

# The Civic Responsibility of God's People

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November 8, 2020

We The People Of God, Pt.3

1 Peter 2:13-17

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**1 Peter 2:13**, *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.*

## Questions Related to Our Civic Responsibility?

### 1. What Is The Purpose Of Government?

*\*1 Peter 2:14\*, ...to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right.*

**Romans 13:4**, *For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer.*

### 2. What Does It Mean To Submit To Human Authority?

**1 Peter 2:13**, *Submit yourselves ...to every human authority*

- Obey the LAWS

**Romans 13:1**, *Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. 2 Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.*

- Respect OTHERS

**1 Peter 2:17**, *Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.*

- Do GOOD

**Titus 3:1**, *Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, 2 to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and always to be gentle toward everyone.*

### **3. Why Submit To The Government?**

**1 Peter 2:13**, *Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake...*

- To PROSPER

**Jeremiah 29:4**, *This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: 5 "Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. 6 Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. 7 Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper." ... 11 For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.*

- To Be A GOOD WITNESS

**1 Peter 2:15**, *For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people.*

### **4. Are There Limits To Our Submitting To The Government?**

**1 Peter 2:17**, *...fear God, honor the emperor.*

**1 Peter 2:16**, *Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves.*

**Acts 4:19**, *But Peter and John replied, "Which is right in God's eyes:*

*to listen to you, or to Him? You be the judges! 20 As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.”*

**Acts 5:29**, *Peter and the other apostles replied: “We must obey God rather than human beings!*