

Series "How Great A Salvation"
"God, Government And Me"
Romans 13:1-7
Study-37

Christians can have great difficulty in thinking of governmental leaders who are tyrannical, vicious, or cruel, as, in any sense, being servants of God. Romans 12:2

Romans 1-11 Doctrine Of Salvation: Romans 12-16 Duty Of Salvation:

**Romans 12:1-21 Christian Life As A Sacrifice To God:
Romans 13:1-14 Christian Life In Public Duty:**

**Romans 13:1-7 God, Government And Me:
Romans 13:8-14 A Wake-Up Call: (Life In The Last Days)**

Thought Of Our Passage: All Authority Has Been Given By God, So Resisting Authority Will Result In Judgment And A Disturbed Conscience:

7 Reasons For Obedience To Authority:

1. Verse 1 – We Should Be Subject To The State Because It Is A Divine Institution: Romans 13:1 Every person

Paul has left off in **Context -**

Romans 12:1-21 Christian Life As A Sacrifice To God:

Romans 12:9-13 How to love those in the Church:

Romans 12:14-21 How to love those in the World:

Romans 12:20-21

The believer is to experience victory through God when the good is done!

Every person Not Every believer, but every person!

is to be in subjection "*to place in order*" it is a Greek military term of placing in proper rank, to organize. **James 4:7 Submit therefore to God.**

Submit To Leaders In The Church - **1 Corinthians 16:16**

to the governing authorities "*the powers that be*" (Civil Authorities) all levels of authority "*Any person that makes and carries out the law is to be obeyed*" - **Titus 3:1-2; 1 Peter 2:13**

Paul in writing Roman's was under the world's most ungodly leader. Jews would not submit to Gentiles - **Acts 18:2** Paul had been mistreated by Roman authorities **Acts 16:37** yet Paul still submitted!

The State Is A Divinely Ordained Institution: For there is no authority except from God,

and those which exist are established by God. God is pro government.

The purpose of government is to guard against anarchy. **Judges 17:6**

Daniel 2:21

God Is Working Through The One In Office: For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God.

Daniel 4:17

2. Verse 2 – Resistance To Established Authority Is Resistance To God, And Will Be Punished: Romans 13:2 Therefore

(No authority except from God, those that exist are from God)
**whoever resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God;
This passage is not suggesting that everything that government
does is justified - no matter what it is. (Free Pass)**

Matthew 22:20-21 indicated that there are limits to the power of government.

Life Is Like A 2-Sided Coin:

**The Christian is a citizen of two different kingdoms!
Kingdom of God and an earthly kingdom.**

**and they who have opposed will receive condemnation –
"damnation, judgment, punishment" upon themselves.**

People – People's Behavior with one another:

Property - Preserve the people's right to personal property:

Titus 3:1-2

3. Verse 3 – Rulers Should Be Viewed As Ministers, Appointed To Encourage What Is Good, To Punish What Is Evil: Romans 13:3

**The State Is The Minister Of True Justice:
For rulers are not a cause of fear for good behavior, but for evil.
Do you want to have no fear of authority? (How does one become
pro-police? Pro-authority?) Do what is good,**

Do what is good, and you will have praise "approval" from the same;

**4. Verse 4 – Only Evildoers Have Anything To Fear From Properly
Established Authority: Romans 13:4**

God reveals the basic function of government:

**Function Of Government To Protect Citizens From Evil:
for it is a minister of God to you for good.**

Notice the term **for it is a minister of God**
(Not minister of the Gospel) this is said **3 times** in this passage.
In **Verses- 4, 6**

Minister – This is the word we use for "deacon", But Scripture calls these governing agents deacons, for they are servants of God.
(Preserving Good, and Executing Wrath)

But if you do what is evil, be afraid;

**Function Of Government To Punish Evil:
for it does not bear the sword for nothing;**

Sword - "a dagger or a sword" (Life & Death) It is forms of protection,
punishment, and also judgment.

**for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one
who practices evil.**

**The state is to do what the Christian is not to do executing wrath!
Romans 12:17,19**

Civil Wrath Is A Prototype Of God's Wrath, That Restrains Evil:

**5. Verse 5 – We Should Be Subject To The State Not Only From Fear Of
The Consequences Of Disobedience, But Because It Is Right To
Obey: Romans 13:5**

Therefore – (Authorities are here to protect us, fear if you do wrong, they
have authority to punish)

it is necessary to be in subjection, not only because of wrath,
We should obey because if not, we will be punished. **Genesis 9:5-6**

but also for conscience' sake.

If we have been taught right from wrong, then our conscience will convict us that we are doing wrong.

1 Timothy 4:1-2

6. Verse 6 – Taxation Is An Illustration Of Governments Power To Impose, And Our Obligation To Submit: Romans 13:6

Government's Solvency: For because of this you also pay taxes,

Government Provides Services: for rulers are servants of God, is not the word deacon; it is which we get our word "*liturgy, priest, ministering priests*"

devoting themselves to this very thing.

Out of this grows the function of government in providing **mail service, utilities (water, sewage), roads**

7. Verse 7 – We Should Fulfill Our Multiple Obligations To The State: Romans 13:7 Render to all what is due them: the term due – "things that are owed"

tax to whom tax is due; Poll Tax, a yearly tax on persons 14-65 years of age, or real estate tax" (Our income tax, property tax)

custom to whom custom; revenue, custom taxes

fear to whom fear; Those that have authority over our lives.

honor to whom honor. Respect The Office

Application:

1. We Should Be Subject To The State Because It Is A Divine Institution.
2. Resistance To Established Authority Is Resistance To God, And Will Be Punished.
3. Rulers Should Be Viewed As Ministers, Appointed To Encourage What Is Good, To Punish What Is Evil.
4. Only Evildoers Have Anything To Fear From Properly Established Authority.
5. We Should Be Subject To The State Not Only From Fear Of The Consequences Of Disobedience, But Because It Is Right To Obey.
6. Taxation Is An Illustration Of Government's Power To Impose, And Our Obligation To Submit.
7. We Should Fulfill Our Multiple Obligations To The State.