

# TESTIFY *of* JESUS

THE FIRST & SECOND LETTERS OF PETER | THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK

*Scripture Reading*

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1 PETER 2:13–17

# THE MAIN POINT OF 1 PETER 2:13–17

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Submission is the “default position” of Christians toward civil authority; God has designed it to be one way we may silence accusations from non-Christians.

# CRITICAL CLARIFICATIONS:

## SUBMISSION TO CIVIL AUTHORITIES (1 PETER 2:13–17)

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- No, we're governed by laws, not leaders.
- Yes, we must obey the laws that our governing representatives legislate.

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1. Does Peter's command to be subject to governing authorities apply to Americans?
2. Are there any legitimate exceptions to Peter's command to submit to government?
  - Yes, there are many exceptions (Acts 5:29). We can only submit to our laws "as much as our obedience to God allows."

# LIFE APPLICATIONS: SUBMISSION TO CIVIL AUTHORITIES (1 PETER 2:13–17)

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1. Christians, governmental corruption doesn't give us an excuse for insubordination—either refusal to obey laws or to pay taxes (verses 13–14).
2. Submission to government includes the respect of our civil authorities (verse 17).
3. Our political humility powerfully testifies to the change that the gospel has made (verses 15–16).

“Such a lifestyle [of humility and submission] causes the world to stop, look, and wonder. Honorable living forces even unbelievers to acknowledge the greatness of our God!”

— *John MacArthur on 1 Peter 2:15–16*