

“Four Reasonable Responsibilities”

1 Pet. 2:13-17

Introduction

- I. Every Christian is blessed to have liberty in Christ.
- II. Our liberty should not be misused in our every day actions.
- III. We have responsibilities to others.
 - A. We should honor all men.
 - B. We should love the brotherhood.
 - C. We should fear God.
 - D. We should honor the king.

Discussion

- I. We should honor all men.
 - A. All of humanity is made in the image of God (Gen. 1:26-27).
 - B. God sees value in every soul (2 Pet. 3:9; Titus 2:11-12; Acts 10:24).
 - C. Christians should care about each soul (Matt. 22:39; Heb. 13:2; Matt. 5:44-48).
- II. We should love the brotherhood.
 - A. Love is an amazingly beautiful thing (1 Cor. 13:4-8).
 - B. Brotherly love is specific and important (2 Pet. 1:7; Rom. 12:9-18).
- III. We should fear God.
 - A. Reverential fear is absolutely essential (Eccl. 12:13-14).
 - B. Our understanding of the greatness of God should instill in us a healthy fear (Matt. 10:28; Heb. 12:28-29; Prov. 1:7).
- IV. We should honor the king.
 - A. Ultimately, the King of Kings is the Lord, Jesus Christ (Dan. 4:17; 1 Tim. 6:15; Rev. 17:14; 19:16).
 - B. It is because of God, that physical kings have their power (John 19:10-11).
 - C. Christians must be obedient to the civil government [so long as the civil government does not decree that we disobey God {Acts 5:29}] (Rom. 13:1-7).

Conclusion

- I. As children of God, we have responsibilities that must be observed.
- II. When we refuse to observe those responsibilities, we bring reproach upon God and the church (James 5:16).