

# ROMANS

## “SUBMIT TO THE GOVERNING AUTHORITIES”

### Romans 13:1-7

Eric M. Hine     Millersville Bible Church     Jan. 26, 2025

Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities,  
for there is no authority except that which God has established.  
The authorities that exist have been established by God.

Romans 13:1

### OUR BASELINE STRUGGLE:

★ We all have an \_\_\_\_\_ problem.

### KEY TAKEAWAYS TO KNOW FROM THIS PASSAGE:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ person is to be \_\_\_\_\_ to the governing authorities. There are no \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Rom. 13:1; Titus 3:1; 1 Pet. 2:13).
  2. God has \_\_\_\_\_ all human \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Rom. 13:1; 1 Pet. 2:13).
  3. \_\_\_\_\_ against the authorities is \_\_\_\_\_ against God, and will bring \_\_\_\_\_ (Rom. 13:2).
  4. All rulers are God’s servants to \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Rom. 13:4).
  5. Give to \_\_\_\_\_ what you \_\_\_\_\_ them  
(Rom. 13:7).
- ◆ The Christian’s \_\_\_\_\_ should produce law-abiding, non-complaining, loving, tax-paying,

\_\_\_\_\_ individuals that \_\_\_\_\_ those  
in all places of authority.

### KEY EXCEPTION:

- ★ We are to obey the authorities over us – unless that authority \_\_\_\_\_ us to do something that God \_\_\_\_\_, or forbids us from doing something God \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 4:19; 5:29; cf. Ex. 1:15-21; Dan. 1; 3; 6).
- ◆ **WRONG QUESTION:** When is it \_\_\_\_\_ to not submit to the authorities placed over me?
- ◆ **RIGHT QUESTION:** When is it \_\_\_\_\_ of me to not submit to the authorities placed over me?
- \*Note: Must be willing to accept the consequences.

### WHAT IF WE ARE TREATED UNJUSTLY?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ on it (2 Tim. 3:12; Mark 10:29-30).
2. We are to remain \_\_\_\_\_, trusting in our \_\_\_\_\_ God.
3. Remember: If you have \_\_\_\_\_ to Christ, you have come to \_\_\_\_\_ (Luke 9:23-25; 21:16-18).

### REFLECTION QUESTIONS & CHALLENGE:

- ◆ Can I honestly say there’s nothing I hold onto? If no, what things am I holding onto that I’m unwilling to let go of?
- ◆ What attitude changes do I need to make in order to honor God in how I relate to those in positions of authority?
- ◆ Pray regularly for those in positions of authority.

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Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities,  
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The authorities that exist have been established by God.

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### OUR BASELINE STRUGGLE:

★ We all have an **authority** problem.

### KEY TAKEAWAYS TO KNOW FROM THIS PASSAGE:

1. **Every** person is to be **subject** to the governing authorities. There are no **exceptions** (Rom. 13:1; Titus 3:1; 1 Pet. 2:13).
  2. God has **established** all human **authorities** (Rom. 13:1; 1 Pet. 2:13).
  3. **Rebelling** against the authorities is **rebelling** against God, and will bring **judgment** (Rom. 13:2).
  4. All rulers are God's servants to **punish evildoers** (Rom. 13:4).
  5. Give to **everyone** what you **owe** them (Rom. 13:7).
- ◆ The Christian's **conscience** should produce law-abiding, non-complaining, loving, tax-paying,

**respectful** individuals that **honor** those in all places of authority.

### KEY EXCEPTION:

- ★ We are to obey the authorities over us – unless that authority **commands** us to do something that God **forbids**, or forbids us from doing something God **commands** (Acts 4:19; 5:29; cf. Ex. 1:15-21; Dan. 1:3; 6).
- ◆ **WRONG QUESTION:** When is it **okay** to not submit to the authorities placed over me?
- ◆ **RIGHT QUESTION:** When is it **required** of me to not submit to the authorities placed over me?

\*Note: Must be willing to accept the consequences.

### WHAT IF WE ARE TREATED UNJUSTLY?

1. **Plan** on it (2 Tim. 3:12; Mark 10:29-30).
2. We are to remain **faithful**, trusting in our **sovereign** God.
3. Remember: If you have **come** to Christ, you have come to **die** (Luke 9:23-25; 21:16-18).

### REFLECTION QUESTIONS & CHALLENGE:

- ◆ Can I honestly say there's nothing I hold onto? If no, what things am I holding onto that I'm unwilling to let go of?
- ◆ What attitude changes do I need to make in order to honor God in how I relate to those in positions of authority?
- ◆ Pray regularly for those in positions of authority.