

WRITE IT DOWN!

The Gospel & Your Politics

The Gospel for Real Life

1 Peter 2:11-25

Sunday, October 5, 2008

LISTEN UP!

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*When it comes to the arena of politics,
all that Jesus accomplished for us in the Gospel
leads us in these 7 directions. . .*

1. Toward an Active Engagement (1 Pt. 2:11)

Why & How? Because in the Gospel, Jesus . . .

2. Toward an Exemplary Personal Lifestyle (1 Pt. 2:12)

Why & How? Because in the Gospel, Jesus . . .

3. Toward a Submission to Authority (1 Pt 2:13-15)

Why & How? Because in the Gospel, Jesus . . .

4. Toward an Embracing of Our True Freedom (1 Pt. 2:16)

Why & How? Because in the Gospel, Jesus . . .

5. Toward a Humble Respect of All (1 Pt. 2:17)

Why & How? Because in the Gospel, Jesus . . .

6. Toward a Patient Suffering (1 Pt. 2:18-20)

Why & How? Because in the Gospel, Jesus . . .

7. Toward a Continuous Trust in a Sovereign God (1 Pt. 2:23)

Why & How? Because in the Gospel, Jesus . . .

THINK IT OVER!

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1. Read 1 Peter 2 again, but this time begin up in verse 9. According to verse 9, why has God made us his people? Does this have anything to do with politics?
2. Describe the political climate and opportunity of those to whom Peter writes. Compare that to our environment. Why does that make what Peter writes here even more shocking and challenging to us?
3. Describe what Peter means when he refers to his readers as “aliens and strangers”? Why are they called this? Does this imply their withdrawal from social concerns? Does it imply their grasping after power?
4. Who was the king that those to whom Peter writes were supposed to “honor” and submit to? What do you know about this despotic ruler? (Go ahead and feel free to Google him!)
5. Why are we called to suffer patiently when wronged according to verse 21?

WORK IT OUT!

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1. What was new and most challenging for you in this week’s text/message?
2. Describe how you see evangelical Christians involved in politics? Is it working? Is it in line with what we see here in 1 Peter?
3. Why should the Gospel cause us to view folks with different political views than our own with humble respect? What is true of all political ideologies and systems?
4. Is it a challenge for you to stay actively engaged in the political process or is it a passion for you? What do you do to get informed and educated on the issues? How does the Gospel need to shape your own political involvement?
5. Why is all that Peter tells us here so tough, especially for us Americans? What is it about our history and culture that makes the limited role outlined here such a challenge for us to live within?