



We're Being Watched!

Although we're just passing THROUGH this "pagan" society, we must be winsome witnesses as long as we're still IN it!

1 Peter 2:12, NIV

Live such good lives among the pagans that... they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

How To Live Under Those Over You!

1 Peter 2:13-23

- **Be A Good CITIZEN!** (vv.13-17)
Submit yourselves to the authority of government officials.
- **Be A Good EMPLOYEE!** (vv.18-23)
Submit yourselves to the authority of your boss at work.

Submission!

This "S" word is not a bad word!

God has established patterns of proper authority for the orderly function of human society —and not just because we are fallen!

- The angels in heaven
- The redeemed in heaven
- The Trinity itself

Living Under Government Authority

We should be good witnesses for Christ by being good citizens of our country!

1 Peter 2:12-15, NIV

Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds...Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, or to governors, who are sent by him...For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people.

God And Government

God places officials in positions of authority to fulfill his purpose for government.

1 Peter 2:13-14, NIV (see also Romans 13:1-5 & John 19:10-11)

Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right.

Submit Conditionally!

We should obey government laws and officials except when commanded to sin!

Acts 5:29, NIV

Peter and the other apostles replied, "We must obey God rather than human beings!"

Submit Freely!

We're not slaves of the government, but as "God's slaves" we should use our Christian freedom properly.

1 Peter 2:13 & 16, NIV

Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake...Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves.

Submit Respectfully!

Our CIVIC duty includes maintaining CIVIL attitudes, behavior, and discourse.

1 Peter 2:17, NIV

Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.

Submission In The Work Place

As Christian employees, we must obey our supervisors even when they are bad people or treat us badly!

1 Peter 2:18, NIV

Slaves, in reverent fear of God submit yourselves to your masters, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh.

God Sees Your Situation!

You'll experience his blessing (now) and his reward (later)—but only if the punishment you suffer at work is undeserved.

1 Peter 2:19-20, NIV

For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God. 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.

Jesus, Our "Example"

He modelled for us how to submit to unjust suffering—in the workplace and everywhere else!

1 Peter 2:21, NIV

To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

Copy That!

**Jesus did not take justice into his own hands
by retaliating in word or deed.**

1 Peter 2:22-23, NIV

**"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."
When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when
he suffered, he made no threats.**

Copy That!

**Jesus handed his case over to the hands of God
by patiently waiting for divine justice.**

1 Peter 2:23, NIV

Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.

It's God's job to vindicate and avenge!
