

SUBJECTION? HOW FAR?

SCRIPTURE – (1 Pet 2:13-17) Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, whether to the king as supreme, {14} or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do good. {15} For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men; {16} as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as bondservants of God. {17} Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.

INTRODUCTION

- A. Subjection in the bible is putting yourself under the authority and control of another or others.
- B. Subjection is willingly doing the will of another rather than doing your own will. - John 5:30 I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.

I. SUBJECTION TO RULERS/GOVERNMENT

- A. (Rom 13:1-7) Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. {2} Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. {3} For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. {4} For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil. {5} Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience sake. {6} For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing. {7} Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.
- B. (Titus 3: 1) Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work,
- C. (1 Pet 2:13-17) Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, whether to the king as supreme, {14} or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do good. {15} For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men; {16} as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as bondservants of God. {17} Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.
- D. (Acts 5:28-29) saying, "Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name? And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this Man's blood on us!" {29} But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men.
- E. (Acts 5:40-42) And they agreed with him, and when they had called for the apostles and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. {41} So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name. {42} And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ,
- F. **SUBJECTION TO THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT MEAN THAT I CAN VIOLATE GOD'S WILL IN THAT SUBJECTION.** (Eph 5:1-7) Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. {2} And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma. {3} But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints; {4} neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. {5} For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. {6} Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. {7} Therefore do not be partakers with them.

II. SUBJECTION TO ELDERS (RELIGIOUS RULERS/LEADERS)

- A. (Heb 13:17) Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.
- B. (1 Tim 5:19-20) Do not receive an accusation against an elder except from two or three witnesses. {20} Those who are sinning rebuke in the presence of all, that the rest also may fear.
- C. SUBJECTION TO ELDERS DOES NOT MEAN THAT I CAN VIOLATE THE WILL OF GOD IN THAT SUBJECTION.

III. SUBMISSION TO OLDER CHRISTIANS AND TO ONE ANOTHER

- A. (1 Pet 5:5-6) Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble." {6} Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,.
- B. (Eph 5:21) submitting to one another in the fear of God.
- C. (Mat 15:14) "Let them alone. They are blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind leads the blind, both will fall into a ditch."
- D. WE SHOULD NEVER SUBMIT TO ANYONE IF WE ARE LED ASTRAY FROM THE WILL OF GOD.

IV. SUBMISSION OF WIVES TO HUSBANDS

- A. (Col 3:18) Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.
- B. (Eph 5:22-24) Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. {23} For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. {24} Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.
- C. (1 Pet 3:1-6) Wives, likewise, be submissive to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives, {2} when they observe your chaste conduct accompanied by fear. {3} Do not let your adornment be merely outward; arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel; {4} rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God. {5} For in this manner, in former times, the holy women who trusted in God also adorned themselves, being submissive to their own husbands, {6} as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, whose daughters you are if you do good and are not afraid with any terror.
- D. (1 Tim 2:9-15) in like manner also, that the women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with propriety and moderation, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing, {10} but, which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works. {11} Let a woman learn in silence with all submission. {12} And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence. {13} For Adam was formed first, then Eve. {14} And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression. {15} Nevertheless she will be saved in childbearing if they continue in faith, love, and holiness, with self-control.
- E. SUBJECTION TO GOD TAKES PRECEDENCE OVER SUBJECTION TO HUSBANDS OR ANYONE.

V. SUBJECTION TO GOD AND CHRIST

- A. (James 4:6-10) But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble." {7} Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. {8} Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. {9} Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. {10} Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.
- B. (1 Cor 11:3) But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.
- C. (Eph 5:24) Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.

CONCLUSION

- A. The bible teaches subjection in many different areas but subjection to God always supersedes our subjection to anyone else.
- B. If there is a conflict in what subjection to anyone would require and what God desires, we must obey God rather than men.
- C. Are you subject to God above all other relationships in your life?
- D. If you are subject to God, then you will be in subjection to all of those which His word tells us to subject ourselves to.
- E. Subjection to God begins with faith...
which leads to repentance of our sins...
and a willingness to make Jesus the Lord of our life...
and allowing Him complete control of our life...
and being buried with Him in baptism for the forgiveness of our sins.