

Living Well in a World that Isn't

1 Peter 2:11-3:22



Learning to drive a car...that has troubles

What happens when the world is very sick?

"To God's elect, exiles scattered..." 1 Peter 1:1-2

Live good lives among non-Christians	2:11-12
<u>Submission</u>	
Everyone to governing authorities	2:13-17
"Slaves"	2:18-20
Christ's example	2:21-25
Wives (and husbands)	3:1-7
Everyone honor each other	3:8-17
Christ for our salvation	3:18-22

2:11-12: Live good lives among non-Christians

2:13-17: Submission by Everyone

2:18-20: Submission by "Slaves"

2:21-25: Submission: Christ's example

3:8-12: Everyone honoring each other

Matthew 5:43-48

The Big Idea

In a broken world...

- fear/trust/obey God above all else
- set our true hope in His perfect justice while pursuing God's ways now
- honor everyone
- submit even to fallen human authorities
- seeking His special guidance and work in the extremes

This includes...

Be salt and light: Pray for and pursue the ways of heaven on earth

Seek transformation of society

Vote, politic, protest, demonstrate, ...

Care for the vulnerable and troubled

Escape from abuse in the ways of God

Yet always...

Honoring, loving, blessing, and praying for even our enemies
Obeying where it doesn't mean
disobeying God's Law

Learning to drive a car that has troubles...

It takes much greater care,
but the fundamentals are still the same

In God's good world...

submission is a beautiful thing

In a world spoiled by sin...

submission is problematic

In a universe ruled by

Almighty God

Awaiting Jesus' return as perfect judge

making all things new

bringing recompense for wrongs suffered

and vengeance for wrongs done

Submission is a courageous act of faith in God

while seeking the ways of heaven on earth



Reflection Questions for later today or this week...

1. We live in a spoiled world. What parts are particularly troubling to you?
2. What does it look like to fear/trust/obey God above all else?
3. How does Jesus' return as the just judge affect how we view wrong in the world today? How should it affect us?
4. What does it look like to 'honor the emperor' while fearing God?
5. What are steps we can take to seek transformation of society while knowing that trouble will remain until Christ's return?

Conversation starters with people in daily life, whether or not they are Christians

What parts of today's world are particularly troubling to you?

What does it look like to live well in a world that isn't?

What helps you do that?