

# Session 6 – 1 Peter 2:11-25

## The Mission of Suffering Believers in the World

*Hope in Suffering:  
Studies in First Peter*  
Monday, July 15, 2013  
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### 1. Big Picture

- Not only is your suffering evidence of God \_\_\_\_\_ and saving you (1:3-2:10), it is a unique \_\_\_\_\_ to display Christ to a lost world (2:11-4:6).

### 2. The General Strategy (2:11-12)

- **COMMAND: abstain from fleshly lusts**= “abstain from the... desires associated with the unredeemed \_\_\_\_\_ within which they live” (Achteemeier 176)
- **PURPOSE #1: Keep your behavior**= Participle of purpose
- **excellent/ good deeds**= There are two big words for good in Greek:
  - “agathos” meaning \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ goodness
  - “kalos” meaning \_\_\_\_\_ good or beauty. Interestingly, Peter here uses the word “kalos”. You could translate this, “by keeping your way of life \_\_\_\_\_ among the Gentiles.”
- **PURPOSE #2: they might glorify God in the day of visitation**= Peter almost certainly has in mind the day of Christ’s return (Is. 10:3, Jer. 6:15, Luke 1:68). This could be understood in two ways:
  - \_\_\_\_\_ in View: Because of the attractive lives of Christians, unbelievers will be forced to realize and confess that Jesus is Lord on the last day (Phil 2:10-11).
  - \_\_\_\_\_ in View: Because of the attractive lives of Christians, some unbelievers will repent and believe and give God glory on the last day (1 Pet. 3:1-2).
- **Main Idea:** The believer must be \_\_\_\_\_ culture while at the same time \_\_\_\_\_ culture. He is at odds with culture but also the very best of culture.

### 3. The Specific Strategy (2:13-3:12)

#### **Submit to Civil Authority (2:13-17)**

- **COMMAND: Submit**= “\_\_\_\_\_ unless commanded to sin”
- **REASON #1: For the Lord’s sake**
  - \_\_\_\_\_ the command: We must obey authorities out of devotion and submission to Christ.

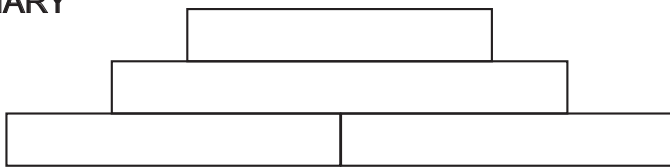
#### Outline for 1 Peter:

- Salutation (1:1-2)
- God’s Gracious Activity in the Lives of Suffering Believers (1:3-2:10)
- The Mission of Suffering Believers in the World (2:11-4:6)
  - **The General Strategy (2:11-12)**
  - **The Specific Strategy (2:13-3:12)**
    - **Submit to Civil Authority (2:13-17)**
    - **Submit to Masters (2:18-25)**
      - Submit to Husbands (Honor Wives) (3:1-7)
      - Do Good to All (3:8-12)
    - The Promise of Vindication (3:13-4:6)
  - The Mission of Suffering Believers in the Church (4:7-5:11)
  - Final Greeting (5:12-14)

Notes

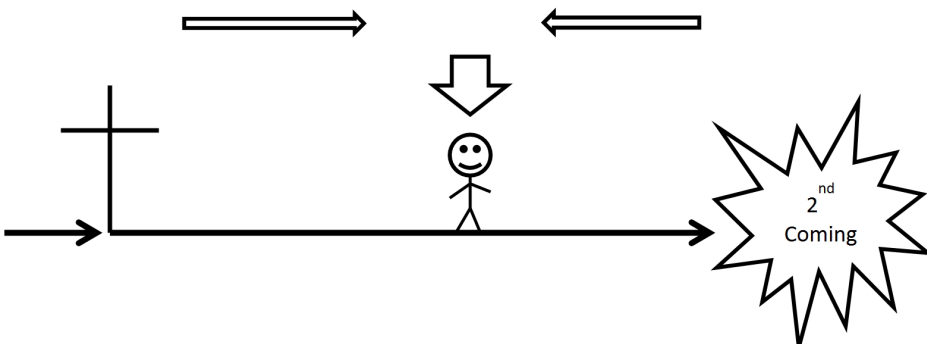
- the command: We cannot submit to anything that is against God's will.
- **REASON #2: such is the will of God=** "To silence by doing good the            of foolish men."
- **ATTITUDE:**
  - **Submit...as free men=** Biblical freedom is not           , but the            to cease from sin and do right. (John 8:34-36)
  - **Submit ...as God's slave (doulos)=** "True freedom, true ability to choose and do what one really wants to do, comes paradoxically in entire            to God" (Grudem 121)

- **SUMMARY**



### ***Submit to Masters (2:18-25)***

- **COMMAND: Submit=**            and
- **REASON #1:** A Christ-like response to unjust suffering            God.
- **REASON #2:** Like Christ, we have been            to suffer for doing right.
  - **Example=** upogramma= under writing. Christ has left us an            that we can            with our lives.
  - Christ is an "example" of how to respond: no           , no threats, continual            (leaving it, handing over).
  - Christ is an "example" of why to respond: Just as Christ bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness, so we too are called to bear in our bodies the sins of others against us (not in an atoning way), so that they might die to sin and live to righteousness.



### **Question for July 22**

Both in 3:9 and 2:21 Peter uses the almost identical phrase "for to this you were called". Meditate on the relationship between these two verses.