

ALIENS

THE BOOK OF FIRST PETER

Free to be a slave
1 Peter 2:13-25

Aliens submit to those in authority,

◆ trusting God...

◆ and doing what is right...

◆ because they follow the example of Christ.

Getting Started: When you were growing up, what authority figure was hard for you to respect? Why?

Digging In: What does Peter mean by “submit”? How does a believer’s relationship with God influence their submission to human authority? How can the suffering Christ (vv.21-25) help in situations far beyond our control?

Living It Out: What “authorities” are over you? How do you apply verses 16-17 in those relationships? Peter wrote to a people who had no civil or employee rights. How would his advice be different to people in a country (or position) where their legal rights were being violated by authority gone bad (see Acts 16:35-37)? How could Jesus’ example help when you face hardships you can’t change? How do you know when to submit and when to resist?

MEMORY VERSES

³Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you, *1 Peter 1:3-4*

²²Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart. *1 Peter 1:22*

⁹But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. *1 Peter 2:9*

¹⁴But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear what they fear; do not be frightened." ¹⁵But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, *1 Peter 3:14-15*

¹²Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. *1 Peter 4:12-13*

⁶Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. ⁸Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. *1 Peter 5:6-8*