



"Silencing the Critics" (Part 1)

12061PE2.13(49)

1 Peter 2:13



13 Submit yourselves to every human institution, for the Lord's sake, whether to a king as one in authority, 14 or to governors as those sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and the praise of those who do right. 15 For this is the will of God, that by doing right you might silence the ignorance of foolish men. 16 [Act] as free men, but not as those using their freedom as a

cover for evil, but as servants of God. 17 Honor everyone. Love the brethren. Fear God. Honor the King.

– 1 Peter 2:13-17, As translated from the Greek New Testament by T. Bartolucci.

Introduction

- ◆ The context of 2:13-17
- ◆ Verses 11-12 . . .
- ◆ Hostility against Christians from the first century onward

- of what sorts of things were the first Christians wrongly accused?

◆ Looking ahead:

- II. The Believer's Submission to Vocational Authority: Servants & their Superiors (2:18-21a)
- III. The Believer's Example of Submission: The Suffering Savior (2:21b-25)
- IV. The Believer's Submission to Domestic Authority: Winning Lost Husbands (3:1-7)
- V. The Believer's Reminder toward Christlikeness: Inheriting a Blessing (3:8-12)

I. The Believer's Submission to Civil Authority: Silencing the Critics (2:13–17)

The phrase "silencing the critics" comes from verse 15 which forms the heart of the passage

A. The Command for Submission (2:13a)

"Respectfully submit to civil authority so that the critics be silenced."

1. What is the meaning of "human institution?"

a. Word "institution" is translated from the noun *ktisis* (κτίσις) = "creation"

b. Why does Peter write this command?

B. The Motive for Submission (2:13b)

1. "For the Lord's Sake"

a. Who is the "Lord" in this context?

C. The Extent of Submission (2:13c)

1. A legacy of bad leadership illustrated in Isaiah 3:1-8; Daniel 9:11-12; Micah 7:2-9

2. Who was this King / Emperor to whom Peter refers?

“Mockery of every sort was added to their (Christian's) deaths. Covered with the skins of beasts, they were torn by dogs and perished, or were nailed by crosses, or were doomed to the flames and burned, to served as a nightly illumination, when daylight had expired. Nero offered his gardens for the spectacle . . .” --Tacitus

Conclusion: Titus 3:1-7