



# 1 Peter 2:11 - 25

## Men of Grace

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## 2 Quick Facts

Date: A.D. 64

Author: The apostle Peter

From: Rome ("Babylon")

To: The churches (mostly Gentiles) of Northern Turkey founded by Paul and his disciples

Occasion: 1. Paul had just died

2. Persecution of Christians was growing

3. The believers were being disenfranchised, discriminated against and mistreated.

Purpose: 1. To encourage the believers to persevere in the "now" of their suffering and trials by assuring them that the future of glory will transform their present circumstances

2. To explain that perseverance is exhibited by living a godly life.

3. To assure the believers that God's grace which brought them salvation will be with them no matter what happens.



## 3 Tentative Outline

1:1-2 Greeting and spiritual identity

1:3-2:10 Chosen by God for full and final salvation

1:3-12 God's gift of final salvation

1:13-2:3 God's calling to a holy lifestyle

2:4-10 God's choice of a special people

2:11-4:19 Honorable behavior in the midst of suffering

2:11-25 Submission to appropriate legal authorities

3:1-12 Submission/respect in marriage and in the church

3:13-22 Doing good in the midst of suffering

4:1-11 Christlike attitude in the world and in the church

4:12-19 Be happy, do right, trust God

5:1-9 Serving each other in the church

5:10-14 Summary of letters' content and purpose



## 4 1 Peter 2:11 - 25

### MAIN IDEA:

- Submit to the appropriate legal authorities because it pleases God and is a powerful witness to non-believers

2:11-12

- The Christian life is a fight but also a powerful witness.

2:13-17

- All Believers must accept the authority of Government



## 5 1 Peter 2:11 - 25

2:18-25:

- Slaves must accept the authority of your Masters (as an example for all believers)

2:18-20

- Patiently enduring unfair treatment pleases God

2:21-25

- Christ is our example; He suffered unfairly yet He trusted God and His suffering resulted in our blessing. Follow in His steps.



## 6 Discussion

### Questions of the day:

1. In light of 2:13-17 how should we prepare our IRS tax returns? (See also Matthew 22:17-22 and Matthew 8:24-27.) Do you think Caesar's tax policies were relevant to Jesus' words in Matthew 22:17 - 22?
2. Do you feel that you are suffering unfairly now? How should we respond to seemingly "unfair" circumstances?

2:11 DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS,  
YOU ARE FOREIGNERS  
AND ALIENS HERE.

SO  
I WARN YOU  
TO KEEP AWAY FROM EVIL DESIRES  
BECAUSE  
THEY FIGHT AGAINST YOUR VERY SOULS.

12. BE CAREFUL HOW YOU LIVE  
AMONG YOUR UNBELIEVING NEIGHBORS.

EVEN IF THEY ACCUSE YOU OF DOING WRONGS,  
THEY WILL SEE YOUR HONORABLE BEHAVIOR  
AND THEY WILL BELIEVE  
AND GIVE HONOR TO GOD

WHEN HE COMES  
TO JUDGE (VINDICATE) THE DEAD.

2:13 FOR THE LORD'S SAKE

ACCEPT ALL AUTHORITY

- THE KING AS HEAD OF STATE

2:14 AND

THE OFFICERS HE APPOINTED.

FOR THE KING HAS SENT THEM

TO PUNISH ALL WHO DO WRONG

AND TO HONOR THOSE WHO DO RIGHT.

2:15 (FOR)

IT IS GOD'S WILL

THAT

YOUR GODS LIVES SHOULD SILENCE

THOSE

WHO MAKE FOOLISH ACCUSATIONS

AGAINST YOU.

2:16 (You are not slaves;)

You are free.

But

Your freedom is not an excuse

to do evil.

You are free

to live as God's slaves.

2:17 Show respect

for everyone.

Love

Your Christian brothers and sisters.

Fear

God

Show respect

for the king

2:18 You who are slaves

must accept the authority  
of your masters.

Do whatever they tell you —

not only if they are kind and reasonable,  
but

even if they are harsh.

2:19 For

God is pleased with you

when, for the sake of your conscience,  
you patiently endure unfair treatment.

Of course,

2:20

you get no credit for being patient

if you are beaten for doing wrong.

But

if you suffer for doing right

and

are patient beneath the blows,

God is pleased with you.

2:21 THIS SUFFERING IS ALL PART

OF WHAT GOD HAS CALLED YOU TO.

CHRIST, WHO SUFFERED FOR YOU,  
IS YOUR EXAMPLE.

FOLLOW IN HIS STEPS.

HE NEVER SINNED

AND

HE NEVER DECEIVED ANYONE.

2:23 HE DID NOT RETRACT

WHEN HE WAS ABUSED.

WHEN HE SUFFERED,

HE DID NOT THREATEN TO GET EVEN.

HE LEFT HIS CASE IN GOD'S HANDS

WHO ALWAYS JUDGES FAIRLY.

2:24 HE PERSONALLY CARRIED AWAY OUR SINS

IN HIS OWN BODY

ON THE CROSS (TREE)

SO

WE CAN BE DEAD TO SIN

AND LIVE FOR WHAT IS RIGHT.

YOU HAVE BEEN HEALED BY HIS WOUNDS!

2:25

ONCE

YOU WERE WANDERING LIKE LOST SHEEP.

BUT

NOW

YOU HAVE TURNED TO YOUR SHEPHERDS,

THE GUARDIAN OF YOUR SOULS.