



#### LIVING FOR GOD'S GLORY ALONE - 1 Peter 2:12-25

- ◆ **The motivation - live in such a way that God is glorified and people are won to Christ**

*12 Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.*

- ◆ **The mindset - live a servant hearted life of submission**

*13 Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every authority instituted among men: whether to the king, 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 men. 16 Live as free men, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as servants of God. 17 Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honor the king.*

- ◆ **The cost - submission to human authority will often result in suffering**

*18 Slaves, submit yourselves to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh. 19 For it is commendable if a man bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because he is conscious of God. 20 But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God.*

- ◆ **The call - follow Christ's example; He entrusted Himself to God in the face of unjust suffering**

21 To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

22 "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."

23 When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. 24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. 25 For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

### THE MOTIVATION OF GOD'S GLORY (1 PETER 2:12)

- ◆ In Christ we have found a life, a love, a joy so glorious that the best this world has to offer fades to gray in comparison
- ◆ Our joy in God's supremacy leads us to love what He loves – humanity that is lost until found in Him
- ◆ A battle always wages for our affections; the idols of this world constantly fight to take Christ's place on the throne of our lives

#### **Philippians 3:8-11**

8 What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ ... I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings

### THE HUMBLE HEART OF SUBMISSION (1 PETER 2:13-17)

13 Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every authority instituted among men

- ◆ **Submission** = a voluntary and deliberate act of placing and arranging ourselves under those in authority. -Terry Wise, Trinity Seminary
- ◆ Submission is out of love and respect for God and out of love and respect for people made in His image
- ◆ Submission understands that all authority has come from God and submits as an act of reverence for God

#### **Colossians 3:23-24**

23 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, 24 since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

- ◆ Submission is to "every authority instituted among men"
  - ◆ employees to employers
  - ◆ citizens to government
  - ◆ children to parents
  - ◆ students to teachers
  - ◆ wives to husbands
  - ◆ Christians to Church leaders
- ◆ Submission is not blind obedience. Submission to human authority stops when we are commanded to sin.

- ◆ Daniel disobeyed the law to pray, facing the Lion's den (Daniel 6)
- ◆ Peter disobeyed the Sanhedrin, facing their threats of punishment

**Acts 4:18-20**

*18 Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. 19 But Peter and John replied, "Judge for yourselves whether it is right in God's sight to obey you rather than God. 20 For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard."*

## THE GLORY OF SUFFERING FOR CHRIST

- ◆ Living for God's Glory results in suffering
- ◆ Our response to unjust suffering carries a testimony more powerful than any words to an unbelieving culture

*"The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church" -- Tertullian, ~ 197 A.D.*

**John 12:23-25**

*23 Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. 24 I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. 25 The man who loves his life will lose it, while the man who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life*

**Responding like Christ to unjust suffering declares that we have found something outside of this world's comforts that deserves our affections and allegiance. It declares the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ.**

- ◆ Seeing *through* unjust suffering to the glory of God's Kingdom being revealed in it reduces the suffering to insignificance

**Romans 8:16-18**

*16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. 17 Now if we are children, then we are heirs — heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. 18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.*

**Hebrews 12:2**

*2 Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.*

- ◆ Like Christ, we entrust the experience of suffering to God who is just and kind
- ◆ We have a calling with a promise of blessing to follow Christ's example in suffering

**1 Peter 4:13-14**

*13 But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. 14 If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.*



By Him ... Through us ... For Him