

A close-up photograph showing a person's foot being washed in a shallow wooden bowl. A hand is visible, holding the foot and pouring water over it. The person's leg is wrapped in a light-colored, frayed cloth. The background is dark and textured.

**Honoring
authority**

Among the most powerful things we can do with our spiritual authority is to use it for submitting to God-appointed authority.

God does not qualify
which leaders are
"worthy" of our
submission. Simply holding
the God-appointed office
is His requirement.

**13 Submit yourselves for the Lord's
sake to every human institution,
whether to a king as the one in
authority,**

1 Peter 2:13–24

**14 or to governors as sent by him for
the punishment of evildoers and the
praise of those who do right.**

1 Peter 2:13–24

15 For such is the will of God that by doing right you may silence the ignorance of foolish men.

1 Peter 2:13–24

16 *Act* as free men, and do not use your freedom as a covering for evil, but *use it* as bondslaves of God.

1 Peter 2:13–24

**17 Honor all people, love the
brotherhood, fear God, honor the
king.**

1 Peter 2:13–24

18 Servants, be submissive to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are good and gentle, but also to those who are unreasonable.

1 Peter 2:13–24

19 For this *finds* favor, if for the sake of conscience toward God a person bears up under sorrows when suffering unjustly.

1 Peter 2:13–24

20 For what credit is there if, when you sin and are harshly treated, you endure it with patience? But if when you do what is right and suffer *for it* you patiently endure it, this *finds* favor with God.

1 Peter 2:13–24

21 For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps,

1 Peter 2:13–24

**22 WHO COMMITTED NO SIN, NOR
WAS ANY DECEIT FOUND IN HIS
MOUTH;**

1 Peter 2:13–24

23 and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting *Himself* to Him who judges righteously;

1 Peter 2:13–24

24 and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.

1 Peter 2:13–24

46 Then King Nebuchadnezzar *fell*
on his face and did homage to
Daniel, and gave orders to present to
him an offering and fragrant incense.

Daniel 2:46–48

47 The king answered Daniel and said, "Surely your God is a God of gods and a Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries, since you have been able to reveal this mystery."

Daniel 2:46–48

48 Then *the king promoted Daniel and gave him many great gifts, and he made him ruler* over the whole province of Babylon and chief prefect over all the wise men of Babylon.

Daniel 2:46–48

**7 “God sent me before you to
preserve for you a remnant in the
earth, and to keep you alive by a
great deliverance.**

Genesis 45:7–8

8 “Now, therefore, it was not you who sent me here, but God; and *He has made me a father to Pharaoh* and lord of all his household and ruler over all the land of Egypt.

Genesis 45:7–8

17 He said to David, "You are more righteous than I; for you have dealt well with me, while I have dealt wickedly with you.

1 Samuel 24:17–20

18 “You have declared today
that you have done good to me,
that the LORD delivered me into
your hand and *yet* you did not
kill me.

1 Samuel 24:17–20

19 “For if a man finds his enemy,
will he let him go away safely?

*May the LORD therefore reward
you with good in return for what
you have done to me this day.*

1 Samuel 24:17–20

20 “Now, behold, *I know that you will surely be king*, and that the kingdom of Israel will be established in your hand.

1 Samuel 24:17–20

Submission is its own
reward, because God
honors those who
honor authority.

Taking authority
before it is given to us
is usurping it — even
if it is God's will to
give it to us.

8 Then Abishai said to David, "Today God has delivered your enemy into your hand; now therefore, please let me strike him with the spear to the ground with one stroke, and I will not strike him the second time."

1 Samuel 26:8–12

9 But David said to Abishai, "Do not destroy him, for *who can stretch out his hand against the LORD'S anointed and be without guilt?*"

1 Samuel 26:8–12

10 David also said, "As the LORD lives, surely ***the LORD*** will strike him, or *his day will come* that he dies, or *he will go down into battle and perish*.

1 Samuel 26:8–12

11 *"The LORD forbid that I should stretch out my hand against the LORD'S anointed;* but now please take the spear that is at his head and the jug of water, and let us go."

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3 They assembled together against Moses and Aaron, and said to them, "You have gone far enough, for *all the congregation are holy*, every one of them, and the LORD is in their midst; so *why do you exalt yourselves* above the assembly of the LORD?"

Numbers 16:3