

Submitting to the Authorities

Or - "Should a Church Obey the Government Mandates During Covid-19"

Text - 1 Peter 1:13-17

Context - Peter has laid a foundation of the Gospel and he now takes us into some specific arenas of life. One arena of life is the question of the Christian's duty to the government. How should a Christian live his life as a citizen of an earthly country?

As you yield to authority...

1. _____ for the Lord's sake (vs. 13-14)
2. _____ the foolish through doing good (vs. 15)
3. _____ God (vs. 16)
4. _____ the progression of honor (vs. 17)

What are some examples in the Bible of people disobeying the government to obey God?

1. In Exodus 1:17, the Hebrew midwives were commanded by the Pharaoh of Egypt to kill off any male children who were born. The midwives disobeyed because they feared God.
2. Daniel 3:13-18 - The Babylonian Government ordered everyone to bow down to an image of the king. Shadrach, Meeshack, and Abednego refused to bow and they were thrown into the fiery furnace.
3. Daniel 6:10-24 - The king of Persia outlawed prayer for 30 days. No one could pray to any god but all were told to pray to King Darius instead. Daniel was thrown into the den of lions for praying to God.
4. Acts 5:27-29 - The apostles were ordered not to witness to anyone about Jesus. It was Peter himself who said in response - we ought to obey God rather than men.

The principle to be drawn from these passages is 'obey except when commanded to _____'.