

Intro: Turn with me to
I did a quick search on Amazon:

1 Peter 2:13 Pg 858
Lead Jesus 19,751 (books, connections)
Submit Jesus 3688 (books, connections)
More than 5 to 1

Interesting part is this:

When Jesus talked to us...he was just the opposite!!! Follow me!
Yes, talked to us about leading (people to Him) Much more about submission!

Why?

- Cultural Bias (We WANT to be leaders, large and in charge!) Everything about our Culture values Position
- Following goes against our nature! We don't like to be led Choose our own path!
- We struggle with Submission: Strikes at the heart of our pride! We don't like humbling ourselves, being second, letting others go first. It isn't the nature of who we are without Christ.

IF we are going to Live UP in A DOWN World...we MUST get this part right!

Show The Triangles

Peter points that out to us over and over and over again!

He uses the same word, SUBMIT 3 times...and then two synonyms to communicate this foundational truth of Spiritual life

1. Peter's Direction To Submit Includes Every Area Of Life.

We sometimes struggle to understand the comprehensive nature of Submission

- **Submit to Government:** 1 Peter 2:13-15
Lit = Compound word: *To arrange under* (Military, Rank or Order of Battle!)
EVEN when it is NOT a godly government! (Romans and Historical issues) Fire; Persecution; Exile
Submit to EVERY authority instituted among men! (Spread out all over the world...all kinds of systems)
- **Submit to Masters/Work:** 1 Peter 2:18-21
Lit = Compound word: *To arrange under* (Military, Rank or Order of Battle!)
EVEN when they are harsh! Word means when they are difficult, harsh, twisted or warped!
Peter says, remember that the way you relate to others is reflective of your heart relationship with God!
- **Submit in Family relationships:** 1 Peter 3:1
Lit = Compound word: *To arrange under* (Military, Rank or Order of Battle)
Husband is the head of the family, just as Christ is the head of the Church
God has instituted an order
(Ephesians 5) Mutual...not Unilateral!
- **Submit to God!** 1 Peter 2:23
Lit = *to yield up to; to trust with something; to surrender control to* A synonym of submit
James 4:7: James uses the original word Peter used 3 times: *To arrange yourself under direction of another*
- **Submit in Church:** To leaders and others 1 Peter 3:8
Humble: Lit = *to think less of yourself, to be humble minded, to elevate others!*
Heb 13:17: Lit = *to yield to, to surrender yourself to someone else* Synonym
Yield to those that God has placed in spiritual authority in your life.
Allow them to lead as God gives them direction

Show Triangles

If we are ever going to be able to live UP in our DOWN world, we HAVE to get this right!

We have to overcome the cultural bias we have toward leadership

And the Spiritual rebellion we have that says, "You Aren't The Boss of Me!" and allow the Word of God to inform our life!

2. Spiritual Truths About Submission We Need To Understand.

There are a number of different spiritual truths that will help us get this part right in our spiritual lives. Some will be hard

- *Submission is counter cultural*
The breakdown in the Amazon search tells you everything you need to know about this point
Why is there 5x as much on LEADING as there is on FOLLOWING...When Following is what Jesus told us to do?
- *Submission strikes at the heart of our pride!*
When we have to voluntarily SUBMIT...we must lower ourselves...Yield to someone else..Let them be in charge!
We don't like that...EVEN WHEN IT is God!
When you struggle with this area of submission, one of the places you MUST look is at the issue of pride!
>Satan at rebellion Most Beautiful...Be like God! Is 14:13
>Adam and Eve in Garden of Eden I can do what I want! Gen 3:1-6
1Jo 2:16 *For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world*

- *Living out submission is sometimes very difficult!*
Government: Vs 13 Every Authority!(Remember the Roman system!)
Slaves/Workers: Vs 18: Even when they are harsh!
God: Vs 21ff: To THIS you were called..to follow Him in His surrender
 Just because it is hard doesn't mean we aren't supposed to do it!
- *Submission leads to effective living.*
 Life works better when you live it the way God intended.
 When you step outside the biblical order that God designed and initiated you open yourself up to all kinds of problems
 I am not saying life is EASY here. But I am saying that when you are in the lanes of life God intended, better!
- *Submission includes the responsibility to FIRST submit to God.*
 Is there any time when you are allowed to not follow leadership?
 This is the "OUT"
 What do you do when leadership in your life (anywhere) is so out of kilter ask you to do what is wrong?
 >Acts 4:18-20 Should we obey God rather than man?
 >Acts 5:29 We MUST obey God rather than man!
Key: When someone in authority, even biblical authority, REQUIRES you to do something that is opposed to the explicit Word of God, then, and ONLY then are you free to disobey!

CONCL:

In the next month or two we are going to be looking at some of these critically important relationships.
 As we do that you are going to be challenged...Culturally...and Personally
 You are going to find areas of your life where you are living the way YOU want...not at all the way God Desires
 When that happens...You are going to have to make a choice...

Are you going to Obey God...or Continue to Obey

Culture: World is upside down...going south faster and faster day by day
Personal desire: There is a way that seems right to a man...end thereof leads to destruction!

This morning...if as we looked at the word of God...you heard still small voice offering correction...
OBEY...DO what He is calling you to do.

Come and pray and Say: God, today, in the area of:

Home
 Work
 Government
 Church
 Family

I am NOT living as YOU call me to live....Help me get my perspective and my heart right!