



"Silencing the Critics" (Part 6)

02071PET2.16-17(54)

1 Peter 2:16-17



13 Submit yourselves to every human institution, for the Lord's sake, whether to a king as one in authority, 14 or to governors as those sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and the praise of those who do right. 15 For this is the will of God, that by doing right you might silence the ignorance of foolish men. 16 [Act] as free men, but not as those using their freedom as a

cover for evil, but as servants of God. 17 Honor everyone. Love the brethren. Fear God. Honor the King.

– 1 Peter 2:13-17, As translated from the Greek New Testament by T. Bartolucci.

Introduction

- * Islamofascism and Christofascism?
- * Less than 10% of professing Christians have a biblical worldview
- * It all comes down to truth (cf. Calvin in Geneva)

I. The Believer's Submission to Civil Authority: Silencing the Critics (2:13–17)

The phrase "silencing the critics" comes from verse 15 which forms the heart of the passage

A. The Command for Submission (2:13a)

"Respectfully submit to civil authority so that the critics be silenced."

B. The Motive for Submission (2:13b)

C. The Extent of Submission (2:13c-14)

1. It's to every human institution (government)
2. It's to every supreme leader (King, Premier, President)
3. It's to every secondary leader (governors, officials, civil servants, police/military)

D. The Reason for Submission (2:15)

E. The Attitude of Submission (2:16)

1. We are to "submit as free men"

a. What kind of freedom is this?

2. What does it mean that the believer is "free?"

a. Side Note: Zechariah 11:4-13

3. We are free, yet in _____

4. But don't miss the context here!

5. When Jesus was on earth, he was murdered by the coming together of two authorities: _____ and _____

6. How do we reconcile the authority of both of God and Man (theological & civil)?

We may lawfully disobey any authority when that authority commands us to do something God forbids, or forbids us to do something God commands.

a. The Principle Illustrated in Scripture:

(1) Hebrew midwives

(2) Daniel chapter three (Shadrach, Meshach, Abed-Nego)

(3) Daniel chapter six (Daniel forbidden to pray)

(4) Acts chapters 4 and 5

F. The Application of Submission (2:17)

1. Four to the point statements:

a. Honor _____

b. _____ the brethren

c. _____ God

d. Honor _____

Conclusion