



# HOPE

## IN THE DARKNESS

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Studies in I Peter

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*Living as Citizen-Strangers*

**I Peter 2:13-17**

**(Part Two)**

# INTRODUCTION

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- *1 Peter 2:11 – Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers . . .*
- Remember 1 Peter 2:4-10. There are two responses to the Living Stone. Some will embrace Him. Many will reject the Living Stone. For the most part, the structures of society are not constructed by those who embrace the Stone, for those who embrace the Stone. Rather, the structures of society are constructed by those who reject the Stone for those who reject the Stone.



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# INTRODUCTION

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- How are strangers supposed to interact with civil authority?
  - Jesus
  - Paul
  - Peter



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# INTRODUCTION

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- Should a Christian ever not submit to civil authority?
  - Answer: “Christians should obey except when they are commanded to sin.”
  - Examples: Hebrew Midwives; Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; Daniel; Peter and John; Peter and the Apostles



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# Strangers and Submission (vs.13-14)

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- What does it mean to submit?
- To whom should we submit?
  - Government (2:13-17)
  - Work (2:18-25)
  - Family (3:1-6)
- Why does God establish government?
  - To punish evil doers.
  - To praise those who do right.



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# The Reason for Submission (vs.15)

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- Submission is part of God's plan for your life.
- In God's plan, submission silences those who willfully oppose the faith.



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# The Gospel and Submission (vs.16)

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*John 8:36 – So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.*

- The gospel sets us free from . . .
  - Bondage to sin.
  - Bondage to Satan.
  - Bondage to the world's system.
  - The penalty of the law.
  - The power of death.



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# The Gospel and Submission (vs.16)

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## *And Can it Be – Verse 4*

Long my imprisoned spirit lay  
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;  
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray.  
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;  
My chains fell off, my heart was free;  
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.



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# The Gospel and Submission (vs.16)

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- The gospel sets us free to . . .
  - Live as God's slaves.
  - Submit to our civil authorities.
- The freedom of the gospel should never be used as a cover for sinful behavior.



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# PETER'S CONCLUSION (vs.17)

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“How we live as Christians influences what others think of God and Christianity.”

1. Honor all people.
2. Love the brotherhood.
3. Fear God.
4. Honor the king.



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