

Silencing the Critics - Godly Citizenship

1 Peter 2:13a & b

Introduction:

Godly Living – is a life in action that honors God in all things regardless of the situation, audience, or location. It is the active outward testimony of the inward change of a life in Christ Jesus.

“We are Aliens, Citizens, and Servants...”

These are the perspectives the watching world will view us from.

- I. **1st Element of Submission “The Command” v.13a**
 - a. We are to Submit ourselves to authorities
 - b. The Christian way to muzzle the critics is to obey all the laws and respect all the authorities
 - c. Submission – means to put yourself in an attitude of submission...
 - d. Christian’s are not to join rebellious groups Prov 24:21-22
 - e. God knows where He has placed us Jer 29:4
 - f. God has a plan for us that is beyond the land in which we presently live Jer 29:11-14
 - g. We are to be subject to government Rom 13:1-2

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II. 2nd Element of Submission “The Motive” v.13b

- a. For the Lord’s Sake – it is the way to honor Him
- b. God instituted Government
- c. When we obey government we honor and obey God
- d. We are not to fight with Carnal Weapons
- e. Christ left us an example to follow 1 Pet 2:21, 23
- f. Christ never involved Himself in earthly activities.
- g. We must be in subjection, it is not optional Rom 13:5
- h. We will either be praised for our subjection or feel God’s vengeance Rom 13:3-4
- i. The positive motivation – for Conscience Sake
 - i. We do it because it is the right thing to do
- j. When government goes against what God commands we are to always do what God’s word says Acts 5:27-29
 - i. And be prepared to suffer the punishment for breaking man’s law.
- k. Our weapons are spiritual and divinely Powerful
 - i. The word of God Eph 6:17
 - ii. Prayer 1 Tim 2:1