

1 Peter 2:18-25

Submission by Christ is the Basis for Our Salvation in Christ

Christians Who Work as Servants/Employees are to (Willingly) Submit to Those Who are Over Us as a Key Expression of Our Christian Faith 2:18-20

Command: Servants/Employees, be submissive to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are good and gentle, but also to those who are unreasonable. 2:18

Principle: For this finds favor [with God], if for the sake of conscience toward God a Christian bears up under sorrows when suffering unjustly. 2:19

Reasoning Behind the Principle: For what credit is there if, we sin and are harshly treated and we endure that with patience? But when we do what is right and suffer *for it* and patiently endure that, this *finds* favor with/is pleasing to God. v20

To Do This We Must Focus on Christ as the Ultimate Example of Godly Submission Realizing His Submission is at the Very Heart of His Saving Work for Us 2:21-25

Premise: For we have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for us leaving all of us an example for us to follow in His steps v21

Focus: Christ's Submission to Unfair Suffering on the Cross is Like and Unlike Ours v22-24a

1: He committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in His mouth (Unlike Us)

2: While being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting *Himself* to Him who judges righteously (Like Us)

3: He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross (Unlike Us)

Our Status Because of Our Savior: we are to die to sin (in our Christian lives) and live to +R for by His wounds we have been healed. Before we came to faith in Christ we were straying like sheep but now we have been reconciled to the Shepherd/Guardian of our souls. v24b-25

Take This To Heart

The core of Christ-likeness involves believers willingly and selflessly serving others as an expression of our submission to Christ. Christian WARNING LABEL: this involves our giving away portions of our time, talents and treasure (money) with no expectation of worldly return as we embrace the example of our Savior on the cross. How does this purify our motives and relate directly to what Jesus teaches us in Matthew 6:1-18?