



BE SUBJECT

1 PETER 2:13 - 3:12

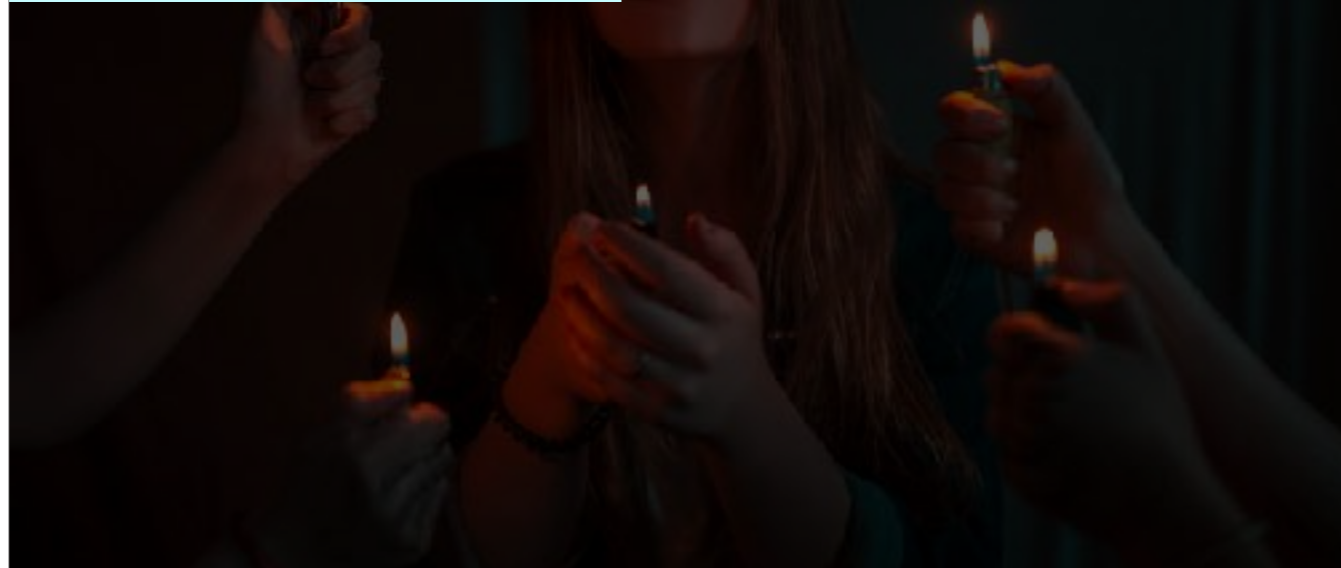
Sojourners and Exiles: they may see your good deeds and glorify God



- Sojourners and Exiles
  - 12: they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.
    - Abstain from Passions of the Flesh
    - Honorable Conduct
    - Doing Good
    - Live as Free People
    - Endure Suffering
- Be SUBJECT
  - 13: Every human institution
  - 18: Servants, subject to Masters with all respect
- Why is being in subjection so important to those who have been chosen by God?

Sojourners and Exiles: they may see your good deeds and glorify God

## Be Subject



- Peter addresses 5 areas of our relationships.
  - We've mentioned two already.

Sojourners and Exiles: they may see your good deeds and glorify God

## Be Subject

Every human institution



- Subject to every human institution
  - Saints have often lived under human governments that are opposed to us in various ways.
  - Peter doesn't discuss how well the governments are or are not doing their appointed purpose
  - (from God)
  - Subject to the government
    - But living as free people
    - Living as servants of God
      - We are not merely subject to the government, but to God
    - Honoring everyone, loving brotherhood, fear God, and honor emperor.

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Be Subject

Every human institution

Servants to Masters



- Servants subject to Masters
  - With respect: both good, gentle also unjust

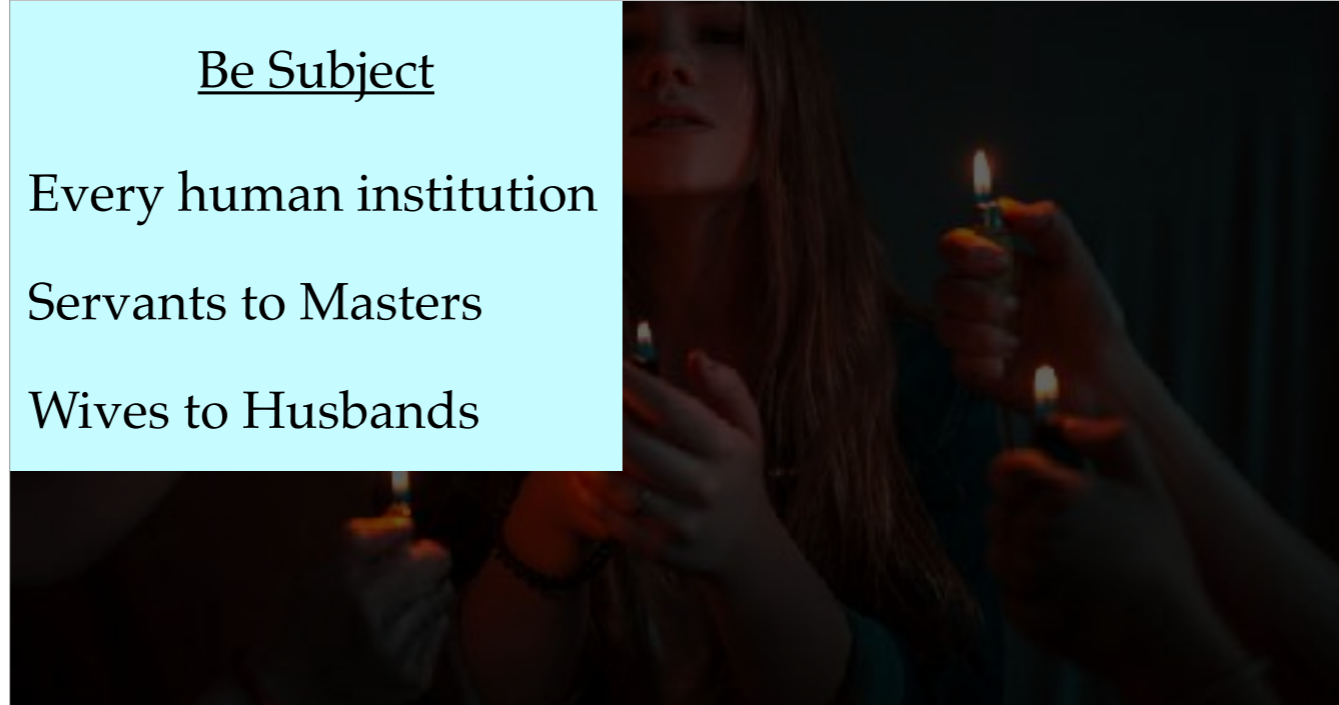
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Be Subject

Every human institution

Servants to Masters

Wives to Husbands



- Wives subject to OWN husbands
- Often these verses are addressed with little to no reference to the context.
  - But the instruction follows closely with what Peter is teaching.
  - He's teaching us to live in a way that demonstrates that those who follow Jesus do good and have a glorious God and hope of salvation

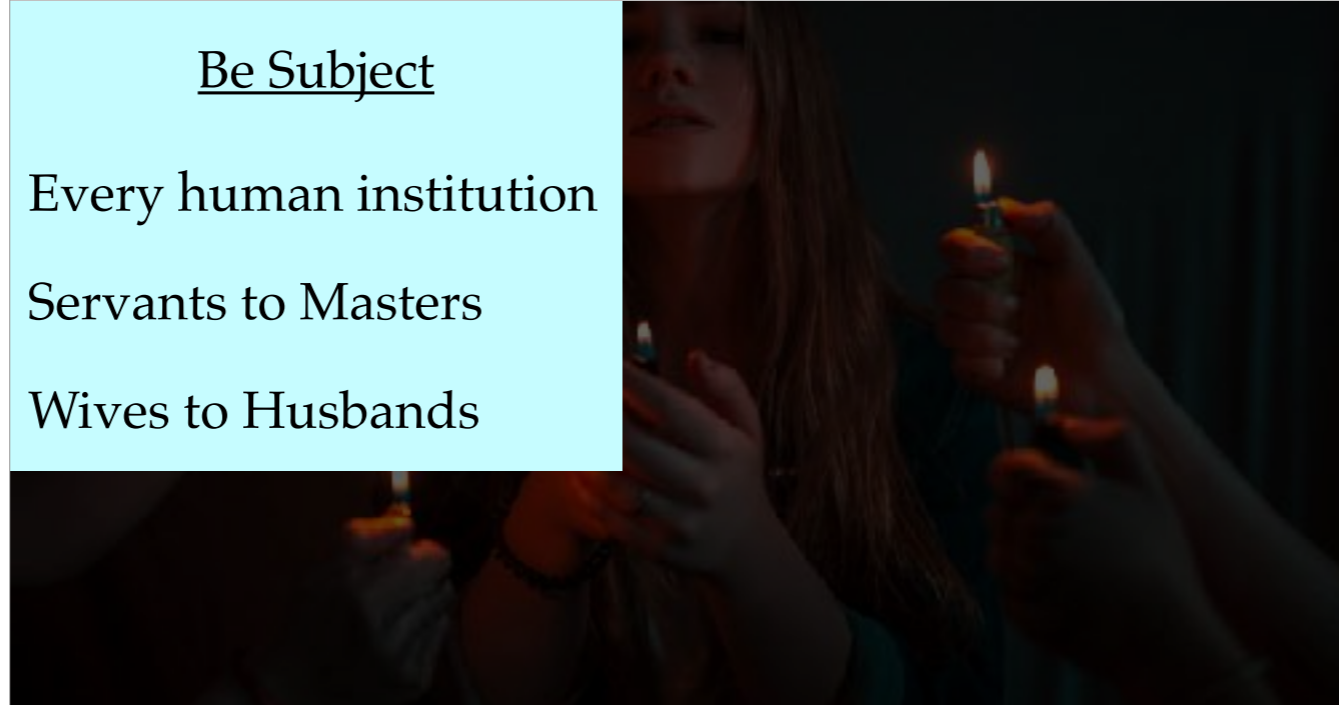
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Wives to Husbands



- This means that Peter is not just teaching us about our marriages, but about how our marriages are intended to show others that we are disciples of Jesus.
  - When he speaks of masters: some are unjust and the result is suffering despite doing good
  - Jesus suffered unjustly by those who governed him (Roman and Jewish), and his own people.
  - Now husbands who are not elect exiles (do not obey the word)
    - This doesn't mean that they are bad men

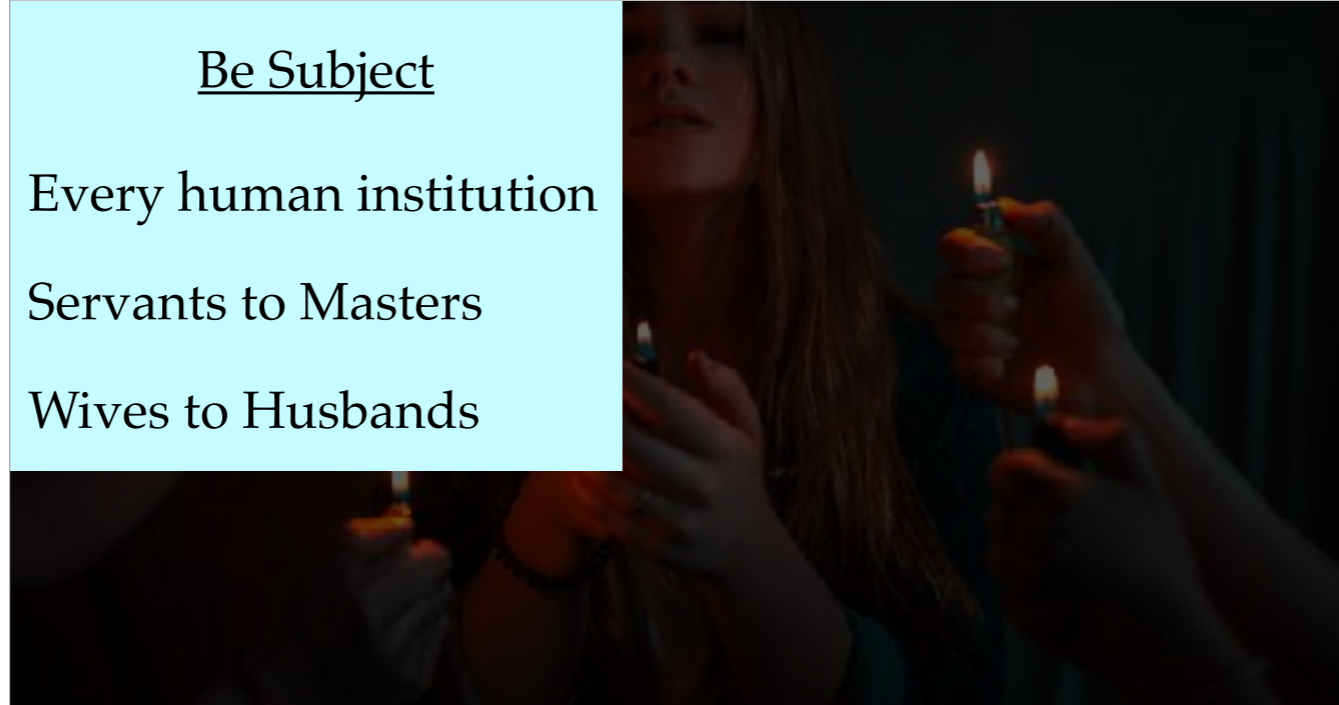
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Wives to Husbands



- Why is especially important for wives of nonbelievers to be subject to their husband?
  - Husbands and wives see each other at their best and at their worst.
  - Peter's point is that by acting this way a wife can save the soul of her husband!
    - This is a beautiful thought, and really important for marriage.
    - We can help each other get to heaven.



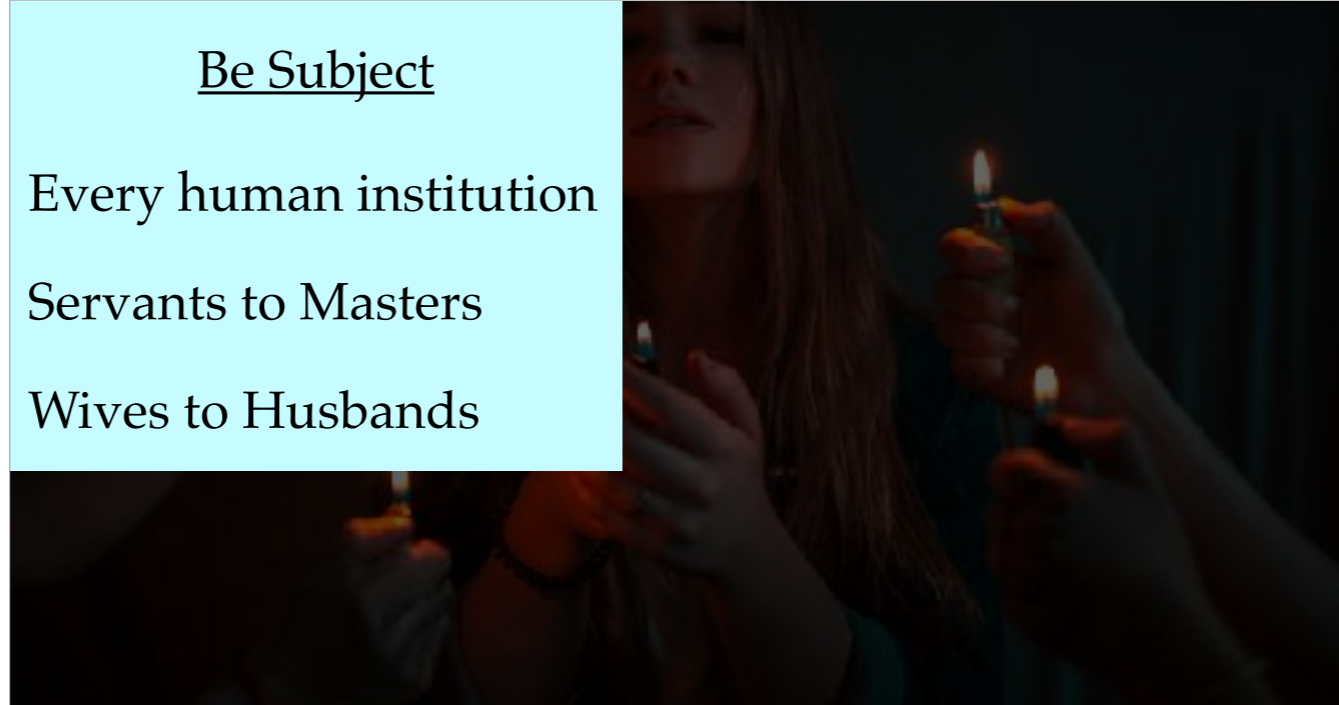
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- But we also have a picture of what it means to be subject.
  - It's not craven.
  - Peter uses these words to help us understand being subject
    - respectful conduct
    - pure conduct
    - adorning of the heart: gentle and quiet spirit
    - do good
    - do not fear

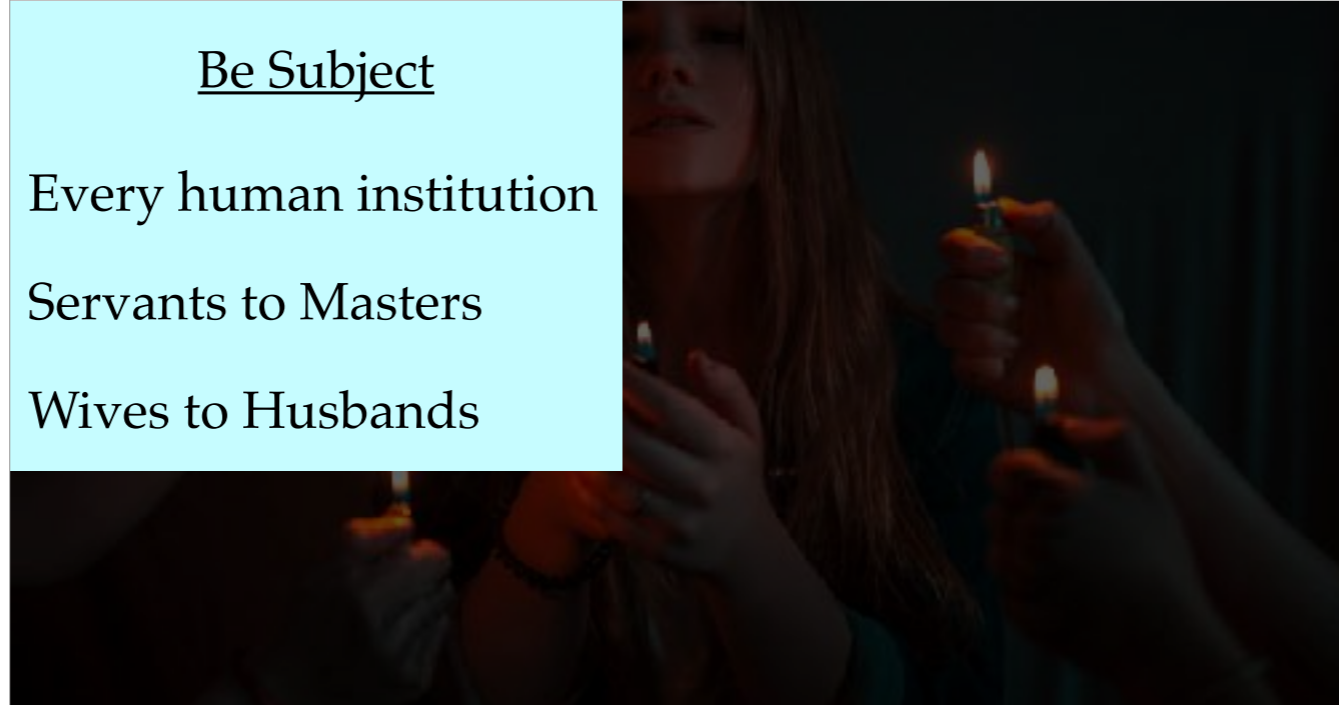
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- Sarah called Abraham “Lord”
  - That doesn’t mean that she capitulated to absolutely everything Abraham said.
  - Infamously, She convinced Abraham to throw out Hagar and Ishmael.
    - Which doesn’t sound like she “obeyed” nor had a gentle and quiet spirit
  - But our concepts of the roles of husbands and wives is influenced not just by God’s word, but by our culture and the household we grew up in.
  - So ... caution to be subject doesn’t mean that we just “do what we’re told”
    - Like Joseph in the service of Potiphar, he fled when needed.

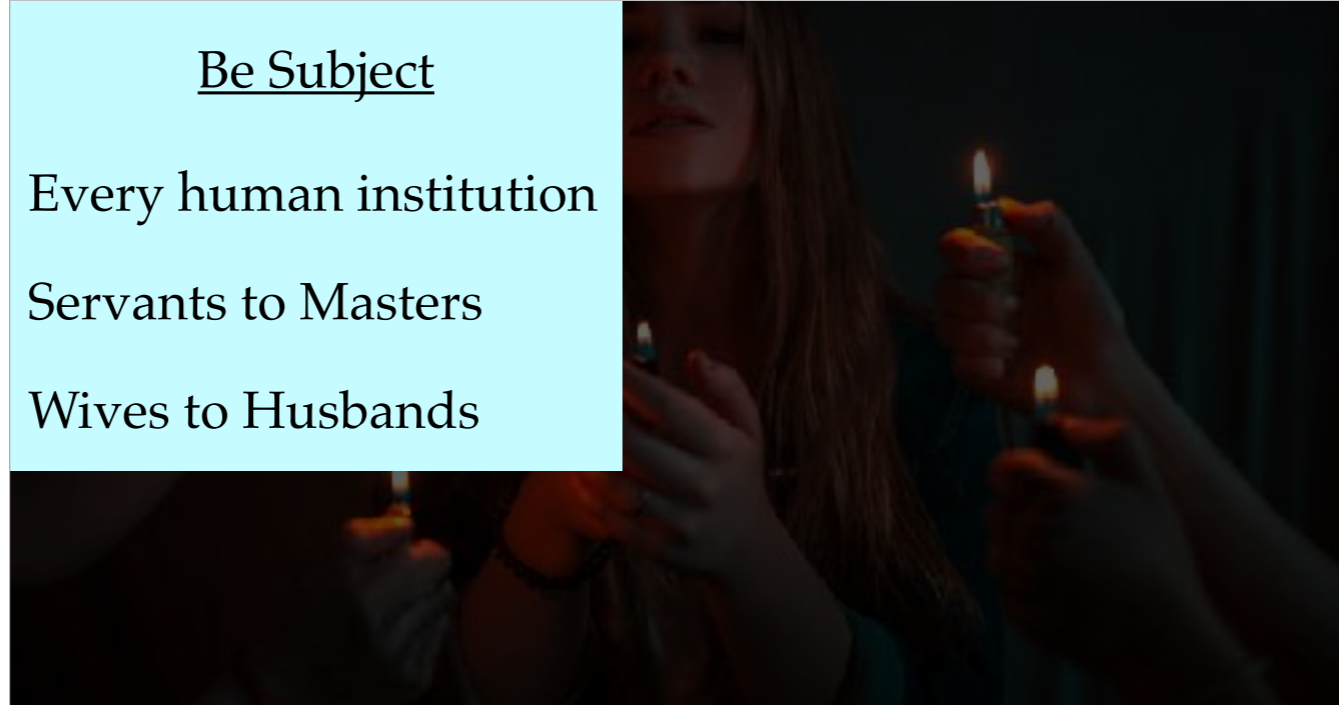
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- Subject to one's husband so save his soul
  - Not by constantly preaching
  - But by making sure our conduct shows that we hope in God.

Sojourners and Exiles: they may see your good deeds and glorify God

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Servants to Masters

Wives to Husbands

Husbands to Wives



- The last two examples don't specify "be subject" But they do say: "likewise" and "finally": context indicates that we include this instruction
- The behavior of a husband to his wife is also seen by the world: does it indicate that we are disciples of Jesus
  - Again, the standard is not what society or culture defines as the role of the husband.
  - And just like the wife, the husband must be striving to help his wife to be a godly woman, who is saved.

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Husbands to Wives



• Understanding way

- Understanding often has to do with knowledge, knowledge of God's word and how we should walk.
- A husband should treat his wife not based on what he's seen in the world
- Rather based on what God teaches us about how we are to love one another, showing kindness, mercy, compassion

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Husbands to Wives



- Honoring
  - Weaker vessel: not about strength, emotion
  - Peter is not talking about gender differences
    - An idiom
  - worthy of higher honor and care; to treat delicately (not common)

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Husbands to Wives



- How does this instruction help us understand the importance of how our behavior as sojourners and exiles?
  - Ephesians 5:21 submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.
    - Ephesians 5:25 (ESV) 25 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her
      - he might sanctify her (26)
      - present the church to himself in splendor (27)

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- Paul's point is that Jesus, in a sense, submitted himself to the church so that the church would be pure and glorious
  - Jesus' submission was not about "authority" but about "purpose".
  - And Jesus suffered for us, he died to accomplish this purpose.



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Husbands to Wives



- The godly husband will treat his wife with a great purpose just like Jesus did, and this requires that he understands exactly what he is doing and honors his wife.
  - This is both for her sake: honoring, glorifying
    - Love, Kindness, sacrifice, service
  - For his sake — presenting her to himself
    - Heirs with you of the grace of life
    - prayers not hindered
  - And for God's sake (13): doing good

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Be Subject

Every human institution

Servants to Masters

Wives to Husbands

Husbands to Wives

All of You

harmonious

sympathetic

affectionate

compassionate

humble

bless

- All of you
  - As we consider these things, what is Peter teaching us about being subject?
  - NET: harmonious, sympathetic, affectionate, compassionate and humble
  - And we are to bless
  - To whom?
    - ESV: all of you HAVE
    - NET: all of you BE (ASV, KJV, NASB, NKJV, HCSB, YLT (being))

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harmonious

sympathetic

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bless

- Harmonious (unity of mind, one mind, likeminded)
- Sympathetic (compassionate, fellow-feeling)
- Affectionate (loving as brethren, brotherly)
- Compassionate (tender hearted, pitiful, kindhearted)
- Humble (courteous, humble in spirit)
- Bless
  - not repaying, not reviling: follow example of Jesus

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bless

- In the context,
  - Peter has been dealing with those might treat us poorly even if we do good.
    - Human government
    - Masters
    - Husbands
  - No matter how we are treated, this is how we are to choose to respond
    - Not easy.
  - This is how we are to choose to think of those who are oppose us.
    - Especially when enduring suffering
- 17: “honor everyone”

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bless

- We are blessed: long life and good days
  - (but he's spoken of enduring suffering!)
  - keep tongue from evil, speaking deceit
  - turn from evil
  - do good
  - seek peace and pursue it

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Husbands to Wives

All of You

harmonious

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- God's eyes see what we are doing and he hears our prayers
  - He knows our suffering.
  - He knows our enduring.
  - He knows we're doing good.
  - He knows we seek peace.
  - He hears our cries for deliverance, and strength, and help, and endurance.
- He is the shepherd and overseer of our souls!

Sojourners and Exiles: they may see your good deeds and glorify God

Be Subject

Every human institution

Servants to Masters

Wives to Husbands

Husbands to Wives

All of You



• Peter's Point:

- We are living in a world that knows we are disciples of Jesus
- And it's vital that we demonstrated the importance of being subject with a purpose.

Sojourners and Exiles: they may see your good deeds and glorify God

Be Subject

Every human institution

Servants to Masters

Wives to Husbands

Husbands to Wives

All of You

Why?



- Why are we to be subject?
  - Peter gives us reasons throughout this that remind us of why we are to be subject in all these situations.
  - The explanation is not just ... this is the natural order of things, nor this is God's ranking of roles
  - Peter challenges us to think much more deeply.



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Servants to Masters

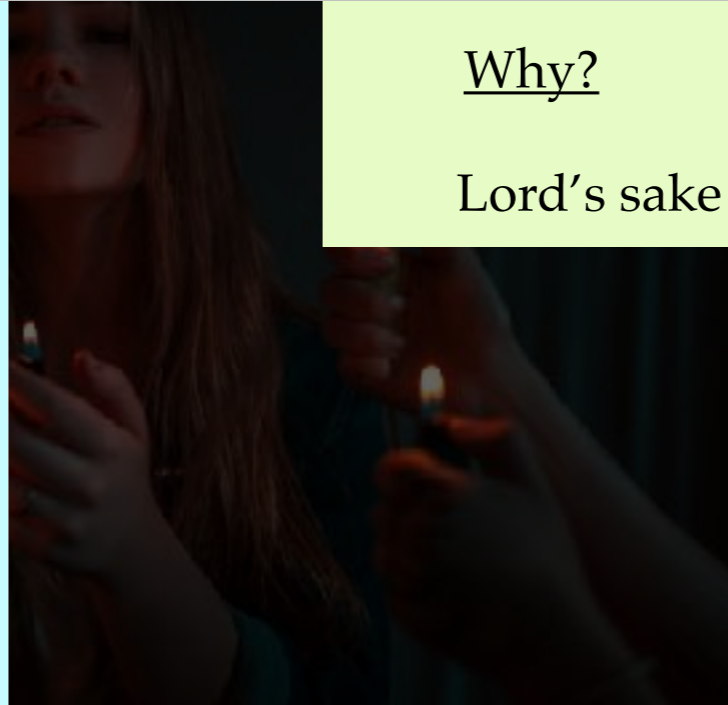
Wives to Husbands

Husbands to Wives

All of You

Why?

Lord's sake



- Why should we be subject to every human institution? “for the Lord’s sake”
  - It shows that God’s plan for government is correct.
  - So we can live as free people, who are living as servants of God.

Sojourners and Exiles: they may see your good deeds and glorify God

Be Subject

Every human institution

Servants to Masters

Wives to Husbands

Husbands to Wives

All of You

Why?

Lord's sake

Mindful of God

- Why should servants be subject to masters?
  - Peter says servants should be “mindful of God” when they endure suffering.
  - And it is a gracious thing.

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Be Subject

Every human institution

Servants to Masters

Wives to Husbands

Husbands to Wives

All of You

Why?

Lord's sake

Mindful of God

Hope in God

- Why should wives be subject to their husbands?
  - Peter says this is how holy women “hoped in God”
    - (it's not about the husband?)
  - Adorning that is in God's sight very precious

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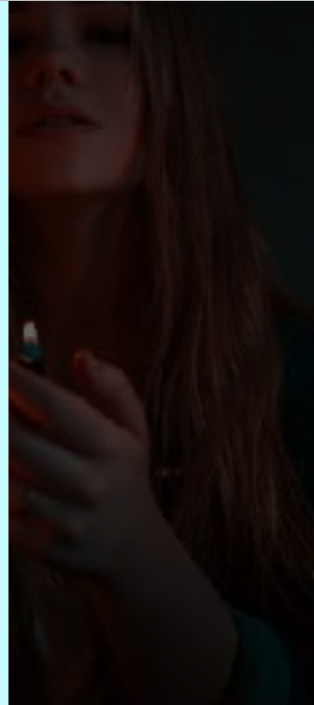
Every human institution

Servants to Masters

Wives to Husbands

Husbands to Wives

All of You



Why?

Lord's sake

Mindful of God

Hope in God

Grace of life

- Why should Husbands honor their wives?
  - because they are heirs of the grace of life

Sojourners and Exiles: they may see your good deeds and glorify God

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Wives to Husbands

Husbands to Wives

All of You



Why?

Lord's sake

Mindful of God

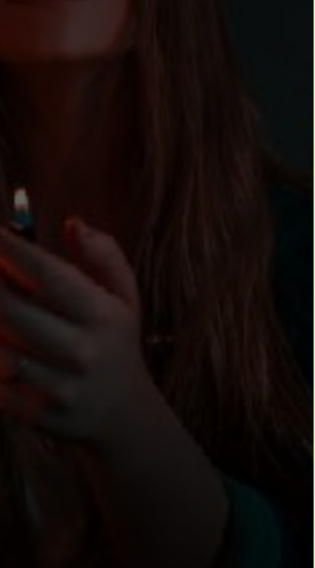
Hope in God

Grace of life

Eyes of the Lord

- Why should all of us be so aware of how we treat others with value even when they mistreat us?
  - 1 Peter 2:17 Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.
  - God's eyes are on us and he hears our prayers.
    - We are striving to be like him in all things.
- Being subject is about how we think of our relationship with God, and our place before him.
  - We are his elect.
  - We choose to be subject so that God's purposes of hope and grace are clear to all.

Sojourners and Exiles: they may see your good deeds and glorify God

| <u>Be Subject</u>       | <u>How?</u>   | <u>Why?</u>      |
|-------------------------|---|------------------|
| Every human institution |  | Lord's sake      |
| Servants to Masters     |   | Mindful of God   |
| Wives to Husbands       |   | Hope in God      |
| Husbands to Wives       |   | Grace of life    |
| All of You              |   | Eyes of the Lord |

- How do we show that we are subject to these?

Sojourners and Exiles: they may see your good deeds and glorify God

| <u>Be Subject</u>       | <u>How?</u>   | <u>Why?</u>      |
|-------------------------|---|------------------|
| Every human institution | doing good  | Lord's sake      |
| Servants to Masters     |  | Mindful of God   |
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| All of You              |   | Eyes of the Lord |

- doing good

Sojourners and Exiles: they may see your good deeds and glorify God

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| Every human institution | doing good  | Lord's sake      |
| Servants to Masters     | do good   | Mindful of God   |
| Wives to Husbands       |  | Hope in God      |
| Husbands to Wives       |   | Grace of life    |
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- do good



Sojourners and Exiles: they may see your good deeds and glorify God

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- do good

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| Every human institution | doing good  | Lord's sake      |
| Servants to Masters     | do good     | Mindful of God   |
| Wives to Husbands       | do good     | Hope in God      |
| Husbands to Wives       | honor       | Grace of life    |
| All of You              |             | Eyes of the Lord |

• honor

Sojourners and Exiles: they may see your good deeds and glorify God

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| All of You              | bless       | Eyes of the Lord |

- bless

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- What does Peter mean by doing good?
  - 15: that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people.
  - 16: but living as servants of God.
  - 21: because Christ also suffered for you
  - 24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

Sojourners and Exiles: they may see your good deeds and glorify God

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| All of You              | bless       | Eyes of the Lord |

- 25 For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.
- 1: they may be won without a word by the conduct of their wives,
- 7: showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are **heirs with you** of the grace of life,

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| All of You              | bless       | Eyes of the Lord |

- Doing good
  - starts with our attitudes towards others and how we related to them:
    - harmonious, sympathetic, affectionate, compassionate, and humble.
    - adorning of the heart
  - Honorable conduct, respect, obey, honor
  - What is correct in accord with God's righteousness, fearing him
    - No sin, no deceit, didn't revile, didn't threaten
  - What is kind and helpful, showing mercy
- Underlying all of this, for Peter, is greatest good we can do, share the gospel with them.
  - Whether by our words
  - Or our conduct

| Sojourners and Exiles: they may see your good deeds and glorify God |             |                  |
|---|-------------|------------------|
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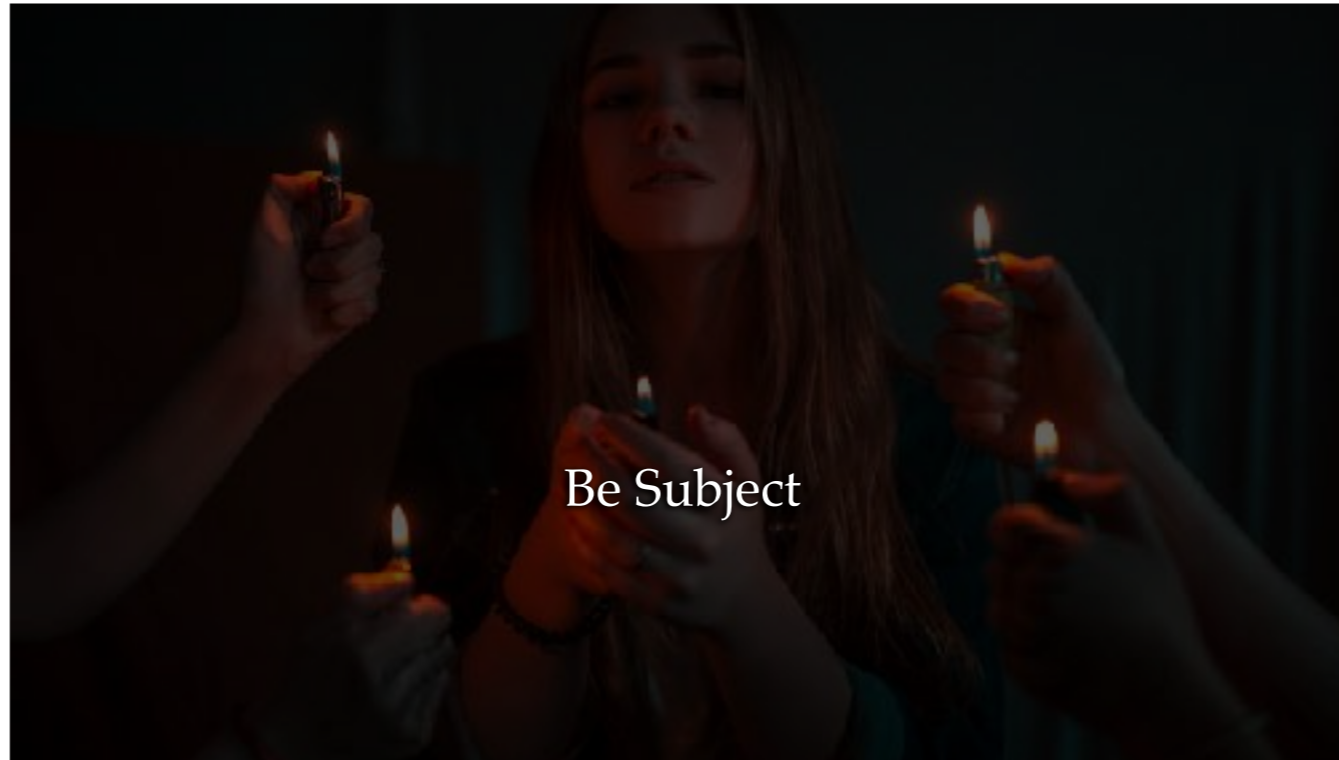
- What does Peter mean by bless?
  - bless: "to speak well of" (Thayer)
    - Matthew 5:44-45 (ESV) 44 But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, 45 so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven.
    - Luke 6:27-28 (ESV) 27 "But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, 28 bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.
    - Romans 12:14 (ESV) 14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

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- does not mean that we should say good things about those who curse us
  - but rather that we should invoke God's blessing upon them
  - praying that they may be turned from their ways and follow Jesus
  - Again ... like Jesus
    - forgiving
    - helping them to find salvation in Jesus
- like Jesus, we entrust our souls to the one who does judge justly.





- The World is watching us, just like it watched Jesus
  - As sojourners and exiles
- And our behavior toward those of the world must be different than what they see and expect.
  - Because of who our father is
  - Because of our savior, the shepherd and overseer of our souls
- Be Subject
  - Do good, endure suffering, bless,
  - be a shining light for Jesus giving hope to all.

We implore you  
on behalf of Christ,  
be reconciled to God.

2 Corinthians 5:20

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06) True Grace

#06

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2024 February 25  
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## Be Subject

1 Peter 2:13 - 3:12

Synopsis: Peter's exhortation to be subject to government, masters, husbands, wives, and that all of us are thoughtful of others is difficult for most of us, especially when we face suffer because of those who are unjust. Peter reminds us that because of our relationship with God, we must continue to do good, especially by sharing the good news of Jesus with them.

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**“Let all that you do be done with love.”**