

I Peter: *Strangers In A Strange Land*
I Peter 2:13-17: "Christians & The Government"
April 26, 2020

NT Texts about Government

Acts 4-5, 24-26, Romans 13:1-7, I Timothy 2:1-2, 6:15,
Titus 3:1-2

Foundational Biblical Principles about Government

- ★ God is ultimately in charge.
- ★ God established government and places its leaders.
- ★ Every type of government except for a Theocracy is flawed.
- ★ We should disobey government only when it is clear that obeying man's law requires you to violate God's law.
- ★ Access the legal rights made available to you by God.
- ★ Pray for all your government leaders, not just the ones along your party line.

I Peter 2:13-17

Vs. 13-14

Emperor rule (_____) included emperor _____.

→ _____ God by arranging yourself under all types of government leaders while keeping in mind that every human authority has been created ____ God and is _____ God.

→ Government is designed by God to keep law and _____ and to _____ good citizens.

Vs. 15

→ _____ down the misconceptions about Christians by leading good lives and by godly submission to government.

Vs. 16

→ Use your freedom in Christ to be God's _____ in your culture, not troublemakers.

Vs. 17 Christian Citizenship 101

- ❶ Treat everyone you meet with _____.
- ❷ _____ after fellow Christians.
- ❸ _____ God's authority in all situations.
- ❹ _____ appropriate value to your government leaders.

Discussion Questions

1. *What are some appropriate ways to submit to a government leader when we have polarizing values or disagree with their policies?*
2. *What issues might fall into the category of being worthy of civil disobedience for Christians?*
3. *What are some appropriate ways for Christians to demonstrate civil disobedience?*
4. *During our current national crisis how have some Christian leaders displayed poor judgment in responding to our government?*
5. *What inaccurate message (s) might their behavior be sending to our culture about Christianity?*
6. *What overriding theological principle about God does Peter seem to highlight in today's passage?*