

Lesson 4

1Peter – HOPE IN AN UNCERTAIN WORLD

“Hope Produced Submission to Each Other” (2:11-3:7)

Introduction:

The previous section called for holy living because we are special in God's sight. This section emphasizes another reason for godly living, namely, the ungodly who live around us watch our behavior closely. What do they see?

LIVE A GOOD LIFE AS A CITIZEN

2:11-17

2:11 Note the implications of:

"aliens" _____
"strangers" _____

When will the battle against "fleshly desires" end?

How can we win those battles? (see Ephesians 6:13-17)

2:12 "see your good deeds" (Compare Matthew 5:16)

The word for "see" means _____

Agree or Disagree: One good example of Christian living is worth more than a thousand words of witnessing.

2:13-17 How are these oppressed, misunderstood, and maligned Christians supposed to win unbelieving neighbors for Christ? Not by asserting themselves, not by loudly protesting the injustice of the "system," not by petitioning for equal rights, but rather (2:13, 2:18, 3:1) by patient _____ to the political and social structures in which they find themselves.

When the Christian "submits" to every authority, is that demeaning? Is that a concession of inferiority?

How do you know? (what's the key phrase in 2:13?)

a) 2:9

b) 2:21-25

Agree or Disagree: We don't have to submit to governing officials who lead godless lives.

Agree or Disagree: We don't have to submit to governing officials who hold to an unscriptural position on a certain issue.

See also Romans 13:1-7

2:16 "servants of God"
Literally _____

What does Peter mean when he says, "Do not use your freedom as a cover up for evil?"
Give examples.

Martin Luther once wrote, "A Christian is a perfectly free lord, subject to no one; a Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all." Can both statements be true? (1Corinthians 9:19)

LIVE A GOOD LIFE AS A WORKER 2:18-25

2:18 "Slaves"
Literally _____

Agree or Disagree: Slavery is a sin. (1Timothy 1:10; 1Corinthians 7:21)

How long should a Christian put up with an unfair, inconsiderate boss? Why?

2:21-25 "for you" = _____ (Compare Isaiah 53:5,6)

What is the real comfort here for a Christian who is suffering?

LIVE A GOOD LIFE AS A SPOUSE 3:1-7

3:1,2 "in the same way"
In the same way as what? (2:13 and 2:18)

3:3,4 Agree or Disagree: For Christian women, fashion consciousness is not God-pleasing, but perpetual dowdiness is.

3:1-6 What different God-given functions do men and women have? (1Corinthians 11:3; Ephesians 5:21-33)

In God's sight, are women truly equal to men? (Galatians 3:26-29)

There are 3 reasons why a Christian woman would want to "submit/be subordinate" to her husband:

- a) 3:1 _____
- b) 3:4 _____
- c) 3:6 _____

Compare Proverbs 31:10-31 "The ABC's of a Virtuous Woman"

If a Christian woman has a husband who isn't a believer, will she still submit to him?

3:5-6 "You are her daughters if you do good and do not fear any terror."
What "terror" do some women face?

3:7 "partner" (Compare Genesis 2:18 & 20)
Literally:

In what sense are husbands to view their partners as "weaker":
physically?
intellectually?
emotionally?

What do husbands need to remember about their wives?