

## Meaner than a junkyard dog



Many years ago, Jim Croce sang about a man who was meaner than a junkyard dog. How mean is that; well take a look at this dog and I think you will get an idea. I wonder, does he have any reason to be mean? What if someone were cruel to him, treated him like a D-O-G!! Would that excuse his meanness; well, maybe, but what if **you** were treated in not so nice a way over a long period of time... could (or rather should) your behavior be

excused. I listed some various translations of a verse from 1st Peter for you to think about.

### **1Pe 2:18**

(ASV) Servants, be in subjection to your masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the **froward**.

(BBE) Servants, take orders from your masters with all respect; not only if they are good and gentle, but even if they are **bad-humoured**.

(CEV) Servants, you must obey your masters and always show respect to them. Do this, not only to those who are kind and thoughtful, but also to those who are **cruel**.

(Darby) Servants, be subject with all fear to your masters, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the **ill-tempered**.

(DRB) Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear, not only to the good and gentle but also to the **froward**.

(EMTV) Servants, subject yourselves to your masters with all fear, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the **crooked**.

(ESV) Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to **the unjust**.

(GW) Slaves, place yourselves under the authority of your owners and show them complete respect. Obey not only those owners who are good and kind, but also **those who are unfair**.

(KJV) Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the **froward**.

(LITV) Servants, be obedient to your masters in all fear, not only to those good and forbearing, but also to the **perverse ones**.

(MKJV) Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear, not only to those good and forbearing, but also to the **perverse ones**.

(RV) Servants, be in subjection to your masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the **froward**.

(YLT) The domestics! be subjecting yourselves in all fear to the masters, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the **cross**;

Literally, the word for "cross" (σκολιοις) means winding or crooked; its the word we use to describe someone who has a crooked spine. If you have ever worked for someone who was this way, you would know how unpleasant they can make life. But Peter is saying to be obedient to even the not-so-nice ones. Its easy to serve somebody who is good and kind, but Christians are charged to obey, regardless. I know this is tough, but it is to be heeded anyway. Don't let evil get the best of you and turn you into someone who is meaner than a junkyard dog, rather unleash the goodness in you and let God take care of the situation; it works, I know, I have seen it.