

Living to Display God's Grace

SUBMISSION TO CIVIL AUTHORITIES, PART 3

1 Peter 2:13-17



1 Peter: Holy Living in a Hostile Land

I. The WHAT of Submission to Authority

II. The WHY of Submission to Authority

III. The **WHO** of Submission to Authority (1 Peter 2:13-14)

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“...to every human institution” is more **literally** rendered as, *to every human creature*.

“Institution” (NASB/ESV) is the Greek word *ktisis*, meaning **creation or creature**.

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Understanding their context helps us with a window into what the Lord was saying to them.

God's **original meaning** is the meaning He had for these people, and that meaning is reflected in the text as it is framed by the **ancient historical-cultural situation** these people were living in at the time.

- I. The **WHAT** of Submission to Authority
- II. The **WHY** of Submission to Authority
- III. The **WHO** of Submission to Authority (1 Peter 2:13-14)

Three features of their historical-cultural situation:

- **Emperor cult**

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Peter is tasking his readers with **balancing two realities** about their submission to human authority: it's true, human rulers are created beings like themselves and should never be worshiped, but it's also true that they need to submit to all human authority as **appointed and directed by God**. This is not **mindless obedience**.

I. The **WHAT** of Submission to Authority

II. The **WHY** of Submission to Authority

III. The **WHO** of Submission to Authority (1 Peter 2:13-14)

Three features of their historical-cultural situation:

- Emperor cult
- **Illegitimate religion**

I. The **WHAT** of Submission to Authority

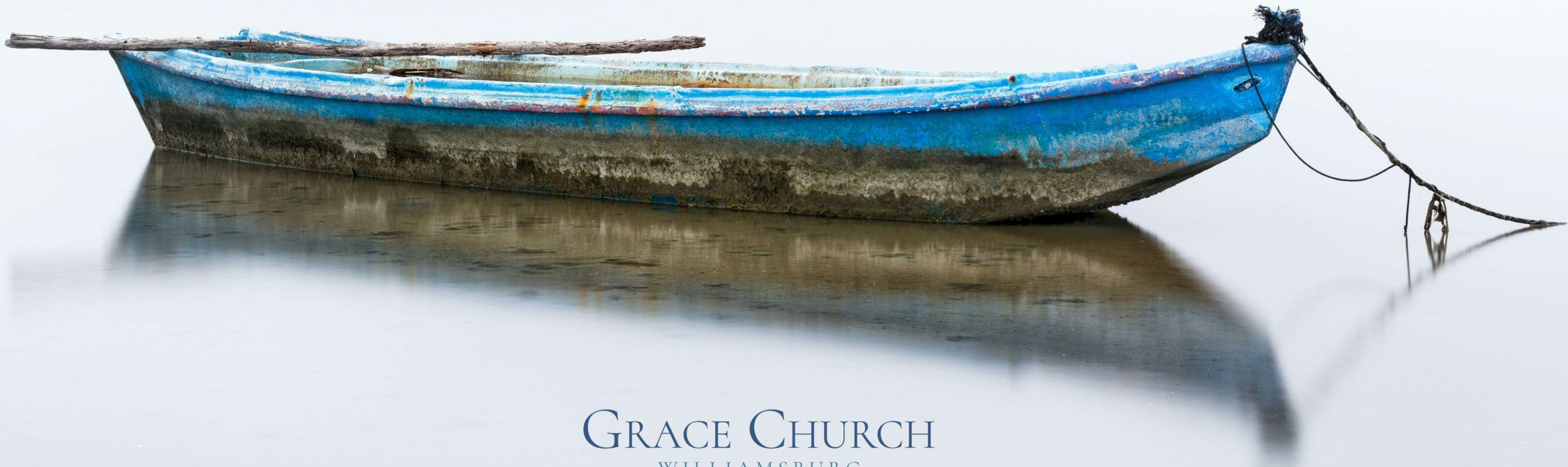
II. The **WHY** of Submission to Authority

III. The **WHO** of Submission to Authority (1 Peter 2:13-14)

Three features of their historical-cultural situation:

- Emperor cult
- Illegitimate religion
- **Roman society**

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