
The Pursuit of Holiness

No Freedom Without Submission

*New Hope Community Church
Dr. Jack Bracy, March 11, 2018*

¹³ Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, ¹⁴ or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. ¹⁵ For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. ¹⁶ Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. ¹⁷ **Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor**
1 Peter 2:13–17, ESV

Problem: The Sin in Me Is Inherently Destructive

I Need Boundaries to Keep Me from Self-Destruction

One of The Most Difficult Things We Fight Against:

"To Be in Subjection"

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What Prevents Me from Experiencing the Power of The Holy Spirit?

My Craving for Power

Here's How Peter Organizes This Idea of Submission:

1. It's a Command
2. It Is the Expressed Will of God
3. It Builds a Good Reputation

God Wants My Behavior to Affect His World for Good

¹⁷ **Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor**

Here Is the Underlying Truth About Submission: How I Submit to Minor Authorities Defines My Submission to God

I Am to Obey the Authorities Over Me as Long as They Do Not Require Me to Disobey the Law, Disobey Jesus and Degrade Me as
A Person

Submission and True Freedom

“¹⁶Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God.”

“But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God.” *Romans 6:22, ESV*

“So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free.” *John 8:36, NLT*

Freedom from Sin Is Made Possible by Choosing
to Be Christ's Slave

“If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.
For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.” *Romans 10:9-10, ESV*

The Confession That Changes Everything:
Jesus Is My Lord