *How are you suffering? The response to suffering is important!*

- When suffering for doing *right*, the response of patient endurance is *commendable*.
- When suffering for doing *wrong*, the response of patient endurance is not *praiseworthy*.
Instead of enduring the suffering, you should be ending the sinning!

Suffering from men. . . four possible situations:

- ✓ *Wrong reason/wrong response—unacceptable to God (cp. Gen. 4:1-8—Cain)*
- ✓ *Wrong reason/right response—unacceptable to God (cp. II Sam. 12:20—David)*
- ✓ *Right reason/wrong response—unacceptable to God (cp. Numb. 11:10-15—Moses)*
- ✓ *Right reason/right response—acceptable to God (cp. Gen. 37-50—Joseph; I Sam. 18—II Sam. 1—David; Dan. 3—Shadrach/Meshach/Abdennego; Dan. 6—Daniel)*

- ❖ In responding to authorities which God has placed over you, there must be *submission* . . . don't rebel.
- ❖ In doing what is right, there will at times be suffering. . . patiently *endure* the trial.
- ❖ In handling your suffering, realize that God is more intent on changing *you* than changing your circumstances.