

Rebel with a New Cause

1 Peter 2:13-17

Brent Sinclair

Scripture readings:

1. Kid – Proverbs 22:6 (~~Asher Gingrich/Evan~~) (Youth, Kassidy McDaniel)
2. Youth – Deuteronomy 6:6-7 (Makenna Garcia)
3. YA – Psalm 78:4-7 (Merina Balam, Krista Brown)
4. Adult – 2 Chronicles 7:14 (Jon Elving)
5. Senior – Psalm 71:18 (Bill Kosky)

Thank you.....One of our priorities this season is “intergenerationality”. Vital if our church is to thrive; for the Church to survive.

This week 21 of us trekked down to Simi Valley to see and experience the Dead Sea Scrolls.



Amazing experience of discovery and fellowship. 2000-year-old manuscripts of the OT. The WORD of God has made a miraculous journey to His spoken word, the written word and through Jesus himself. More copies of the Bible have been published than any other book. Even so, we ALL must pass on God’s word to the next generation. HEED and obey the words just proclaimed.

Today, continue 1 Peter 2:13-17, Rebel with a new cause. We are a rebellious people, rebellion to authority is nothing new, and though some recent events may resonate with you, the 1960’s was the embodiment of rebellion, here is a glimpse of 1968. (**Begin video:**)

<https://youtu.be/ORuS1-437bA?si=LcRe2gzAgH0YwxQF> (0-1:00)

Pictures of protests on screen as music video playing:





***antiDisestablishmentarianism**

The 1960's - Down with the establishment!

Invention of new words: groovy, far out, not my bag, bummer, dig it!

New practices and societal mores altered, hair and clothing styles reflected the mood

Favorite new word teenagers were passing around "Antidisestablishmentarianism", so naturally pre-teens were using it like supercalifragilisticexpialidocious. Most had no clue as to what it actually meant but tied it to rebellion of the "man" or "government" or "big business"

Meaning? The word actually means NOT (anti) favoring bifurcation (separation) of the church of England and the state/country of England (1800's).

(People in our country have borrowed that term and repackaged for different causes...) So, stoned, most did not know the meaning.

Brent Story



Did not own bell bottoms, that was as long as my hair got, kinda Jesus Freak, without the freak, watching protests from a distance in my working-class neighborhood that took a dim view of hippies and protestors, though we had our own private rebellions)

Story – my hair and Dad; job at grocery store; race riots at high school.

The scene is set in the 60's, not 1960's, THE 60's, AD 60 in Jerusalem? Peter, the apostle who Christ established as "the Rock upon whom I will build my church" was addressing both political zealots who hated the "man" (Roman Government with Nero emperor), God fearing

Jews, and newly believing gentiles who rolled with the punches. Very few citizens, 10-15% of the population, 20-30% slaves.

Here is what Peter wrote *1 Peter 2:13-17 NIV

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.

That is a tall order, a lot to live up to – a lot to live into. We obviously need help because we are a rebellious sort. Let's go to the LORD in pray and seek His help.

PRAYER

*SUBMIT! - To What? To Whom? Why?

Who in the world wants to teach this stuff. WHY ME? – I am a good example of the walking and talking contradiction of rebellion—child of the 60's. Called by God into active duty as a public servant. First city planning then city management – 35 years of service.

I grew up in a middle-working class neighborhood in OKC, in an era of rebellion, scandals both in big government (Watergate) and big business (Dow Chemical, Three Mile Island, etc).

Story... race riots at HS

This was the first century. Roman Rule was not participatory government; it was Pax Romano! Government was totally corrupt, vile and godless. So were the people, practicing the decadence of the preceding Greek period of Hellenization under Alexander the Great; now supersized into Roman decadence and power. In *that* context Peter says....

- How are we going to wiggle out of this? Common ways:
- Contextualization
- Word wiggle

*What:

- Submit or Subject, Greek, hupotasso (hoop-o-Tas-so), to place or rank under; to obey
- Luke 2:51, Jesus subjects himself to parents; 10:17, demons subject to disciples through Jesus;

- **Not** the same as *tolerate*. **Not** the same as *respect*

***To Who or whom:**

- to **every** human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, [14](#) or to governors
- And yes, obviously to God's authority

***Why...IS the Mission:**

- [11](#) they may see your **good deeds** and **glorify God** on the day he visits us
- [13](#) for the Lord's sake; His Cause – not ours
- [15](#) for it is **God's will** that by doing good you should **silence** the ignorant talk of foolish people (we are His witnesses)
- [16](#) Live as **free people**, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; (we are set apart, they will know us for or Love)

Modern day rebellions from authority

1. Tax law
2. Traffic laws...speeding, seatbelt not on
3. Not getting a building permit
4. Watering on non-water days
5. Cheating on job applications or exams
6. Jaywalking
7. Littering (two-and four legged)
8. Not getting license for pets – dogs without leash
9. Netflixing on someone else's account
10. Singing Macarena in public



You are likely reacting one of three ways:

1. That's just stupid. Ain't no way I am submitting to anything
2. I understand what you are saying, but I get caught up in the moment
3. I got it, but it took this...to get me there.

Story - ticket, building permit

How do you rationalize your rebellions??

*** IT is all about the MISSION**

It was our very own Simon THE ROCK Peter, the very author of 1 and 2 Peter, AND who

***John 18:10- Then Simon Peter, who had a sword drew it and struck the high priest's 's servant, cutting off his right ear.**

- Ain't no way. Not submitting! Not going out without a fight!
- This was in the prayer garden...the Prayer garden!
- Why was a disciple of Jesus carrying **that** sword????
- **Rebellious acts; disturbing the peace, incite a riot, assault with a deadly weapon**
Jesus responds to the Rock - ***Put your sword away! Shall I not drink the cup the father has given me? John 18:11**

Peter learned his lesson and he speaks with experience like no one else. Literally and visually he experienced the death and rebirth of his rebellion. His cause was getting in the way of Jesus cause. Is YOUR obstinance and rebellion promoting the cause of Jesus Christ and His kingdom or getting in the way of it?

***Jesus to Pilate (the Authority) John 18:36 My Kingdom is not of this world**

Want more: Apostle Paul **Romans 13:1-6** under the Roman rule...Paul wrote this in

***Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. ²Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. ³For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. ⁴For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. ⁵Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience.**

[6](#)This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. [7](#)Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor

Want to break civil and criminal law in our county?

WELL... don't expect God's blessing – not his way. **Do** expect to be punished by that authority. **Don't** expect God to bale you out.

WHERE do you draw the line??? Here are my exceptions.

EXCEPTIONS– when God commands it. Here are two examples:

- Go, Preach and Teach the Word of God – the Gospel
- Meet together in praise, fellowship and breaking of bread

EXCEPTION Acts 4:18-20

*Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak the name of Jesus. But Peter and John replied, "Which is right in God's eyes: to listen to you, or to him? You be the judges! As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard."

GOOD EXAMPLE – Apostle Paul continually sent to prison for allegedly breaking civil law. He used his citizenship to exercise due process – otherwise he would have been severely harmed or killed. Acts 22:25-29

[25](#)But as they stretched him out to strap him down, Paul said to the centurion standing there, "Is it lawful for you to flog a Roman citizen without a trial?"

[26](#)On hearing this, the centurion went and reported it to the commander. "What are you going to do?" he said. "This man is a Roman citizen."

[27](#)The commander went to Paul and asked, "Tell me, are you a Roman citizen?"

"Yes," he answered.

[28](#)"I paid a high price for my citizenship," said the commander.

"But I was born a citizen," Paul replied.

Paul used his citizenship to exercise his due process; though he spent the rest of his life imprisoned, his letters and teaching had world changing influence.

SO, **Yes**, use the judicial system to its fullest extent. That is what it is there for.

Don't like system MAN. Change it. We live in a Democratic Republic. Learn how it works and work withing it. Or remain rebellious and cynical.

Brent Story - God called me to not fight the MAN, not to lord over the man, but to be the man, the Man of God called into public service. First into city Planning, then into City Management. Not so much what I did, more about my witness and character – how I did it, how I reacted, how I fought battles – just in a different way. Don't get sucked into debates that detract from the mission. We want to win people, not debates.....Conversely we don't hide from the truth or be ashamed of it.

***Rebels with a New Cause**

- **Put Your Sword Away!**
- **Trade it in for a New Sword**

I thank God many of you are like the Rock -Peter

I ask you - exchange your sword for a different kind of sword. The kind that is sharper than any two edged sword, the kind that is ACTIVE and ALIVE, the kind that penetrates even to divide soul and spirit between bone and marrow, the kind that judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart, not just the actions of the body.

***Ephesians 6:17: Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.** This passage teaches us to put on the full armor of God, including the only offensive weapon, the "sword of the spirit, which is the word of God"

***WORD** in this instance is not **logos**, it is **rhema**, Greek (*hray'-mah*) +more intimate, personal word spoken by God, through His Holy Spirt.

Trade your sword in for this new one.

- Rebellion is in our genes, not just the bell bottoms, not just from the 60's
 - we can't remove it, we can cover it and try to tame it, but it will show its ugly head eventually. We have to be transformed...
- Rebellion is learned – it can be unlearned

Fellow rebels with a new cause, want to change the world?

Peter didn't become a pacifist when he put his sword down. He didn't cease being a rebel, He was given a new cause to start a church movement that forever changed the world. His passion, his emotions and his actions were all for the gospel of Jesus Christ.

- *Don't give up, give in to Jesus and His way. Make sure you are following the right Jesus
- *Lay the old sword of rebellion down, pick up the new one which is the Spirit of God
- *Allow, beckon, petition the Holy Spirit to transform/change you. Fill rebellion with....
- *Get on board with His mission, His Cause, the Jesus WAY – FAR OUT!

Is your passion solely a personal rebellion or is it taking a stand for Jesus' Way, opening doors for Him to be known?

PRAYER