

## Down To Earth – 1 Peter 2:13-25 – For Heaven’s Sake

How do we live honorably when it comes to authority?

### **We Must Assume A Posture of Respect (2:13-14)**

“Submit yourselves because of the Lord (for Heaven’s sake).”

Submit = Greek *Hupotasso* = arrange yourself under

The posture of *hupotasso* is especially important when they're wrong.

We're meant to reach people in the name of Jesus, and if we spend all our time fighting with leadership then we've taken our focus off our mission.

What if they are making us sin? What if they are abusing us? Acts 5:29 “We must obey God rather than men.” But even the rebels in the Bible rebelled with humility, deference, and honor.

We need to honor God by honoring the authority that he authored.

### **Rebellion Is the Opposite of Freedom (2:16)**

Max freedom is always found under the authority of God.

### **There are Promises Attached to Obedience (2:15-25)**

We face the problem with respect... We honor God (2:15)

Doing good even when you suffer under the leadership of bad people brings a smile to God's face, and as God smiles down upon you, with it comes his grace, power, and honor!

### We make a positive impact on other people’s lives (2:15, 18-20)

Your good works are going to muzzle those who talk bad about you.

Say, “God put me in the situation, and I’m going to make it better!” “I’m not actually your slave, I’m God’s slave, and he’s going to exalt me in due time!”

### We develop character (2:21-25)

God puts authority figures in your life who, at times are there to rub you the wrong way, because sharpening needs friction.

Sometimes it takes bad authority figures for us to learn not to live **for Pete’s sake but for Heaven’s sake!**