

SUBMIT TO GOD'S ORDAINED AUTHORITIES



“THE PILGRIM’S RESPONSE TO HUMAN  
GOVERNMENTS” (1 PETER 2:13-17)



# SUBMIT TO GOD'S ORDAINED AUTHORITIES

## “THE PILGRIM’S RESPONSE TO HUMAN GOVERNMENTS”

- ▶ THE FIRST OF AT LEAST FOUR LESSONS ...
- ▶ A CONTROVERSIAL AND DIFFICULT SUBJECT ...
- ▶ THE NEED TO AVOID EXTREMES IN APPLICATION ...





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## “THE PILGRIM’S RESPONSE TO HUMAN GOVERNMENTS”



“THE PILGRIM’S  
RESPONSE TO HUMAN  
GOVERNMENTS”

- We are but “pilgrims” (vs. 1), This world is not our home - (Philippians 3:20–21)
- We have a better, enduring **HOMELAND!** — **Heb 11:13-16**
- As pilgrims we are governed by the King of heaven and earth – But, as we sojourn here on earth we must submit to the powers instituted by God -



# “THE PILGRIM’S RESPONSE TO HUMAN GOVERNMENTS”

## PRACTICAL ASPECTS OF HOLY LIVING (2:13-5:5)



**I PETER 2:13-17  
IN CONTEXT**

- ◆ Our text begins a section dealing with the Christian’s relationships -
  - Civil – 2:13-17
  - Professional – 2:18-25
  - Marital – 3:1-7
  - Social – 3:8-4:6;12-19
  - Congregational – 4:7-11; 5:1-5




## 1 Peter 2:13–17 (NKJV)

<sup>13</sup> Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, whether to the king as supreme,  
<sup>14</sup> 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. <sup>15</sup> For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men—<sup>16</sup> as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as bondservants of God. <sup>17</sup> Honor all *people*. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.



# “THE PILGRIM’S RESPONSE TO HUMAN GOVERNMENTS”

## SUBMIT YOURSELVES (2:13,14)



1 Peter 2:13  
(NKJV)

13 Therefore  
submit yourselves  
to every ordinance  
of man for the  
Lord’s sake,  
whether to the  
king as supreme,


### ◆ The Word "Submit"...

- *hupotasso* (ὑποτάσσω, 5293), — in the middle or passive voice, to subject oneself, to obey, be subject to ... **Vines**
- *hupotasso* (ὑποτάσσω, 5293) to submit to the orders or directives of someone—‘to obey, to submit to, obedience, submission.’ ... **Lou Nida**
- To place one's self under / of one's own willing acceptance.



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### ✦ The Word "Submit"...

- 1 Peter 2:18 — “**Servants**, be **submissive** to your masters with all fear,”
- 1 Peter 3:1 — “**Wives**, likewise, be **submissive** to your own husbands,”
- 1 Peter 5:5 — “Likewise you **younger** people, **submit** yourselves to your elders.”



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### ❖ “To Every Ordinance Of Man” (13)

- ESV / NASB / NET — “to every human institution,”
- NIV / HCSB — “to every human authority”
- Christians are to observe man-made laws as long as those laws do not conflict with the laws of God, either positively or negatively (cf. Acts 4:19).



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**1 Peter 2:13**  
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### ❖ “For The Lord’s Sake” (13)

- The motivation is not fearing men, but to honor and serve the Lord.
- The Lord has entrusted this power to civil rulers and requires our submission to it (2:15a; Rom. 13:1)
- We are representatives of Christ, i.e., we are to magnify Him before an unbelieving world by imitating Him (2:21-25; 2 Tim. 3:12; 1 John 2:6)



# “THE PILGRIM’S RESPONSE TO HUMAN GOVERNMENTS”

## SUBMIT YOURSELVES (2:13,14)

### 1 Peter 2:13,14 (NKJV)

<sup>13</sup> ... whether to the king as supreme,  
<sup>14</sup> 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.

### ❖ “To Every Human Authority” (13,14)

- To the king; to Caesar (13b; John 19:15; Acts 17:7) who was at this time Nero.
- To the governor, (i.e, Pontius Pilate, Felix, and Festus), who served under the emperor to govern nations, provinces, and cities (14a; Mat 27:2; Acts 23:26).
- Those who are sent to punish evil (14; Rom. 13:3, 4).
- To praise the good (Rom. 13:3,4).



# “THE PILGRIM’S RESPONSE TO HUMAN GOVERNMENTS”

## DO GOOD AS SERVANTS (2:15-16)

1 Peter 2:15–16  
(NKJV)

<sup>15</sup> For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men—<sup>16</sup> as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as bondservants of God.

### ◆ “For This Is The Will Of God” (15,16)

- Regardless of the treatment or judgments of the “governing authorities” Christians are to do good (15; vs. 12; Ac 17:5-8; 23:5; 1 Thes 4:3; Rom. 12:21)
- Through excellent behavior we may silence the ignorant talk of foolish men (15; 2 Thes. 3:2)
- By leading a life of strict integrity, evil men are put to shame (3:13-17; Titus 2:8)

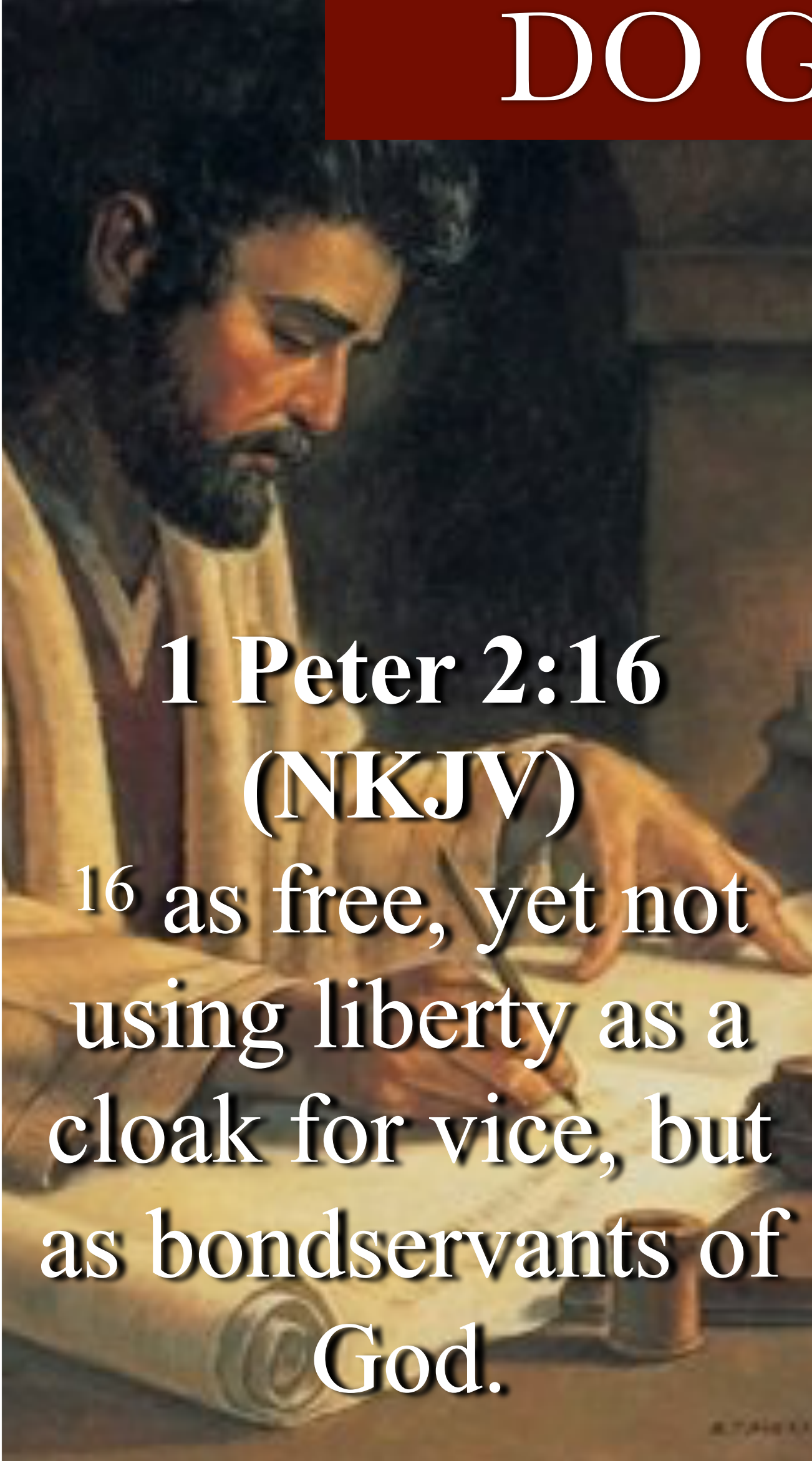


# “THE PILGRIM’S RESPONSE TO HUMAN GOVERNMENTS”

## DO GOOD AS SERVANTS (2:15-16)

### ◆ “For This Is The Will Of God” (15,16)

- Submission to authority does not negate liberty (cf. Gal. 5:1,18).
- Christian freedom is NOT freedom from law and responsibility (cf. Gal. 5:13) and must never be used **as a cover-up** (*epikalymma*, lit., “veil”) **for evil**. (1 Th. 2:5. *but*. Ep. 6:6. Col. 3:24)
- True freedom is found when we **live as servants of God**. (Jno. 8:32–36. Ro. 6:18, 22. 1 Co. 7:22; Ja. 1:25; 2:12. 2 Pe. 2:19)



1 Peter 2:16  
(NKJV)

<sup>16</sup> as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as bondservants of God.




# “THE PILGRIM’S RESPONSE TO HUMAN GOVERNMENTS”

## DO GOOD AS SERVANTS (2:15-16)

### ◆ “For This Is The Will Of God” (15,16)

- Governing authorities that exist have been appointed by God (Daniel 4:17; Romans 13:1)
- Even those that are evil (Exodus 9:16 [Egypt]; Isaiah 10:5-12 [Assyria]; Romans 13:1 [Rome] etc) Matthew 20:20-28



**1 Peter 2:16  
(NKJV)**

<sup>16</sup> as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as bondservants of God.

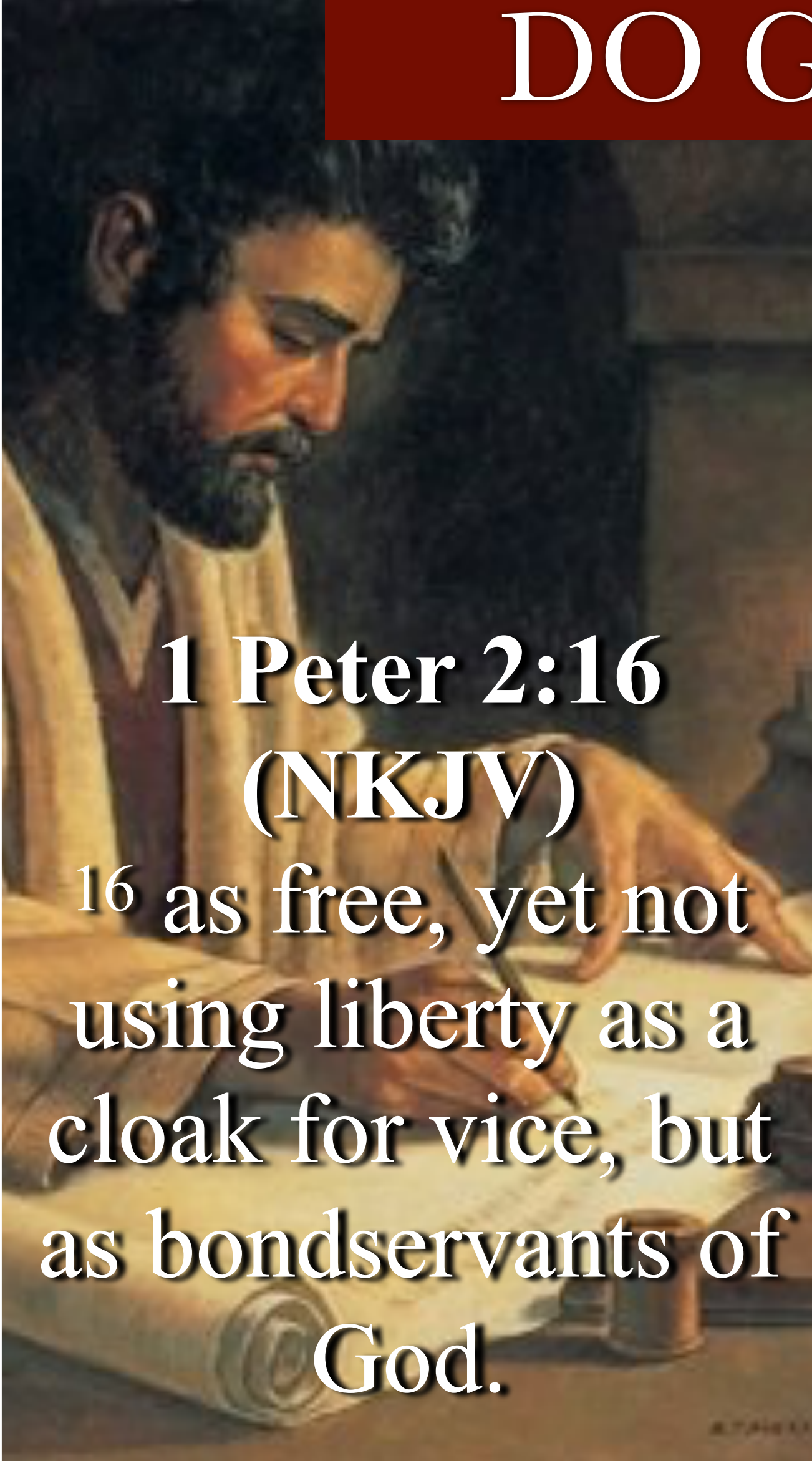


# “THE PILGRIM’S RESPONSE TO HUMAN GOVERNMENTS”

## DO GOOD AS SERVANTS (2:15-16)

### ◆ “For This Is The Will Of God” (15,16)

- No one holds any position of authority unless God gives it, therefore, to resist the government means to resist God (Rom. 13:2-4)
- We must submit unless our submission requires us to sin (Ac 4:18-20; 5:27-29)
- Liberty to utilize the Law for our wellbeing and God’s purpose (Acts 22:22-29; 23:10,20-22; 25:10,11)



**1 Peter 2:16  
(NKJV)**

<sup>16</sup> as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as bondservants of God.



# “THE PILGRIM’S RESPONSE TO HUMAN GOVERNMENTS”

## DO GOOD AS SERVANTS (2:15-16)


❖ “For This Is The Will Of God” (15,16)

**1 Peter 2:17 (NKJV)**

<sup>17</sup> Honor all *people*. Love the brotherhood.  
Fear God. Honor the king.

**Romans 13:7 (NKJV)**

<sup>7</sup> Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes *are due*, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.



**1 Peter 2:16  
(NKJV)**

<sup>16</sup> as free, yet not  
using liberty as a  
cloak for vice, but  
as bondservants of  
God.



# “THE PILGRIM’S RESPONSE TO HUMAN GOVERNMENTS”



ABSTAIN FROM  
FLESHLY LUST WHICH  
WAR AGAINST THE  
SOUL! (2:12)

- To succeed in our spiritual "pilgrimage" and reach our heavenly destination, we must SUBMIT TO GOD'S WILL!
- As pilgrims we are governed by the King of heaven and earth – But, as we sojourn here on earth we must submit to the powers instituted by God -



# “THE PILGRIM’S RESPONSE TO HUMAN GOVERNMENTS”



ABSTAIN FROM  
FLESHLY LUST WHICH  
WAR AGAINST THE  
SOUL! (2:12)

## Proverbs 14:34 (NKJV)

34 Righteousness exalts  
a nation, But sin is a  
reproach to any people.



# “THE PILGRIM’S RESPONSE TO HUMAN GOVERNMENTS”



ABSTAIN FROM  
FLESHLY LUST WHICH  
WAR AGAINST THE  
SOUL! (2:12)

**Proverbs 29:2 (NKJV)**  
2 When the righteous are  
in authority, the people  
rejoice; But when a  
wicked man rules, the  
people groan.



# “THE PILGRIM’S RESPONSE TO HUMAN GOVERNMENTS”



ABSTAIN FROM  
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WAR AGAINST THE  
SOUL! (2:12)

## 1 Timothy 2:1-3 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup> Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, <sup>2</sup> for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. <sup>3</sup> For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,



# “THE PILGRIM’S RESPONSE TO HUMAN GOVERNMENTS”



ABSTAIN FROM  
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SOUL! (2:12)

**Philippians 3:20–21 (NKJV)**  
20 For our citizenship is in heaven,  
from which we also eagerly wait for  
the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21  
who will transform our lowly body  
that it may be conformed to His  
glorious body, according to the  
working by which He is able even  
to subdue all things to Himself.



# “THE PILGRIM’S RESPONSE TO HUMAN GOVERNMENTS”



ABSTAIN FROM  
FLESHLY LUST WHICH  
WAR AGAINST THE  
SOUL! (2:12)

- We Are "Sojourners And Pilgrims"...
- Our submission to God's will is NOT dependent on how others treat us ...
- We Are Being Observed By Others...
- Is MY Life Glorifying God?







# SUBMIT TO GOD'S ORDAINED AUTHORITIES



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“THE PILGRIM’S RESPONSE TO HUMAN  
GOVERNMENTS” (1 PETER 2:13-17)



## **Romans 13:1–7 (NKJV)**

<sup>1</sup> 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. <sup>2</sup> Therefore

whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of

God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. <sup>3</sup> 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. <sup>4</sup> For he is God's minister to you for good.



## Romans 13:1–7 (NKJV)

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. <sup>5</sup> Therefore *you* must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake. <sup>6</sup> For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing. <sup>7</sup> Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes *are due*, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.