



1 PETER 2:14-3:7

Peter frames 4 pillars of a culture that honors God.

1. The Christian Community - Ecclesia - The Church
2. Submitting to Healthy Authority Structures - Governments who do good
3. Submitting to Healthy Authority Structures - Communities who love without tribalism
4. Submitting to God's Structure for the Family

The Church is instructed on the way government should operate.

1 Peter 2:14 - Punish Evil and Praise Good. Just because God establishes doesn't mean He co-signs.

The Church is warned against the Fateful Five:

Malice

- 2549. κακία, kakia, kak-ee´-ah; from 2556; badness, i.e. (subj.) depravity, or (act.) malignity, or (pass.) trouble:— evil, malice (-iousness), naughtiness, wickedness.

Deceit

- 1388. δόλος, dōlōs, dol´-os; from an obs. primary verb, δέλλω, dēllō (prob. mean. to decoy; comp. 1185); a trick (bait), i.e. (fig.) wile:— craft, deceit, guile, subtility (subtlety).

Hypocrisy

- 5272. ὑπόκρισις, hypōkrisis, hoop-ok´-ree-sis; from 5271; acting under a feigned part, i.e. (fig.) deceit ("hypocrisy"):— condemnation, dissimulation, hypocrisy.

Envy

- 5355. φθόνος, phthōnōs, fthon´-os; prob. akin to the base of 5351; ill-will (as detraction), i.e. jealousy (spite):— envy.

Slander

- 2636. καταλαλία, katalalia, kat-al-al-ee´-ah; from 2637; defamation:— backbiting, evil speaking.

The Gospels tell an interesting story of Peter when He realized who was really in his boat. Jesus challenged him not in his weakness but in his strength.

Luke 5:1-11

- Luke 5:1 – Multitudes were there. Jesus had problems with crowds.
- Luke 5:2 – He's being backed into the lake.
- Luke 5:3 – He taught them in the boat.
- Luke 5:4 – These guys have been up all night, they're tired, and have caught "0 Fish" (these guys are professional fishermen). Jesus is not a fisherman, He is a carpenter; and He says, "Let's go fishing".
- Luke 5:5 – "Peter's Response" Tone of voice – Peter's friends are watching, the boat goes out.
- Luke 5:6 – Lot's of fish – nets beginning to break.
- Luke 5:7 – Signaled their partners, the pandemonium begins, the greatest catch ever – the excitement!!!
- Luke 5:8 – The excitement of the moment - you think maybe Peter would thank Him, worship Him. There's only one thing to do..."Go away from me," Peter said.

When you see God's holiness you see not only God, you see yourself. His holiness provokes one of two responses:

- **Brokenness** and a need for the mercy of God. (See Isaiah 6)
- **Anger** and **hatred** because his holiness exposes self-righteousness. (See Peter)

Peter came UN-DONE! Self-righteousness is found in your strengths. When you forget who gave you those strengths, those strengths become the God you bow down too.

- Luke 5:10 – Jesus never said anything about his holiness or Peter's sin. Why was Peter afraid? Peter realized who was in his boat.

We live in a culture that thinks very highly of itself. The reason is because they have not seen the holiness of God. When you see His holiness, you will not be too confident in your own righteousness. Seeing God's holiness will humble you! Pride and the presence of God DO NOT MIX!

It is hard for God to fill a man who is over-running with himself! Conversely, it is hard for God to fill a church that is over running with themselves. We need to get to a place of being UN-DONE. Over ourselves. Realizing we need Him more than the air we breathe.

When God gets in your boat, you will realize that HIS WAYS are higher than your ways. His thoughts are higher than your thoughts.

I share this story of Peter because he experienced how important it was to let Jesus, challenge you in your strengths. Pride is the gateway to the Fateful Five.

Andrew Murray

Humility is perfect quietness of heart. It is to expect nothing, to wonder at nothing that is done to me, to feel nothing done against me. It is to be at rest when nobody praises me, and when I am blamed or despised. It is to have a blessed home in the Lord, where I can go in and shut the door, kneel to my Father in secret, and am at peace as in a deep sea of calmness when all around and above is trouble.

DL Moody

Told the story of a Dr. who once said that he could tell when a Christian was growing. In proportion to his growth in grace he would elevate his Master, talk less of what he himself was doing, and become smaller and smaller in his own esteem, until, like the morning star, he faded away before the rising sun.

Humility then could be defined as not thinking less of oneself but thinking more of God. It is the very definition of more of Him and less of Me.

Many years ago **John Newton** (Amazing Grace), the converted slave trader who became a preacher and a Christian poet, lay upon his deathbed. A young clergyman came to see him and expressed deep regret at the prospect of losing so eminent a laborer in the Lord's vineyard. John Newton replied, "True, I'm going on before you, but you'll soon come after me. When you arrive, our friendship will no doubt cause you to inquire for me. But I can tell you already where you'll most likely find me—I'll be sitting at the feet of the thief whom Jesus saved in His dying moments on the cross!" Although a distinguished man, Newton felt with Paul that he could only class himself among the chief of sinners who have been saved through marvelous grace.

The Truth is: You can walk humbly AND have a victory mindset. As long as you KNOW who the SOURCE is and remember where He found you. The Church is to have believers with a victory mindset.

1 Peter 2:18-19

The Slave (household) - Master instruction in 1 Peter 2 can be hard to understand in the modern social construct. Let's be clear. God wasn't advocating for slavery or approving of it. He was advocating for the heart that would honor Him no matter the situation or circumstance we are found in.

Consistent with his addressing slaves as full persons, he refers to their suffering as "the pain of unjust suffering." While the Stoics had admitted that injustice could be done to a slave while in common practice most owners exercised moderation (if for no other reason than that slaves were valuable). Aristotle had earlier argued that injustice could never be done to a slave, for the slave was mere property (Nic. Eth. 5.10.8). Such a view was impossible for Christians who knew that their Lord and God

had taken the form of a slave (e.g., Phil. 2:7) and had treated slaves like any other human being.

For society at large, in that day, slaves were not full persons and thus did not have moral responsibility. For the church, slaves were full and equal persons, and thus quite appropriately addressed as such. God was creating a victors mindset, not a victims mindset.

The establishment of marriage is of primary value and worth.

The Husband is to be the leader and the wife is to follow the leading of her husband. To fully understand this Biblical concept, you must first re-learn what leadership and submission are Biblically.

Leadership in our modern American mindset means to lord over, be the boss, dictate, or even dominate. Submission in our modern mindset means to be less than, cower to, be under, or even have no voice or belittle women especially.

- 5293. ὑποτάσσω hupōtassō, hoop-ot-as´-so; from 5259 and 5021; to subordinate; refl. to obey:— be under obedience (obedient), put under, subdue unto, (be, make) subj. (to, unto), be (put) in subjection (to, under), submit self unto.

As Peter addresses wives about how to be a blessing to their husbands, he begins by telling them, "Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands...." The word "subjection" is the Greek word hupotasso, a compound of the words hupo and tasso. The word hupo means under, and the word tasso means to arrange or to put something in order. It was often used in a military sense to describe soldiers who were expected to fall in line and submit to their commanding officers. Every time the word hupotasso is used, it describes the relationship of someone who is submitted to some type of authority and who is expected to act according to that order of authority

A couple of things to note:

- God's order doesn't mean value or importance
- God's order, when properly executed, gives value and importance no matter where you are at in the order.
- ALL God's children will find themselves under authority somewhere.

Submit (dictionary.com): inclined or ready to submit or yield to the authority of another; unresistingly or humbly obedient: submissive servants. marked by or indicating submission or a yielding to the authority of another: a submissive reply.

You will know you have Biblical Leadership in a marriage when you see Biblical submission because it will lead to UNITY.

You will know you have UNITY in the body when Leadership and Authority are derived from Love and not manipulation.