

## 1 Peter Lesson #9, Chapter 2:13-25

Lean on the Lord for His help as you read through Chapter 2 in preparation for this lesson.

1. Give a brief summary of the content of 2:1-12.
2. In Chapter 2:11-12 Peter exhorts us to keep our behavior excellent among the Gentiles, then in the following verses he provides specific ways for us to live that out. What is the first way he tells us to do this in verses 13-14?
3. Define *submit*. Why does Peter include *for the Lord's sake* with the command?
4. How does Peter describe those we are to submit to in verses 13-14? How does his description indicate what our attitudes are to be toward them?
5. What reason does he provide us with to help us submit (verse 15)?
6. What commands are given in verse 16? What do they mean in light of the previous verses' exhortation to submit to those in authority?
7. The Believer's Bible Commentary states, "If we live as bondservants of God, our relationship with governmental authorities will fall into proper place. We are to act in the light of His presence, obey Him in all things, do all for His

glory. The best citizen is a believer who lives as a slave of the Lord.” What are some ways you could put verse 16 into practice as you submit to the governing authorities?

8. As Peter continues to give specific instruction about submitting to the governing authorities, what does he exhort us to do in verse 17?
  
9. Define *honor*. How would you show honor to someone? See also Ex. 20:12; Lev. 19:32; and Rom. 13:7.
  
10. The Greek verb construction of verse 17 begins with a general statement to honor all men, then moves to the specific ways to do that by loving the brotherhood, fearing God, and honoring the king. How are you doing in these areas? Choose one area that you think you need to work on and list one way you can begin to apply it.
  
11. In verses 18-25 Peter addresses a specific group of people. Who is he writing to and what does he tell them to do in verse 18? In what way are they to do that?
  
12. Define *unreasonable* (*harsh* NIV, NKJV).
  
13. Since verse 18 is directed toward slaves, some may think these verses don't apply to them. However, verses 19-20 can be applied to anyone who is suffering unjustly. What specifics about behavior and attitude do you see in those verses? (Note: many commentators believe that a modern day

equivalent of the slave/master relationship can be seen in the boss/employee relationship, so verse 18 would still have practical application today.)

14. Why would these exhortations to bear up under suffering be so important in light of what Peter said in 2:12?
15. Peter states in verse 21 that you have been called for a purpose. What is it (verses 19-21)?
16. Peter says in verse 21 that Christ is our example and that we are to follow in His steps when it comes to bearing up under unjust suffering. List the ways we are to follow Christ's example in suffering from verses 21-25.
17. What was Christ's key to enduring suffering (verse 23)?
18. Why would it be encouraging to know that God is the One who judges righteously when you are being harshly treated? See also Ps. 7:8-11; 2 Thess. 1:3-12; 2 Tim. 4:7-8.
19. You might be tempted to think that what God is telling you to do in these verses is too difficult for you, that He is asking too much of you, but Peter reminds us of a crucial truth in verse 24, which is there to help you endure your trials. What is the reminder?

20. Explain how verse 25 fits the flow of thought from verses 18-24.
  
21. How does this last truth also encourage you when you are undergoing trials? See also Ps. 119:67, 71, 75, 176.
  
22. The message is clear in this book: salvation must make a difference in your life, especially when life is difficult. What truths have been a source of conviction or encouragement for you from this week's lesson? How are you applying these exhortations to your life?

I am afraid that all the grace that I have got of my comfortable and easy times and happy hours, might almost lie on a penny. But the good that I have received from my sorrows, and pains, and griefs, is altogether incalculable....Affliction is the best bit of furniture in my house. ~Charles Spurgeon

We can be sure that the development of a beautiful Christlike character will not occur in our lives without adversity....Love, joy, peace, and patience—can only be developed in the womb by adversity. ~Jerry Bridges, *Trusting God*

And just as the faith of salvation comes through hearing the message of the gospel (Rom. 10:17), so the faith to trust God in adversity comes through the Word of God alone. It is only in the Scriptures that we find an adequate view of God's relationship to and involvement in our painful circumstances. ~Jerry Bridges, *Trusting God*