

Living Waters Chapel
1900 Jay St., Lebanon, PA 17046

~ *SERMON NOTES* ~

Pastor D. Dean Cover
June 8, 2008

SERMON SERIES: *“Lord, Whatever It Takes, Change My Attitude Before It’s Too Late!”*

SERMON TITLE: *“The Surrender of Submission”*

SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 2:13-3:1-7

THEME: Biblical submission is the positive attitude required to overcome the negative attitude of rebellion.

INTRODUCTION: Is this statement true or false? Next to knowing Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, nothing is more important than having a positive attitude. The answer is true. Your attitude can:

- ✚ Make or break you.
- ✚ Heal or hurt you.
- ✚ Make you friends or make you enemies.
- ✚ Make you happy or make you miserable.
- ✚ Make you a success or make you a failure.

I. UNDERSTANDING BIBLICAL SUBMISSION AS A DUTY TO GOD (2:13-14)

- A. Biblical submission seeks to please God.
- B. Submit is a military term that means *“to place yourself in order under established authority.”* The Greek verb is in the middle voice. Literally, it means “place yourself in submission.”
- C. The key is found in the phrase for the *“Lord’s sake”*

II. SUBMISSION HAS LIMITS UNDER GOD

- A. Christians are not required to submit to anything that is illegal or immoral.
 - 1. Acts 4:18-20
 - 2. Acts 5:27-29
- B. Christians must find the balance in their duty to submit with other Biblical commands. The command to submit does not override all other Biblical commands.

III. THE IMPORTANCE OF SUBMISSION IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

- A. Submission is the key to unity in all human relationships (Philippians 2:1-4)
- B. Submission is at the center of man’s relationship with God (Matthew 21:33-46)
- C. Submission is at the heart of discipleship
- D. Submission is the will of God for all Christians (1 Peter 2:15)

CONCLUSION:

Submission is not subjugation. Subjugation destroys individuality, and removes all liberty. Submission makes a person become more of what God wants him to be; it gives a person the freedom to accomplish all that God has for his life and ministry. Submission is strength; it’s the first step toward true maturity and ministry. We become stronger only when we become weaker. When we surrender our will to God; when we learn to submit to God’s plan and purpose we discover the resources and the power to live the Christian life to the fullest just as Jesus promised we could in John 10:10.