



Pastor David Kim

pt.4: Obedience / Respect for the Government

Opening Question: Have you ever had an issue with authority growing up? Can you give an example of a bad experience you had?

1. Read I Peter 2:13-17. When you hear the word “submit”, what words, thoughts, or ideas come to mind (In the Greek, “submit” means to place yourself under the authority of someone else)? Why do you think it has such a negative connotation in today’s society?

2. When Peter wrote this letter, Nero was the emperor of Rome. Nero was a ruthless emperor who persecuted, tortured, and killed Christians. It is with this backdrop that Peter writes this letter to his fellow brothers and sisters who probably lost loved ones to Nero, “Submit to every human authority, whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority...” How do you hear that and what are you feeling when you hear that? Another way to look at it from our context is, “Submit to the opposing candidate of your choice, whether it’d be Trump or Harris?” Could you do it? Would you obey God’s Word?

3. Why do you think God says to submit to every human authority (Hint: What happens when people don’t submit to human authority; What do you think God is trying to accomplish)?

4. Practical Implication of Peter’s Commands. Review and discuss how each are important for believers.

- 1) We need to be respectful even in dissent.
- 2) Get informed, impassioned, and involved.
- 3) Steward your responsibility for God’s reputation.

Remember, we cannot justify un-Christlike behavior with Christlike motivations!

Application: What is your takeaway from this *Gospel and Politics* series? What is one action step you can take to live the Gospel out as it pertains to politics?