

“The Christian and Government:  
Governing to the Glory of God” (Part 3)

Romans 13:1-7

*“The God of Israel has spoken; the Rock of Israel has said to me: When one rules justly over men, ruling in the fear of God, he dawns on them like the morning light, like the sun shining forth on a cloudless morning, like rain that makes grass to sprout from the earth.” (2 Samuel 23:3-4)*

*“Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.” (1 Peter 2:11-12)*

*“Some of us are more passionate about submitting to the government than we are about submitting to our elders, bosses, and ultimately even God. Some of us don't want to submit to anyone because we believe we are the ultimate authority in place of God. We so often want comfort over holiness and we want control over faith.”*

- *“Let every person be subject to the governing authorities....”*
  - The biblical expectation is that all people (both saved and unsaved) should submit to what God has commanded us to submit to for His glory and for our good (Ephesians 5:21). All biblical submission pleases God and is for our good.
  - As Christians, we submit to God and His Word (Romans 8:7); We submit to God's Elders (Hebrews 13:17; 1 Peter 5:5); We submit to God's governing authorities (Romans 13:1); Christian wives submit to their husbands (Ephesians 5:22); Christian children obey their parents (Ephesians 6:1); and this shows the supremacy of God's wisdom over all things and our love for and faith in Christ!
  - Every person has the biblical responsibility to submit to the Governing authorities that God has placed over them as long as the Government does not command us to do evil and does not step out of their sphere of authority. That is, that they enter into the other areas of governance and try to take authority to control or govern what they have not been given jurisdiction to control or govern.
    - An Elder disciplining your children.
    - A father demanding that his adult son/daughter be a vegan.
    - The Government managing your personal finances.
    - An Elder demanding you wear a suit and tie to be a church member.
    - The Government demands that you can only eat fast food.
    - A Husband demands that his wife only wear pink.
    - A Father physically or emotionally abusing his family.
    - A Church teaching a works based salvation to their people.
    - A Government shutting down and persecuting the church.
- *“For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God....”*
  - All authority has been put in place by God, that is, no one accidentally got there. God has a purpose and a plan for all authority He has ordained (Daniel 2:21; Daniel 4:35).
  - All authority/every individual will be judged by God for whether they ruled justly according to God's Word (2 Corinthians 5:10; Ecclesiastes 12:13-14).
  - The less proper governance the more evil men become (Psalm 2:1-3). *Freedom from submission* to God leads to more and more sin (Romans 1:18-23 & 28-32).
- *“Whoever resists what God has appointed....will incur judgment.”*

(continued →)

**Worship:** Tis So Sweet (Various Artists)      Jesus Thank You (Sovereign Grace Music)

O Lord My Rock and My Redeemer (Sovereign Grace Music)

**Closing Song:** Christ the Solid Rock (Norton Hall Band)

**Service Times:** Sundays: Revelation Class 4/Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 6:30 & 7;

Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

- It is a good thing to be fearful of the consequences of rejecting God's Word and His design. There are consequences in this life for disobedience and in eternity (Hebrews 10:30-31 & 12:28-29; Exodus 20:18-21; 1 Peter 4:12-19).
- We should be thankful for the graces that God has given us to put to death sin in our lives (Romans 8:12-13; Colossians 3:5) and the authorities in our lives that God has given us that do honor Him in their roles (1 Thessalonians 5:12 & 18).
  - Parents, Elders, Government, Church, the Bible, prayer, friendships, marriage, jobs, and personal responsibilities.
- *For rulers are....(husbands, parents, bosses, elders, government)*
  - Not a terror to good conduct, but to bad (Romans 13:3).
  - Are to be respected and submitted to (Romans 13:3).
  - Give approval and praise when good is done (Romans 13:3).
  - A good/godly leader punishes/addresses sin according to their realm of authority (Romans 13:4).
  - We should want to avoid the physical/temporal consequences of sin, but should also obey because we love God and don't want to grieve the Holy Spirit (Romans 13:5; Ephesians 4:30).
  - To be supported as ministers of God (Romans 13:6).
- *"Pay to all what is owed...."*
  - *"Owe no one anything except to love each other, for the one who loves one another has fulfilled the law....Love does no wrong to a neighbor (all people in all positions); therefore love is the fulfilling of the law....But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires." Romans 13:8-14*
    - 1) Love all people according to the Word of God. 2) Be thankful for all of God's sin restraining grace. 3) Call evil what is evil and call all people to repentance. 4) Give positional respect and honor while addressing sin.
- Final thoughts:
  - Salvation impacts every earthly relationship that we have. From submission to ruling, we have been clearly instructed and fully empowered to live according to the Word of God.
  - Biblical preaching and biblical living is how we impact our nation. The Christian should maximize their time, energy, and money into the gospel of Jesus Christ, the mission of the local church — not being distracted by being a social activist.
  - Christians always have the obligation to explain carefully, thoroughly, and respectfully their reasons for their civil disobedience. It is for the Lord's sake that we both submit to and resist authority.

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Account Balance: \$34,200.92 August Balance: \$40,346.97	Weekly Budget: \$3,200.50
Actual Tithe: September 5	\$2,471
Actual Tithe: September 12	\$2,097
Actual Tithe: September 19	\$2,247
Actual Tithe: September 26	\$540