

Additional Notes:

Adult Sunday School (1 Peter) Lesson 5

1 Pet 2:13-25: **Living in Two Worlds**

18 May 2025

Introduction

- The Christian lives in two worlds – his true citizenship is in Heaven but he remains a citizen on earth.
- The duty of all believers is to live a life that is honorable and praiseworthy in the midst of the unconverted.
- The Christian belongs exclusively to God – as a stranger and a pilgrim, he is not at home in this world.
- The Apostle Peter is urging the believers to commit to living a lifestyle that commends the gospel in the face of an unbelieving and cynical world.

1. Obey Caesar to Obey God (v13-17)

- The persecution faced by Christians
- ‘Submit’ – subject yourself to orders
- God sovereignly places human authorities over us (Dan 4:35)
 - To disobey rulers is to disobey God (Rom 13:2)
- Our obedience is for our Christian witness
 - For the sake of our brethren
- Our ultimate allegiance is to God
 - *“The truth about the Christian is somewhat paradoxical. The Christian man is the most free lord of all, and subject to none;*

but the Christian man is the most dutiful servant of all, and subject to everyone.” -Martin Luther

- We do not obey men if it contravenes the law of God (Acts 5:29)

2. Endure unjust treatment in the same manner that Christ endured suffering (v18-25)

- How may we endure?
 - Recognize the grace that enables you to endure
 - Lk 6:33
 - Remember that suffering is your calling
 - Lk 9:22-23
 - Respond to unjust treatment the way Christ responded
 - Isa 53:7, Matt 26:53; Lk 23:46; Matt 26:39; Matt 5:38-39; Rom 12:19
 - Contrast your suffering with the suffering of Christ
 - Heb 12:3
 - *“If the Son of God, whom it behooves all to adore, willingly underwent such severe conflicts, who of us should dare to refuse to submit with him to the same?” - John Calvin*

3. The relevance of the gospel in our suffering

- The gospel applies in every age and every circumstance
- The gospel sets before us Christ as our example
 - *“Nothing seems more unworthy and therefore less tolerable, than undeservedly to suffer; but when we turn our eyes to the Son of God, this bitterness is mitigated; for who would refuse to follow Him going before us?” -John Calvin*
- The gospel is given to transform us to be more like Christ