

Welcome

to



GraceUnion
CHURCH

Encountering Grace through Jesus, right where we are.
Being moved by Grace toward all God has for us.

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Shaken: When Do We Make Waves?

I. **What if some of us are making waves in areas of life that would otherwise be peaceful?**

1 Peter 2:11-17

- 11 Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul.
- 12 Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.
- 13 Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority,
- 14 or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right.
- 15 For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people.
- 16 Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves.
- 17 Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.

II. **For Jesus followers, there are certain areas of life where we are expected to buck the system of what goes on around us; and there are areas where God expects us to play nice with what is around us.**

John 18:36

Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place."

- A. The Kingdom Jesus set up SUPERSEDES all human kingdoms, but it does not nullify them.
- B. We belong to King Jesus, but we serve Jesus THROUGH our involvement in human systems.
- C. There are sinful patterns of living that are normal in the world around us that we are called to oppose in our own life.
- D. But, when it comes to our community, our government, and all of it's systems, in this area, we not called to be countercultural.
- E. Governments will be as messed up as people are.

III. For some reason God is committed to partnering with Humans and allowing our choices to play out.

- A. Governments and all human systems are a mixed bag, and that has always been the case.
 - Even still God instructs Christians to: honor, submit and serve

Romans 13:1

Let everyone be subject to the governing authority because there is no authority except by God's appointment

IV. This doesn't mean that you have to like it or agree.

- A. Pray.

1 Timothy 2:2 tells us to pray for those in authority that we may lead quiet peaceful lives

- B. Vote.
- C. Run for office yourself.

- D. Respect reflects the quality of the person being respected, but honor reflects the quality of the person displaying it.

V. If you want peace and a steadfast life that honors God then, know which pool to float in and which to make waves in.

- A. **We invite unnecessary turmoil into our lives by participating where we should be resisting, and resisting where we should be prayerfully honoring and submitting.**

VI. We are freed up to live this way when we recognize that God truly is our source.

- A. God wants you to live a life characterized by peace.

1 Peter 3:8-9

8 finally all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble.

9 Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.

VII. Jesus died to turn you into a blessing. Through you, he wants to bless your surroundings.