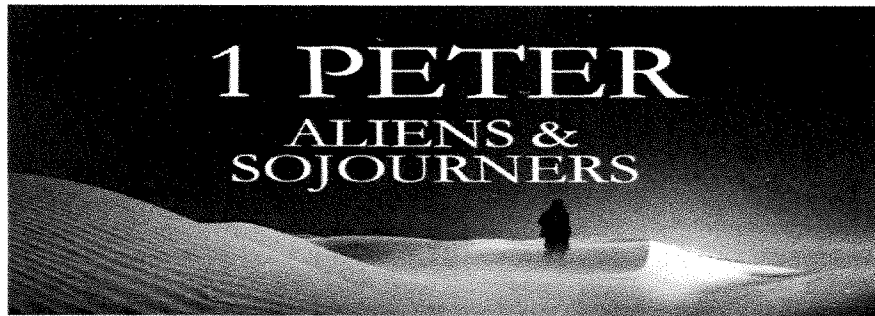




Series: Aliens & Sojourners—1 Peter

Text: 1 Pet. 2:18

Title: Christians in the Workplace

Date: July 19, 2026

Lesson: 11

The Thesis:

1 Pet. 2:11–12 – Beloved, I urge you as aliens and [sojourners] to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul. ¹²[by keeping] your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation.

The First Example:

*1 Pet. 2:13 – Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake **to every human institution...***

- *1 Pet. 2:13b - ...whether **to a king as the one in authority...***
- *1 Pet. 2:18 – Servants, be submissive **to your masters** with all respect...*
- *1 Pet. 3:1 – In the same way, you wives, be submissive **to your own husbands...***

The Command (v18): Submit to whomever is in charge of our

- Roman slavery was similar enough to paid employment today that theologians are comfortable applying New Testament commands for slaves to employees today.

- ‘Respect’ [*phobos*] –

*1 Pet. 2:17 – Honor all people, love the brotherhood, **fear God**, honor the king.*

Christian employees respect their bosses because they fear God Who sovereignly placed them there.

- This applies just as much to good bosses as it does to bad ones.
- ‘Unreasonable’ [*skolios*] –

What do I do if my boss is a jerk???

1. Submitting to employers doesn’t mean we have to go along with them if they break the law, and employees are allowed to seek legal recourse if their bosses break the law (cf. Ex. 21:26–27; Lev. 25:39–43; Deut. 23:15–16).
2. Submitting to employers doesn’t mean we can’t change jobs (cf. 1 Cor. 7:21–24).
3. God has moral expectations for both employers and employees.

Col. 3:22 – *Slaves, in all things obey those who are your masters on earth, not with external service, as those who merely please men, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord.* ²³*Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men,* ²⁴*knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve.* ²⁵*For he who does wrong will receive the consequences of the wrong which he has done, and that without partiality.*

4:1 – *Masters, grant to your slaves justice and fairness, knowing that you too have a Master in heaven (cf. Eph. 6:5–9).*

The only exceptions for Christians to submit to employers are _____, not moral.

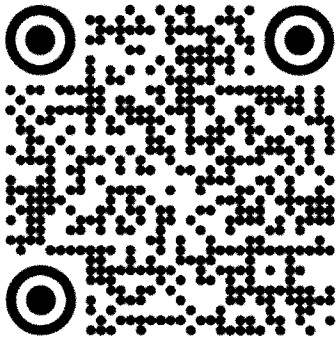
What do we do with this text?

**1. Submission to employers is more than ‘ _____
_____.’**

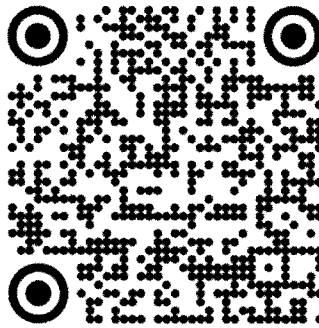
**2. Submission to authority can’t be _____ when
the authority figure is bad.**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How would you describe biblical submission to employers?
2. What do you think it looks like to submit 'with all [fear]' in the workplace?
3. What are some excuses you hear people give for not submitting to their employers? How would you respond?
4. How would you encourage/exhort a fellow believer who is struggling with an immoral boss?
5. What are some specific ways Christians can be witnesses in the workplace?



*Meet
the Staff*



*Online
Giving*



*Weekly
Announcements*

Blanks: livelihood, legal, the bare minimum, ignored