

LORD, CHANGE

MY ATTITUDE

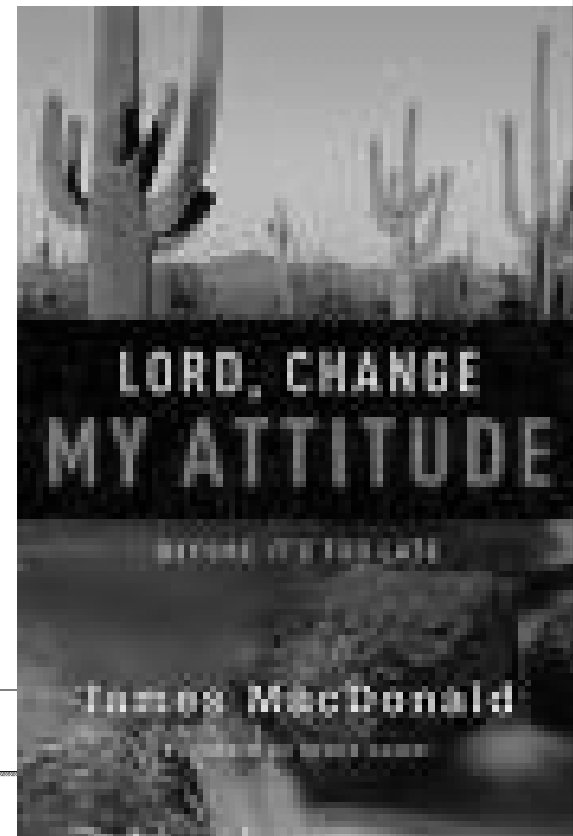
BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE



Based on book of same title by **James MacDonald**

Five Wilderness Attitudes

1. replace a Complaining attitude ...
2. ...with a Thankful attitude
3. replace a Covetous attitude ...
4. ... with an attitude of Contentment
5. replace a Critical attitude ...
6. ... with an attitude of Love
7. replace a Doubting attitude ...
8. ... with an attitude of Faith
9. replace a Rebellious attitude ...
10. ... **with an attitude of Submission**



Korah's rebellion

Six Sources of Rebellion as demonstrated by the Israelites in Numbers 16:

1. Jealousy (verse 3)
2. Delusion (verses 4-8)
3. Ungratefulness (verses 9-10)
4. Stubbornness (verse 12)
5. Disappointment (verse 13)
6. Distrust (verse 14)

An attitude is a pattern of thinking formed over a period of time

Four Consequences of Rebellion as demonstrated by the Israelites in Numbers 16:

1. Leadership withdrawal (verses 23-24)
2. Innocent people are injured (verses 26-32)
3. Guilty will be condemned (verses 28-35)
4. Infection spread (verse 41)

Submission, when properly understood and applied, replaces the pain and strife of rebellion and greatly increases human happiness

■ Romans 13:1

¹ Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.

■ 1 Peter 2:13-14;

¹³ Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, whether to the king as supreme, ¹⁴ or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do good.

■ Eph 5:21

²¹ submitting to one another in the fear of God

- **Submission.** Greek word - *hupotasso*.
- Military term - “*to arrange troop divisions under the command of a leader*”, “*to take your place under*” (Eph.1:22); “*to subject yourself under the authority of someone else*” (Luke 2:51).
- Non-military - “*a voluntary attitude of giving in, of cooperating, of sharing a burden*”.
- **Yielding and obedient attitude of the heart; an attitude of co-operation and support.**

- Romans 13:1 *Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.*
- Every one of us is instructed to submit. Not just for children, but also for parents. Not just for church members, but also for leaders.
- Ephesians 5:21 *Submitting to one another in the fear of God*
- **Submission is mutual. Not just for a few people.**

The Bible clearly teaches that we are to submit to:

1. God (James 4:7)
2. One Another (Eph. 5:21)
3. Earthly Authorities (1 Pet. 2:18-21)
4. Masters (Eph. 6:5-9; Col. 3:22-4:1)
5. Parents (Eph. 6:1-4; Col. 3:20, 21)
6. Husbands (Eph. 5:22, 23; Col. 3:18, 19; 1 Pet. 3:1-7)

How we can replace a rebellious attitude with an attitude of submission? 1 Peter 2:13-25; 3:1-7

¹³ Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, whether to the king as supreme, ¹⁴ or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do good. ¹⁵ For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men—¹⁶ as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as bondservants of God. ¹⁷ Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.

¹⁸ Servants, be submissive to your masters with all fear, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the harsh. ¹⁹ For this is commendable, if because of conscience toward God one endures grief, suffering wrongfully. ²⁰ For what credit is it if, when you are beaten for your faults, you take it patiently? But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God.

21 For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:

***22 “ Who committed no sin,
Nor was deceit found in His mouth”;***

23 who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously; 24 who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed. 25 For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

PRINCIPLE 1: Submission is duty to God

- **Focal point: God is the one to whom we are submitting**
- **1 Peter 2:13** *Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, whether to the king as supreme*
- Not forced submission: **SUBMIT YOURSELVES**
- **1 Peter 3:1** *Wives, in the same way be submissive to your husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives*
- **1 Peter 3:7** *Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.*
- **FOR THE LORD'S SAKE**

PRINCIPLE 2: Submission is Protection by God.

1 Peter 2:14 or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do good.

The authority structure God has ordained is meant to protect us.



Submission to authority is protection by God.

The choice between submission and rebellion affects every part of our life.

Don't!!

- Rebellion
- Pride
- My rights
- Acting on my own
- Doubt and disobey



Do

- Submission
- Humility
- Love ("You before me")
- Waiting on God
- Trust and obey

In the church, it is this willingness to submit to one another in the Lord, which prompts Christians to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Eph. 4:3).

¹ I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, ² with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, ³ endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

PRINCIPLE 3: Submission has limits under God

- Is there no limits?
- If submission to one authority contradicts God's authority, we must obey God, who is the highest authority.
- Peter and the apostles before the Sanhedrin council. Acts 5:27-29

*²⁶ Then the captain went with the officers and brought them without violence, for they feared the people, lest they should be stoned. ²⁷ And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest asked them, ²⁸ saying, "Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name? And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this Man's blood on us!" ²⁹ **But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men.***

- Daniel's three friends before King Nebuchadnezzar.
Chapter 3.

¹⁴ Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying to them, "Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the gold image which I have set up?"

*¹⁶ Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego answered and said to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. ¹⁷ **If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king.***

Look to the example of our Lord

- Christ - our example. 1 Peter 2:21.

²¹ For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:

*²² “ Who committed no sin,
Nor was deceit found in His mouth”;*

²³ who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously;

²⁴ who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.

He committed himself to God the Father who judges righteously.

- Christ submission to the Father. Luke 22:42.

⁴¹ And He was withdrawn from them about a stone’s throw, and He knelt down and prayed, ⁴² saying, “Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.”

PRINCIPLE 4: Submission is Favor & Intimacy with God

- God wants our heartfelt and willing humility. God wants to see us with a submissive spirit.
- Peter encourages us:
*18 Servants, be submissive to your masters with all fear, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the harsh. 19 For this is commendable, if because of conscience toward God one endures grief, suffering wrongfully. 20 For what credit is it if, when you are beaten for your faults, you take it patiently? **But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God.***
- If we suffer for doing good, God is pleased with us.

- Submission requires a change of heart from our rebellious spirit. A change in our attitude and outlook of people and situations. Transform from a rebellious attitude to one that pleases God.
- **'None of self and all of thee'.**
- We depend and rely on Him to overcome adversaries that cause us to rebel in the home, church or marketplace.
- We draw nearer to Him when challenged to submit to these authorities, and in the process strengthen our relationship with Him.

Remember:

- Everyone is to submit to authority.
- Submission offers protection.
- Submission has limits; the highest authority is God.
- Submission is favour and intimacy with God.

- Jesus submitted himself to the Father (Hebrews 5:7).
- Church is to submit to Christ (Ephesians 5:24),
- All believers are to submit to one another (Ephesians 5:21).

May God give us true understanding of humility and submission, so that we may put on the attitude of submission, from our hearts, be it in the family, in the church, or in the marketplace.