

First Peter

1 Pet. 2:13-17

1 Pet. 2:13 Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme;
14 Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.
15 For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men:
16 As free, and not using *your* liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God.
17 Honour all *men*. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.

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1. Submit as subjects, 2:13-17

a. The exhortation, 2:13a-b

(1) Submission to human laws, 2:13a “Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man...”

Rom. 13:1 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

2 Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth **the ordinance of God**: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.

3 For **rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil**. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same:

4 For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to *execute* wrath upon him that doeth evil.

5 Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake.

6 For this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing.

7 Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute *is due*; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.

1 Tim. 2:1 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks, be made for all men;

2 **For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.**

Titus 3:1 Put them in mind to **be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work,**

2 To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, *but* gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men.

Original Word: ὑποτάσσω

Transliteration: hupotassó

Definition: I place under, subject to; mid, pass: I submit, put myself into subjection.

Properly, "*under God's arrangement*," i.e. *submitting to the Lord* (His plan).

<http://biblehub.com/greek/5293.htm>

πάσῃ ἀνθρωπίνῃ κτίσει = every ordinance of man

Original Word: πᾶς, πᾶσα, πᾶν

Transliteration: pas

Definition: all, the whole, every kind of.

pás ("each, every") means "all" in the sense of "each (every) part that applies." The emphasis of the total picture then is on "one piece at a time."

<http://biblehub.com/greek/3956.htm>

Original Word: κτίσις

Transliteration: ktisis

Definition: (often of the founding of a city), (a) abstr: creation, (b) concr: creation, creature, institution; always of Divine work, (c) an institution, ordinance. <http://biblehub.com/greek/2937.htm>

(2) Submission to heaven's Lord, 2:13b "...for the Lord's sake..."

b. The extent, 2:13c-14

(1) The supreme governing authorities, 2:13c "...whether it be to the king, as supreme; "

(2) The subordinate governing authorities, 2:14

(3) Governors and their delegated authority, 2:14a
"Or unto governors..."

Mt. 27:2 And when they had bound him, they led *him* away, and delivered him to **Pontius Pilate the governor**.

Acts 23:24 And provide *them* beasts, that they may set Paul on, and bring *him* safe unto **Felix the governor**.

(4) Governors and their dual activity, 2:14b-c

(a) To punish, 2:14b “...as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers...”

(b) To praise, 2:14c “..., and for the praise of them that do well.”

c. The explanation, 2:15-17

(1) In terms of our Lord, 2:15

(a) Because of the will of God, 2:15a “For so is the will of God...”

Mt. 17:24 And when they were come to Capernaum, they that received tribute *money* came to Peter, and said, Doth not your master pay tribute?

25 He saith, Yes. And when he was come into the house, Jesus prevented him, saying, What thinkest thou, Simon? of whom do the kings of the earth take custom or tribute? of their own children, or of strangers?

26 Peter saith unto him, Of strangers. Jesus saith unto him, Then are the children free.

27 **Notwithstanding, lest we should offend them**, go thou to the sea, and cast an hook, and take up the fish that first cometh up; and when thou hast opened his mouth, thou shalt find a piece of money: **that take, and give unto them for me and thee.**

Mt. 22:21 They say unto him, Caesar's. Then saith he unto them, **Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's.**

(b) Because of the wickedness of men, 2:15b “...that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men:”

(2) In terms of our liberty, 2:16

(a) A liberty not to be abused by license, 2:16a “As free, and not using *your* liberty for a cloke of maliciousness...”

(b) A liberty not to be abused by laziness, 2:16b “...but as the servants of God. “

Mt. 26:52 Then said Jesus unto him, Put up again thy sword into his place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword.

53 **Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father**, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels?

54 But **how then shall the scriptures be fulfilled**, that thus it must be?

(3) In terms of our locality, 2:17

(a) We must regard those around us 2:17a-b

i. Our fellows, 2:17a “Honour all *men...*”

Luke 6:27 But I say unto you which hear, **Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you,**

35 But **love ye your enemies, and do good**, and lend, hoping for nothing again; **and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest**: for he is kind unto the unthankful and *to the evil.*

Rom. 12:10 *Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love;*
in honour preferring one another;

ii. Our fellowship, 2:17b “...Love the brotherhood...”

Jn. 13:34 A new commandment I give unto you, **That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.**
35 By this shall all *men* know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

Jn. 15:12 This is my commandment, **That ye love one another, as I have loved you.**

Rom. 13:8 Owe no man any thing, **but to love one another:** for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.

1 Jn. 4:11 Beloved, **if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.**

(b) We must regard those above us, 2:17c-d

i. The One on the heavenly throne, 2:17c
“...Fear God...”

Prov. 1:7 **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge:** *but* fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Prov. 9:10 **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom:** and the knowledge of the holy *is* understanding.

ii. The one on the human throne, 2:17d
“...Honour the king.”

Prov. 16:10 **A divine sentence is in the lips of the king:** his mouth transgresseth not in judgment.

Conclusion

Prov. 24:21 My son, **fear thou the LORD and the king**: *and* meddle not with them that are given to change:

Due to the history of the monarchs and tyranny of Catholicism in Europe, our Founding Fathers forged the wonderful document called The Constitution.

Patrick Henry

Ratifier of the U.S. Constitution

"It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded, not by religionists, but by Christians; not on religions, but on the gospel of Jesus Christ. For this very reason peoples of other faiths have been afforded asylum, prosperity, and freedom of worship here."

-- *The Trumpet Voice of Freedom: Patrick Henry of Virginia*, p. iii.

"The Bible ... is a book worth more than all the other books that were ever printed."

--*Sketches of the Life and Character of Patrick Henry*, p. 402.

John Jay

1st Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court and President of the American Bible Society

"By conveying the Bible to people thus circumstanced, we certainly do them a most interesting kindness. We thereby enable them to learn that man was originally created and placed in a state of happiness, but, becoming disobedient, was subjected to the degradation and evils which he and his posterity have since experienced.

"The Bible will also inform them that our gracious Creator has provided for us a Redeemer, in whom all the nations of the earth shall be blessed; that this Redeemer has made atonement "for the sins of the whole world," and thereby reconciling the Divine justice with the Divine mercy has opened a way for our redemption and salvation; and that these inestimable benefits are of the free gift and grace of God, not of our deserving, nor in our power to deserve."

--*In God We Trust—The Religious Beliefs and Ideas of the American Founding Fathers*, p. 379.

"In forming and settling my belief relative to the doctrines of Christianity, I adopted no articles from creeds but such only as, on careful examination, I found to be confirmed by the Bible."

--*American Statesman Series*, p. 360.

<http://christianity.about.com/od/independenceday/a/foundingfathers.htm>

John Adams

2nd President, and Vice-President to George Washington

"Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

<https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/j/johnadams391045.html>

A believer's roll regarding government:

1. Obey the government.
2. When questionable situations arise, acquiesce as much as possible (Daniel and three Hebrews over their diet.)
3. If the government demands are contrary to the expressed will of God according to the Scriptures, then obey God rather than man – Acts 5:29 “Then Peter and the *other* apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.” (Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego and the fiery furnace.)

Dan. 3:16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, **we are not careful to answer thee in this matter.**

17 If it be so, **our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king.**

18 But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

Eccl. 12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this *is* the whole *duty* of man.