



Submit, Obey and Love

Romans 13 (NIV)

Romans 12:1-2 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God--this is your true and proper worship. ²Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Romans 12:1 (KJV). . . "which is your reasonable service."

Chapter 12 review:

Transforming of our minds...Living transformed lives in relation to the church, in relation to society

Now we will see how we are to live transformed lives in relation to the Government

Romans 13:1-7 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. ²Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. ³For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. ⁴For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. ⁵Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience. ⁶This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. ⁷Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.

- Government officials are **GOD'S SERVANTS** to do you good
- God instituted **LAW AND ORDER**
- God **PUTS LEADERS** in places of authority
- Civil disobedience is right when there is a **CLEAR CONFLICT** between man's law and God's law
- All power of every **GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY** comes from God

How we are to live transformed lives in relation to the coming Kingdom

Romans 13:8-14 Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not covet," and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law. ¹¹And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. ¹²The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. ¹⁴Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

Our Debts

Debts we should pay off:

- Debts to the **GOVERNMENT**
- **PERSONAL** Debts
- Our ongoing debt
- Debt to **LOVE ONE ANOTHER**

Benefits of making continued payments on this debt

- Love **FULFILLS** the LAW
- Love **COVERS** a multitude of SIN

Waking up from our slumber

- Becoming aware of our **INSENSITIVITY** to sin
- Living in the **LIGHT**
- Let your **BEHAVIOR** reflect what you **BELIEVE**

Be **IMITATORS** of Christ:

- We are created to live in true **RIGHTEOUSNESS** and **HOLINESS**
- Make no provision for the **FLESH**