

Study Questions
Ephesians Revisited - Part 14
November 8th 2009

1). 1Pe 5:6 *Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,*

What is remarkable about the way that humbling ourselves is to be demonstrated?

2). Lu 6:37 ¶ *"Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven.*

What are the implications of this scripture with regards to our relationship with each other?

3). What is the scriptural perspective on the way we are to treat 'older' people?

a). What might we teach the 'younger people' with regards to what this looks like?

4). Ro 13:1 ¶ *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.

- a). What does the scripture tell us we are to do to the governing authorities?
- b). Who has appointed these authorities?
- c). How is that possible given the present system of rulership?
- d). Da 4:17 *'This decision is by the decree of the watchers, And the sentence by the word of the holy ones, In order that the living may know That the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, Gives it to whomever He will, And sets over it the lowest of men.'*
- e). How does this scripture from Daniel help in our understanding?
- f). What are we really resisting when we resist the authority?
 - i). Would this be just in our actions, or would this be in what we say also?
 - ii). Does this allow us any room for criticism or protest?
 - iii). What could our resistance look like?

- iv). Could this provide an opportunity for us to redeem the time here?
- g). What is the outcome of resisting the authority?
- h). What will this look like?
- i). How are Romans 13:1 and 3 connected?
- j). If we are to be unafraid of the authority what will our actions look like?
- k). Can you give any practical examples of this?
- l). What is your greatest struggle in being subject to the governing authorities?
- m). Does this also suggest what our attitude to Satan and his fallen angels should be?
- n). What was Christ's attitude towards the Gentile occupation of Israel, and that nation's treatment of His people?
- o). What was Christ's attitude towards Satan?
- p). Can you think of a scripture that would cover n). and o). above and be the basis for where our own thinking needs to be?
- q). Why is this so hard for so many Christians?
- r). Could you see any correlation here with the bondservant's attitude to the good and gentle and the harsh master?

5). 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.*

a). Who is the body to obey and be submissive to?

b). Who would this be?

c). Ac 20:28 *"Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.*

d). According to our scripture who is responsible for the appointment of Elders?

e). Is there any connection here with our scripture in Romans 13?

f). What are the Elders to do?

g). What if they don't do that?

h). Does this then affect the way the flock is to relate to them?

i). Is there any connection here with the good and gentle and harsh master?

j). Why should the flock obey and be submissive?

k). What will Elders do at the Judgment Seat?

l). What would cause the care of each soul to be with joy?

m). What would cause the care of each soul to be with grief?

n). If it were with grief what would be the outcome for that member of the flock?

o). What do you understand 'ruling over' to look like?

p). What is the greatest challenge for us in this particular example of submission?

q). Is it scripturally acceptable to criticize 'church leaders' to others?

r). Who do we have to trust absolutely in order to put all of this into practice?

s). Do you trust Him or do you trust your own judgment more?

t). How does this all connect with what we have studied about husbands/wives, children/parents, masters/bondservants?

6). *Jas 4:7 Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.*

How does this scripture provide us with a complete summary of all we have studied about submission?

a). What are the benefits in doing this?

b). What are the consequences for not doing so?

c). What is the good news that accompanies every command to humility and submission we have looked at?

d). What do you think has had the most impact on you personally as we have studied the way submission is presented in the scriptures?

e). What changes have you already purposed to make?

f). What changes do you still have to face?

7). Spend a few minutes writing a prayer to the Lord to address your particular needs with regards to submission .

My Prayer: