

Who interprets scripture and who applies it – me or God

Consider this scripture:

I Timothy 2:1 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, [and] giving of thanks, be made for all men;

I Timothy 2:2 For kings, and [for] all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

Is this a universal truth that should always be obeyed without regard to the Holy Spirit – The Spirit who Jesus said would himself guide me into all the truth, who alone brings life to the deadness of the letter of the scripture and interprets and applies it in my life, who alone knows the will of the Father and upon whom alone I am dependant to have the necessary faith to believe God for the answers to my prayers ?

Consider a similar scripture:

I Peter 2:13 Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme;

I Peter 2:14 Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.

Is this another universal truth that must always be obeyed without regard to the essential role of the Holy Spirit and to the fact that Christianity is first and last a relationship with God through Jesus Christ and not a set of rules ?

If it is a rule then it would have to include submission to Stalin, Hitler and Saddam Hussein. Did God Himself obey this rule in His instructions to Joseph concerning Herod's (the ruler) plan to kill all the children ?

Matthew 2:13 And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him.

Did Peter and John, filled with the Holy Spirit, follow this rule in their response to the command of the rulers of Israel ?

Acts 4:8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel,

Acts 4:18 And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus.

Acts 4:19 But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye.

Acts 4:20 For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.

Did the disciples in Damascus obey this rule when the Jews decided to Kill Saul (Paul) ?

Acts 9:22 But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ.

Acts 9:23 And after that many days were fulfilled, the Jews took counsel to kill him:

Acts 9:24 But their laying await was known of Saul. And they watched the gates day and night to kill him.

Acts 9:25 Then the disciples took him by night, and let [him] down by the wall in a basket.

How can a believer comply with both of the following commandments of Jesus unless being led of the Holy Spirit he knows where and when each one applies ?

Mark 16:15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

Matthew 7:6 Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.