

THE ART OF SUBMISSION
With Mr Olanrewaju Alaya
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KPI FAMILY

Good evening all. Thanks for having me.

Prayer: Thank you Father for the privilege of learning at your feet again tonight..I ask that you'll open our eyes and fill our hearts with light in Jesus name. Amen!

The Art of Submission

The dictionary defined submission as "the action or fact of accepting or yielding to a superior force or to the will or authority of another person"

The idea of submission is that we cannot always do what we want or feel like doing, instead our actions are subject to the control of an authority.

Our idea of submission as a Christian must be guided by the Word of God.

In order for us to understand submission within the Christian perspective, I would love us to answer this question....

What is the final authority when it comes to Christian living?

If u are indeed a Christian, then we shouldn't have problem agreeing that the Word of God (bible) is the final authority for every believer.

Therefore, any form of submission must be within what the scripture has commanded. In other words, we are to submit to authority to the extent that submission is not violating God's direct commandments. I.e Our submission to God is absolute but our submission to man is not.

The Acts 4:19 But Peter and John answered and said to them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge.

The Acts 5:29 But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men.

When we know this, then we'll understand that submission is not putting man before God.

Submission is not agreeing on everything.

Submission is not living in torment.

Submission doesn't mean you no longer have a mind of your own.

Rebellion is inherent in every human being. So we are always uncomfortable with the concept of submission. We are bent on our ways and we do not obey God's law.

Romans 8:7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; **for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.**

However, those who are born of God has been regenerated and given a new heart. We now have the ability to submit to God's law and that's why Christians are not to behave like infidels.

We are to continually dig into God's word to know the will of God for us and to submit to it because that is the whole duty of man.

Ecclesiastes 12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter:

Fear God and keep His commandments,

For this is man's all.

Let's check the scriptures to see the various aspects God has called us to submit....

A) Submission to God

James 4:7

Therefore **submit to God**. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

We are to submit to God in **everything** and in **everyway**.

Our submission to God should be absolute as stated earlier.

And how do we submit to God?

We submit to God by obeying God's commandments.

John 8:31

Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed.

B) Submission to Church Leaders

Hebrews 13:17 Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.

The Word translated "rule" in this passage is "hegeomai" in Greek Which means "to lead." It doesn't mean to Lord it over the people as many may want to interpret it. That would be against the teaching

of Christ Himself.

We are to obey church leaders as under shepherds. We are not to make their job difficult for them. We are not to frustrate them. We are to honor them. We are to be submissive to them and follow them to the extent they themselves are following Christ.

The biblical idea of submission to church leaders is not the way many are preaching it in our day.

You are not to submit to heretics.

You are not to submit to so called leaders who are interested in your pocket to exploit you.

Submission is not taking permission from Pastor before you can go to the toilet.

Leaders are not to manipulate the people of God in the name of submission.

Leaders are not to form a **cult** in the name of submission.

C) Submission to one another

Ephesians 5:21 submitting to one another in the fear of God.

Romans 12:10 Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another;

We are to submit to one another as believers. We are to be accountable to one another. We confess our sins to one another

We honor one another and we do nothing out of strife and selfish ambition

Galatians 5:13 For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but **through love serve one another**.

D) Submission to Governmental Authority

Titus 3:1

Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work,

1 Peter 2:13

Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, whether to the king as supreme,

1 Peter 2:14 or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do good.

Romans 13:1

Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.

Romans 13:2 Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.

Romans 13:3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the

authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same.

Romans 13:4 For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil.

Romans 13:5 Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake.

Romans 13:6 For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing.

Romans 13:7 Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.

The scriptures says all governmental authorities are instituted by God including **Buhari** and **Yahaya Bello**.

We are not to rebel against Authority as long as government isn't asking us to do what outrightly violate our Faith

Nobody becomes a governor either by crook or rigging that is outside of what God has ordained.

God put Pharaoh on the throne. God put Nebuchadnezzar there. It's all part of His plan. Learn to trust in the Sovereignty of God. He has it all under control.

Don't go and form Revolution against a constituted government. That is rebellion and it is against the word of God.

Submit to Governmental Authority... pay your tax.. don't violate their instructions as long as it's not against your Faith.

E) Submission to your Boss at work

Colossians 3:22 Bondservants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh, not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God.

Colossians 3:23 And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men,

Colossians 3:24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.

Ephesians 6:5 Bondservants and Masters

Bondservants, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in sincerity of heart, as to Christ;

Ephesians 6:6 not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart,

Ephesians 6:7 with goodwill doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men,

Ephesians 6:8 knowing that whatever good anyone does, he will receive the same from the Lord, whether he is a slave or free.

Slave trade was on during the day of Jesus and the Apostles and this letter was written within that context.

However, it is applicable in principle to the relationship between an Employer and employee. We are not to be rude or disobey our Boss at work whether he/she is a believer or not.

We are to submit to them and follow their instructions as long as those instructions isn't against your Faith like "arrange girls for me" or "come sign a fraudulent paper"

F) Wife submission to the Husband

Wives are to submit to their own husbands. You are not submit to **every** man on the street.

Ephesians 5:24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to **their own husbands** in everything.

Husbands should focus on **loving their wives** while wives should focus on **submitting to their husbands**.

Instead of advocating feminism... Be a believer indeed and cultivate godly virtues so you won't end up Marrying an unbeliever that is incapable of Loving.

Submission in that home will never work and it will be hell for both

There's so much to say... but Time and medium of communication failed me. I'll be stopping here.

Father, we ask that you deliver our hearts from rebellion. Help us to submit to you in all things in Jesus name. Amen!

Thank you all!