

## 1 Peter 2:13-20

*How do you feel about human institutions of government?*

1. 2:13 Who are “governing authorities”? (KJV; **“every ordinance of man”**).
  - a. Do you willingly submit yourself to governing authorities?
  - b. Do you teach your children to also? How? How not?
  - c. Which are hardest for you to submit to? Why?
  - d. How does your plight today compare with what they faced at that time?
  - e. Does the government have the right to legislate laws re speed, taxes, seat belts, etc.?
  - f. Which laws does the Word of God tell you to submit to and which can you choose not to?
2. 2:15 What is the prime motivation behind this submissive attitude?
  - a. What is a law is clearly ungodly and wrong?
3. 2:16 How can I acts as **free** when I am bound to obey human ordinances?
  - a. How have you seen “freedom” as a covering for evil?
  - b. Do you use it as such?
  - c. Is this what we do when we teach our kids to say, “you’re not my boss” or “you’re not my mother”, meaning, therefore “I don’t have to do anything you say.”?
4. 2:17 This is **Key Verse** of this book.
  - a. Are there men whom you do not honor? Why? How should you honor them?
  - b. What is the difference between honoring men and loving the brotherhood?
  - c. Are the members of the church just your friends or do you realize a special brotherhood?
  - d. Are there any in the brotherhood toward whom you do not feel or act loving toward?
  - e. Do they feel your love? What do you need to do to correct this?
  - f. If anyone in the church does not feel loved by you, who has the responsibility before God to set the matter straight?
  - g. How does **“love God”** fit in to all of this?
  - h. How does **“honor the king”** fit in to all these thoughts?
5. 2:18 Who are “servants” and “masters”?
  - a. What general principle can be deduced from this verse that we can apply to ourselves today?
  - b. How does this apply to us in the workplace? At school? With an obnoxious traffic cop? At home with an unreasonable parent or spouse?
6. 2:19 What attitude finds favor with God?
  - a. Can you illustrate where this principle is true in other walks of life? (i.e. for sake of conscience toward a wife, a man endures extra pain?)
7. 2:20 To what extent are you willing to endure suffering for God and the sake of a clear conscience before God?
  - a. How does this principle apply to a right attitude toward baptism? Attendance? other?
  - b. How does the world tend to teach against such an attitude?
  - c. What can you do to nurture this attitude within yourself and others?