



# “Subjection to Civil Authority”

Romans 13:1-7 - Part 3

March 19, 2023

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. [Rom 12:21 NASB95]  
Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men. [Rom 12:17]

## 1. **Be in subjection to governing authorities.** *v1*

1 Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God. [Rom 13:1]

### **Governing authorities...**

1) **...are delegated authority by God.** Jn 19:10-11; Jhn 10:34-35

2) **...are ordained by God.** Act 17:26

## 2. **Resist governing authority and you resist God's authority.** *v2*

2 Therefore whoever resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves. [Rom 13:2]

1) **You oppose God's ordained divine institution.** Pro 20:22; 1Pe 2:13-15

2) **You receive condemnation.** Heb 10:30; Jer 51:24

✳ Why were they ordained?

✳ When were they ordained? Genesis 9-10

## 3. **Do good works and have praise from rulers.** *v3*

3 For rulers are not a cause of fear for good behavior, but for evil. Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do what is good and you will have praise from the same; [Rom 13:3]

1) **Rulers are to be feared by evil doers.**

2) **If you don't want to fear authority do good.** 1Sa 26:23; Est 4:13-16

3) **Those who do good receive praise from authority.** Dan 6:4-5

✳ When you must resist civil authorities? Act 5:41; Dan 3:16-18

✳ Can you resist civil authorities and not resist God? 2Ki 11:1-18

## 4. **Fear the minister of God because...** *v4*

4 for it is a minister of God to you for good. But if you do what is evil, be afraid; for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil. [Rom 13:4]

1) **...he is the minister to you for good.** Rom 12:19

2) **...he bears a sword against evil.** Gen 9:6

3) **...he acts to avenge evil on God's behalf.**

5. **Be in \_\_\_\_\_ to ministers of God ...** v5

5 Therefore it is necessary to be in subjection, not only because of wrath, but also for conscience' sake. [Rom 13:5]

1) **...for fear of \_\_\_\_\_ for doing evil.** Deu 21:9

9 "So you shall **remove the guilt** of innocent blood from your midst, when you do what is right in the eyes of the LORD. [Deu 21:9]

2) **...also for \_\_\_\_\_ sake.** 1Ti 1:5

5 But **the goal** of our instruction is love from **a pure heart** and **a good conscience** and **a sincere faith**. [1Ti 1:5 NASB95]

3) **...pay taxes for their \_\_\_\_\_.** v6

6 For because of this you also pay taxes, for [rulers] are servants of God, devoting themselves to this very thing. [Rom 13:6 NASB95]

4) **...\_\_\_\_\_ what is due them.** v7

7 Render to all what is due them: tax to whom tax [is due;] custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor. [Rom 13:7]

- ✱ \_\_\_\_\_ - on persons, property, goods, or travel
- ✱ \_\_\_\_\_ - what is paid for public ends to maintain the state
- ✱ \_\_\_\_\_ - awe to terror of those in authority
- ✱ \_\_\_\_\_ - respect for the burden of their service for others

*“ Silence in the face of evil is itself evil: God will not hold us guiltless. Not to speak is to speak, not to act is to act.” Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

(1) **In order to do \_\_\_\_\_ you must resist evil.**

- ☉ We must live truth and proclaim truth to \_\_\_\_\_ evil authority.
- ☉ We must \_\_\_\_\_ resist evil whenever possible.
- ☉ Federal imputation of sin means \_\_\_\_\_ judgment.

(2) **When must Christians resist civil \_\_\_\_\_ ?**

- ☉ \_\_\_\_\_ God rather than men. Acts 5:29
- ☉ When possible offer a reasonable \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☉ Do all you can \_\_\_\_\_ to resolve for peace.

(3) **What about \_\_\_\_\_ authority?**

- ☉ Are criminal authorities under \_\_\_\_\_ ?
- ☉ If so \_\_\_\_\_ is ordained to execute the law?
- ☉ OT prophets warned that \_\_\_\_\_ would judge.

(4) **What is the role of the \_\_\_\_\_ for the state?**

- ☉ ...to \_\_\_\_\_ against the evil actions of the state.
- ☉ ...to act to support the \_\_\_\_\_ of those evil actions.
- ☉ ...to \_\_\_\_\_ against the evil actions of the state.
- ☉ ...to \_\_\_\_\_ the state laws to moral and ethical standards.

*“ The ultimate test of a moral society is the kind of world that it leaves to it's children.”  
Dietrich Bonhoeffer*