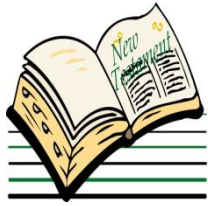


Sermon Notes



Title: *The Battle of Subjection, Part 2*

Text: I Peter 2:11-17

Theme: You always submit to something, either to the LORD God, or to your fleshly, fallen desires. As Christians, we have the Spirit of God to empower us to want to do what is right, to will and to work for the LORD's good pleasure, not ours.

I. An Appeal for Christians to Be Honorable People (11-12)

II. An Appeal to _____ to _____ Authorities (13-17)

- A. The _____ Principle (13a)
- B. _____ of Those in Authority (13b-14a)
- C. The _____ for Authority (14b)
- D. The Purpose of _____ (15)
- E. The _____ of Subjection (16)
- F. Summary _____ (17)

III. Applications

- A. If you strain to look for _____ in Peter's inspired instruction, you may be close to submitting to the _____ of the _____.
- B. Determining your _____ to all the _____ and scenarios in relation to authority is not a "paint-by-numbers"
_____.
- C. Loving the _____ is an _____ of submission to God.
- D. How we _____ our leaders is important. We can legitimately speak against their _____ and even their words, but to speak against their _____ or their office is wrong.

Next Week Read: I Peter 2:18-25

Questions to Discuss and Consider at Home or in Small Group:

1. What is the main thought beginning in 2:11 and continuing through 3:12?
2. How does Peter's instruction about abstaining from lusts (vv. 11-12) connect with his instruction about submitting to human authorities (vv. 13-17)?
3. Is human authority absolute? Why or why not?
4. What is the essential principle Peter sets down?
5. Why are Christians to be subject to human authority (v. 13a)?
6. What is the purpose of civil leaders (v. 14)?
7. What does Peter expressly say is God's will (v. 15)?
8. In what three ways or manners does Peter say Christians are to submit to authority (v. 16)?
9. To whom are Christians to show honor (v. 17a)?
10. To whom in particular are Christians to demonstrate love (v. 17b)?
11. Who is to be feared (v. 17c)?
12. What office is to be continually honored (v. 17d)?
13. Did Peter ever resist human authority? If so, when?
14. Why do you think people often search for exceptions to the basic principle Peter gives? When should Christians consider an exception to Peter's basic principle? What are circumstances that might justify an exception to Peter's basic principle?
15. What commandment instructs us about our responsibility to those in authority?
16. Why is applying Peter's basic principle more complex than simply "checking the box" of conditions that arise in life?
17. How does the believer's attitude to the Church relate to the issue of submission?
18. If a Christian refuses to submit to the leadership of the Church (those immediately having jurisdiction, e.g. a particular, local church) is this person in submission to Christ? Why or why not?
19. In what ways do Christians wrongly criticize leaders?
20. How can a Christian properly criticize someone in authority? Is it wrong to criticize a leader publicly but proper to do so in private?
21. What should be the attitude of a Christian when a leader abuses his authority and is not held accountable?
22. Does abuse of one's authority automatically negate his authority?