

**Written Up, Written Down:
Witnesses to the World**

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1 Peter 2.13-25
October 4, 2026

Sideways honor is upward worship.

"Honoring others witnesses to the world."

Written up by them. Written down by him.

"Follow his record, and you will not be shaped by theirs."

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

Text-Based

1. In 1 Peter 2:13–14, what exactly does Peter tell them to do, and what reason does he give in the phrase “for the Lord’s sake”?
2. Read 1 Peter 2:17 slowly. What four commands does Peter give, and how are “fear God” and “honor the emperor” different?
3. In 1 Peter 2:21–23, what does Peter say Jesus did not do when he was reviled and when he suffered?

Theological

4. Peter calls them free and servants of God in the same verse (2:16). How can both be true at once?
5. “Sideways honor is upward worship.” How does doing good for the Lord’s sake display God’s greatness without turning the ruler into God?
6. “Written up by them. Written down by him.” According to 1 Peter 2:24, what did Jesus bear, and what does that do to every other verdict over you?

Practical

7. Where do you need to honor an authority you disagree with, and where would obedience cross the line into sin?
8. Peter’s pattern is no deceit, no reviling, no threats, and no slacking (2:22–23). Which of those shows up in your workplace, classroom, or home, and what would tracing Jesus look like there this week?

Soul-Searching

9. His record is the pattern, so the world does not get to shape you. Where are you shrinking into the shape of the person or system that wronged you?
10. You were straying sheep, and you have returned to the Shepherd (2:25). Where are you still living as if their write-up is the final word?