



1 P E T E R

this is not our home

Today we will focus on
1 Peter 2:13-25



We will read through the
passage together, the text will
be on the screen.



**For the Lord's sake,
submit to all human authority—
whether the king as head of state,
or the officials he has appointed.
For the king has sent them to punish
those who do wrong and to honor
those who do right. (v13-14)**

It is God's will that your honorable lives should silence those ignorant people who make foolish accusations against you.

For you are free, yet you are God's slaves, so don't use your freedom as an excuse to do evil. (v15-16)

Respect everyone,
and love the family of believers.
Fear God, and respect the king.

(v17)

You who are slaves
must submit to your masters with all
respect. Do what they tell you—
not only if they are kind and reasonable,
but even if they are cruel.
**For God is pleased when, conscious of
his will, you patiently endure unjust
treatment. (v18-19)**

Of course, you get no credit
for being patient if you are beaten
for doing wrong.

But if you suffer for doing good
and endure it patiently,
God is pleased with you. (v20)

For God called you to do good,
even if it means suffering,
just as Christ suffered for you.

**He is your example,
and you must follow in his steps.**

(v21)

He never sinned,
nor ever deceived anyone.
He did not retaliate when he was
insulted, nor threaten revenge
when he suffered. He left his case
in the hands of God, who always
judges fairly. (v22-23)

He personally carried our sins
in his body on the cross
so that we can be dead to sin
and live for what is right.
By his wounds
you are healed. (v24)

Once you were like sheep
who wandered away.
But now you have turned to
your Shepherd, the Guardian
of your souls. (v25)

This section of 1 Peter
is very similar
to another passage
that we studied recently
in Ephesians. (Eph 6:1-9)

Slaves, obey your earthly masters with deep respect and fear. Serve them sincerely as you would serve Christ.

Try to please them all the time, not just when they are watching you. As slaves of Christ, do the will of God with all your heart. (Eph 6:5-6)

Work with enthusiasm, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people. **Remember that the Lord will reward each one of us for the good we do, whether we are slaves or free.**

(Eph 6:7-8)

As you can already tell,
the fact that these particular
ideas are being repeated again
now by Peter means that this
specific concept is very
important to God.

This concept is not strictly about
**governing authority, workers,
employees & slaves**

It is actually about a very **essential** principle that should **encompass** the life believer.

This concept is;

***Submission unto
the will of God.***

Remember that I said, that if you were to ask me to summarize the theme of the Bible in one sentence I would probably say;

Mankind must **submit** to what
God has said by having come
to **faith** in what God has said.

Or said another way...

God's goal is that mankind
would **trust** in His **word**
and His **goodness** in order
that they might **submit** to
His will, desire & design.

Remember that we looked at
these verses in Job...

Submit to God and be at peace with him; in this way prosperity will come to you. Accept instruction from his mouth and lay up his words in your heart.

(Job 22:21-22)

Remember that we looked at
these verses in Romans...

Everyone must **submit** to governing authorities. For all authority comes from God, and those in **positions of authority have been placed there by God**. So anyone who rebels against authority is rebelling against **what God has instituted...** The authorities are God's servants, sent **for your good...**

(Romans 13:1-4)

Therefore one of the main
themes of the Bible is;

The need for humanity to willfully and *gladly* submit to God's instruction, that is; to *God's* design and will.

That means then that one of the main themes in the believer's life is;

The need to willfully
and gladly submit to
God's instruction, God's design
and God's will in all things.

In this life, God has **ordained** a structure and **order**. He has ordained certain roles and positions.

God has ordained that when humanity is following his instruction and design for these roles; it will be better for humanity and it will reward in all of eternity.

Our capacity to submit to God *depends* on our willingness to believe that His *design* is for our good & in our best interest.

Our capacity to submit to God's design *rests* on our willingness to believe that God will *reward* those who submit to his design, will & instruction.

God has an order for
husbands wives fathers
mothers children work
employers employees money
sex alcohol food clothing

God's order for **marriage** is
that a **man** and a **woman**
should separate from their
parents and **unite** relationally,
physically, sexually. Etc

God's order for **marriage** is that a **man** and a **woman** would be **faithful** to one another and abstain from any **sexual** or emotional **infidelity** with an other. Etc

God's order for the **family** is that
the **man** is the **head** of the
family and the **wife** is to **submit**
to the husband. Etc

Here in **1 Peter 2:13-25**, Peter is giving us a bit of insight into God's order for **governing authority** & His order for **slaves - employees**.

Again it would be incorrect to teach this passage strictly focusing on **governing powers, workers, employees & slaves.**

There is a much bigger point that Peter is trying to make, and he is using the examples of governing powers, employees & slaves to illustrate the point.

Peter ends with Christ...
yet that is where we will begin.

... Christ suffered for you.

He is your example, and you must follow in his steps. (v21)

First, Peter says that Christ is the **model** for all believers. And all believers should have the same **mindset** of Christ.

Peter is going to explain this
mindset to us...

In order to teach this passage in the clearest way possible we have to take a step back and look at the big picture.

Once we get a clear picture of the larger concepts on display, we will be able to zoom back in on the specifics of 1 Peter 2.

In eternity past, God determined a *solution* for the impending *sinfulness* of mankind.

In his infinite wisdom God **planned** that His Son, would need to come to earth in the form of a human, to then to suffer and die in a specific way in order to **pay** for the **penalty** of humanity's sin.

The plan to save mankind through the death of God's Son and to adopt fallen, yet redeemed people, into the family of God was a plan existing in the mind of God in eternity past.

This idea is mentioned in the Bible
many different times...

Revelation 3:18 speaks about;
*“the Lamb who was slain from
the creation of the world.”*

Or in another version;

*“the Lamb who was slain before
the foundations of the world.”*

Ephesians 1:4-5 says;

*For he chose us in him **before the creation of the world** to be holy and blameless in his sight.*

In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will...

Our point for today is that God had a **plan**, a **will**, a **design** for salvation and within that design, Christ was to **suffer** greatly...and Christ willfully, even gladly, **submitted** to that design.

Peter says that God's design was for Christ to suffer. That is; God's role for Christ, or Christ's *position* in God's *plan* for redemption was to suffer greatly.

This idea is echoed in Philippians...

... though he was in the form of God,
did not count equality with God a
thing to be grasped, but emptied
himself, by taking the form of a
servant, being born in the likeness of
men. (Phil 2:6-7)

And being found in human form,
he humbled himself by becoming
obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross. (Phil 2:8)

At this juncture we have to ask a
very important question...

How could Jesus submit to and obey such a painful plan?

Could it be that Jesus, like Moses,
believed that there was more
reward & more joy to be found in
submitting to God than there is in
anything else in all the world?

Remember we read
Hebrews 11:24-26

It was by faith that Moses, when he grew up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter. He chose to share the oppression of God's people instead of enjoying the fleeting pleasures of sin.

He thought **it was better** to suffer for the sake of Christ than to own the treasures of Egypt, for he was **looking ahead to his great reward.**

We could say that Jesus 'refused to be called the heavenly Son of God and chose instead to share in the oppression of God's saving plan.'

We could say that Jesus 'thought that it was better to suffer for the sake of God's saving plan than to claim his own authority...for he was looking ahead to his great eternal reward.'

Jesus, the founder and perfecter of
our faith, who for the joy that was
set before him endured the cross...

(Heb 12:2)

What reward was there for Christ?

What joy was set before him?

**Out of the anguish of his soul he shall
see and be satisfied; by his knowledge
shall the righteous one, my servant,
make many to be accounted righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.**

(Isaiah 53:11)

First, he was rewarded with
the *satisfaction* of having
accomplished the righteous
standing of countless sinners.

Therefore, God elevated him to
**the place of highest honor and
gave him the name above all
other name. (Phil 2:9)**

Second, he was rewarded with the honor of God and was given the name above all names.

This idea is echoed in 1 Peter...

He never sinned,
nor ever deceived anyone.
He did not retaliate when he was
insulted, nor threaten revenge
when he suffered. He left his case
in the hands of God, who always
judges fairly. (v22-23)

Peter says that Jesus didn't try to **excuse** himself or free himself, rather he **entrusted** himself to God, who judges/rewards fairly.

Peter's conclusion is clear...

... Christ suffered for you.

He is your example, and you must
follow in his steps. (v21)

We must follow in the
footsteps of Christ.

At the core of what it means to follow the example of Christ is a glad *willingness* to submit to God's design in all things, even in great hardship, because we know He *will* reward us in the end.

In seasons of great hardship, there is
still great reward for the husband
who loves his unloving wife.

In seasons of great hardship, there is
still great reward for the wife
who respects her unrespectable
husband.

In seasons of great hardship, there is **still great reward for the employee** who works hard for his hard boss, as one who is working unto his heavenly boss.

I want to make
a final argument
about the importance
of these things...

If we put all these things
together we get a very clear
picture of what biblical faith is.

It was by faith that Moses, when he grew up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter. He chose to share the oppression of God's people instead of enjoying the fleeting pleasures of sin.

He thought **it was better** to suffer for the sake of Christ than to own the treasures of Egypt, for he was **looking ahead to his great reward.**

Hebrews 11:24-26

Faith is believing what God has promised to do; primarily in the future, and believing that what God has promised to do in the future is of great reward; greater than any reward of not believing Him now.

Without **faith** it is impossible to please God, for whoever would approach him must **believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.**

Hebrews 11:6

Faith is believing in God and in what God has promised to do and believing that what God has promised to do for the believer is of great reward; greater than any other reward.

The faith that 'pleases God' is the faith that says *"I believe God and I believe that submitting to what he wants is absolutely the most rewarding thing that I could ever do...even if it means suffering unto death on a cross."*

“I believe God and I believe that submitting to what he wants is absolutely the most rewarding thing that I could ever do...even if it means working hard for my difficult boss, loving my unloving wife, respecting my unrespectable husband.”

I believe God and I believe that he rewards everything done in submission to his will and design...and I am entrusting the ultimate outcome of these situations to God, who will right all wrong and will reward all good.