

What would usually comes to mind whenever we think of “God’s will for me”?

God’s will for me is _____

- Where should I study?
- My career?
- Who should I marry?
- Which ministry should I serve?

**Submit to
authorities**

Today's passage (1 Peter 2:10-17)

- Why should we submit?
- Why do we struggle to submit?
- What's the purpose of our submission?
- What's drives our motivation to submit?

Submit to
authorities

An overview of
the 1 Peter

What has happened ?	God's people were opposed , verbally & sometimes physically. Experiencing slander, abuse and discrimination	2:18; 4:4
What is the aim of the letter?	It declares the true grace of God. Written to encourage Christians to stand firm for Christ, even when it results in suffering	5:12
What is the author concerned with?	God's people may give in to sinful desires and using the freedom as a cover up for evil	2:11, 2:16, 4:2-3
How then should we respond to the letter?	We are to continue to do good as we suffer for Christ, for that is the will of God	2:15 4:2, 4.9, 4:19

How then should we **respond** to the letter?

we are to continue to **do good** as we suffer for Christ, for that is the **will of God**

2;15 4:2, 4.9, 4:19

Correlations

How does “**do good**” look like?

citizens **submit** to their government,

2.13-17

servants **submit** to their master,

2.18-20

wives **submit** to their husbands

3.1-6

husbands are **considerate** to their wives

3.7

young men **submit** to their elders,

5.5

I love one another

2.17 3.8. 4.8

Why do we submit? (Sometimes....)

- Just want to stay out of trouble
- Just submit loh
- Out of fear for man



1 Peter 2:10 - 17

¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received **mercy**, but now you have received **mercy**.

¹¹ Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to **abstain** from **sinful desires**, which wage 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.

1 Peter 2:10 - 17

¹³ **Submit** yourselves for the **Lord's sake to every human authority**: whether to the emperor, 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 people**.

¹⁶ Live as free people, but do not use your **freedom** as a cover-up for **evil**; live as God's slaves. ¹⁷ Show proper **respect** to **everyone**, love the family of **believers**, fear **God**, honor the **emperor**.

- 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.
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1 Peter 2:12-15

- ³ For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do—living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry. ⁴ They are surprised that you **do not join them** in their **reckless, wild living**, and they **heap abuse on you**.

1 Peter 4:3-4

What has happened?

God's people were suffering, verbally & sometimes physically

They suffered accusations and abuse

- Christians seem odd to pagans
- Authorities were hostile to christians
- Subversive (Anti-govt)
- Cannibalism (Misunderstood John 6:53-56)
- Anti-social (1 Peter 4:3-4)
- Suffered injustice

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How should Christians respond?

Do good amidst suffering

- **Submit to every human authority**
- **Submit to emperor & governors**
- **Honor the emperor**
- **Proper respect to everyone**
- **Love the believers**
- **Fear God**

NOT to use our freedom as a cover up for evil (example to justify our rebellion against the government)

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Why should Christians submit to human authorities?

- **It's is God's will (2:15)**

What is the purpose?

- **Christ is Lord 2:13 & we will learn to submit**
- **Our opponents will be silenced and put to shame 2.15, 3:16**
- **God will use our good lives to 'win' some people to Himself**

Some of our opponents will even become Christians! 2.12; 3.1

Why do Christians struggle to submit to authorities in our fallen nature?

- When there are **injustice**
- When there are **flaws**
- Our **fallen** solution is to “remove them”, to “rebel”, “plot against”
- The root problem of **sin**

However

- If we **don't** learn to submit to authorities, we **may not** even learn to submit to God
- **Disobedience** to the lawful commands of earthly authorities is ultimately **disobedience** to God
- Because God **raises** up human governments

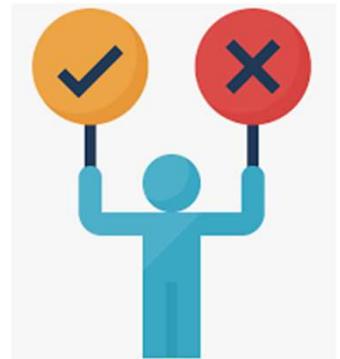
In these verses, Peter is not saying that all authorities are godly; rather, highlighting that it is the government's role to **execute justice** and to **restrain evil**.

What happens if there were flaws in the authorities?

- Peter is not calling for “blind” and unconditional obedience authorities.
- If a governor commands a Christian to do something which the Lord forbids (e.g. killing the innocent or deceiving for greed) then the Christian’s higher allegiance is onto God
- Submission does not mean we could not make an appeal

A question we can ask ourselves?

Were our responses made “**for the Lord’s sake**” and out of “**fearing God**” (**1 Peter 2:13-17**)



Submitting means "placing oneself below another person," out of a respect that is expressed in **obedience appropriate** to the relationship ~ Howard Marshall

Citizens to government

Slaves to masters

Wives to husbands

Angels & other powers to Christ

Young people to Older people

In reverence of God

Why drives our motivations to submit to human authorities?

For the Lord's sake

Purpose

- Accusations and slander will be silenced
- our good lives to 'win' some people to Himself
- God is glorified

Identity

- Received mercy
- Chosen people
- A holy nation
- Royal priesthood
- Special possession
- Christ is Lord

Imitate

- Because Christians are called to imitate the suffering Christ



For this is the will of God

- 1. How would today's passage encourage us to submit to different forms of authorities even when it is difficult at times?**
- 2. Our “good lives” can influence the non-believers and win some people to Christ. How would that applied to our work of evangelism?**