

Romans: The Gospel

Be Subject

Romans 13:1-10, 1st Peter 2:11-25

<i>I might get in trouble...</i>	<i>Least favorite chapter! Keeps me in check</i>
<p>[Pray] :1-2</p> <p><u>Spiritual</u> beings</p> <p>subject to Subordinate, obey, yield to</p> <p>an <u>earthly</u> government</p>	<p>God created government <i>Heaven, trinity, Kingdom</i> <i>Moses, Israel "governed by God"</i> <i>Church leadership</i> <i>The family - God, husband, wife, children</i></p> <p>Joseph was chief governor in Egypt, 2nd only to Pharaoh (the god-king)</p> <p>"every knee will bow, tongue confess that Jesus is Lord"</p>
<p>Good government, bad government?</p> <p>How to tell? Do they submit to the God of heaven or not?</p> <p>Maybe not the best choices, but: <i>UFC or pride event with nudity on Whitehouse lawn?</i></p> <p><i>Putting people practicing abomination in charge?</i> <i>Tweeting out Bible verses?</i></p>	<p>Both used by God <i>Bless people and punish people</i></p> <p>Pro 29:2 - When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; But when a wicked [man] rules, the people (of God) groan.</p> <p>But make sure you know what real <u>righteousness</u> is</p> <p>don't let the colleges, the media, the godless, god-hating, immoral, unbeliever teach you</p>

<p>God used foreign governments to punish his own nation</p> <p>Israel “Governed by God”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bring them into captivity, Babylon • Civil war, split - Judah & Israel 	<p>Government <u>itself</u> is not evil</p> <p>Some forms, yes - dictatorships, communism</p> <p>Others can be good - kingdoms, republics</p> <p><i>only when the administration and people are moral</i></p>
<p><i>“Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.” -</i> John Adams</p> <p><i>“A republic, if you can keep it”</i> Ben Franklin</p> <p>https://www.ushistory.org/documents/pledge.htm (quotes on right)</p>	<p><i>The Pledge of Allegiance was written in August 1892 by Baptist minister Francis Bellamy (1855-1931). Bellamy had hoped that the pledge would be used by citizens in any country.</i></p> <p><i>in 1954, in response to the Communist threat of the times, President Eisenhower encouraged Congress to add the words "under God,</i></p>
<p>To obey or not to obey, that is the question</p> <p>Do we mindlessly obey the government? Robots, loyal servants to the state?</p> <p><i>We don't mindlessly obey God, even if God always has our best interest at heart</i></p> <p>What if the government disobeys God? (Not being subject to Him!)</p> <p>As Christians, who are we ultimately subject to? God!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S, M, A won't bow down, Dan 3 • Daniel praying, lions den, Dan 6 • Apostles commanded not to preach, went right back and preached, Acts 4 <p>Acts 5:29 - But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black robe regiment • Bonhoeffer, Ten Boom • MLB players writing on caps • MLB under investigation <p><u>Obedience and disobedience have consequences</u></p> <p><i>Fines (rules for the poor), jail, losing job, reputation, business license</i></p>

<p>Context - to the <u>Romans</u> living under <u>Nero</u>!</p> <p>Supreme Roman authority Romans loved capital punishment.</p> <p>If the scripture were to teach against it this would be it</p> <p>But Genesis/Exodus/Deut...life for life</p> <p><i>Firing squads brought back</i></p> <p><i>Even if it doesn't deter crime, we must show life is sacred and taking it must be punished with loss of life</i></p>	<p>We have it very special In America, "We the people" The government is not an administration</p> <p>Our allegiance is to God and our neighbors - the people, each other</p> <p>Our Constitution designed to protect people <u>from</u> the government</p> <p>Christians should be in politics Abstaining has let the rot spread</p> <p>Being mad about theology in office... go be the one in office with good theology Sep of church and state is keep state out of church (no endorsed denom)</p> <p>Christianity is the official "religion" - not Islam, not Hinduism, not Atheism, Not Communism</p>
<p>Democracy lasts only a few hundred years...</p> <p>Tytler, Cycle of Nations</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. From bondage to spiritual faith 2. From spiritual faith to great courage 3. From courage to liberty 4. From liberty to abundance 5. From abundance to selfishness (or complacency) 6. From selfishness to complacency (or apathy) 7. From complacency to apathy 8. From apathy to dependence 9. From dependence back into bondage 	<p>Stages of Empires, Glubb</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Age of Outburst: A period of visionary idealism and religious conviction. ● Age of Conquests: The nation expands its territory and power. ● Age of Commerce: Trade flourishes, and the currency/industry becomes viable. ● Age of Affluence: Wealth accumulates, but often concentrates in the hands of a few. ● Age of Intellect: A shift toward "new and improved" knowledge, often criticizing traditional values. ● Age of Decadence: Morality is redefined, and welfare/handouts replace self-reliance. ● Age of Decline and Collapse: The nation reaches a tipping point of internal decay and external vulnerability, leading to destruction

<p>Human governments always turn tyrannical</p> <p>Man not designed to govern man Dominion given over nature, not each other</p> <p>Designed to be governed by God As Christians, Jesus is Lord, Christ is King</p>	<p>Man's kingdoms culminate under the direct rule of satan/antichrist (already run by him, satan offers all kingdoms to Jesus)</p> <p>Jesus comes back and proves His rule is righteous</p> <p>Scepter of Iron - righteousness enforced,</p> <p>Every soul is subject to do the right, moral, good thing - by God's government</p>
<p>"Rebellion just when it supports a more godly government"</p> <p>Terrorism - some would say founding fathers were terrorists - wrong!</p>	<p>Terrorism is evil, often going after "soft" targets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pilgrims fled religious persecution ● US founding, throwing off unjust tyranny - perfect time in history ● Nowhere left to go now, moon?
<p>Legal authority, voting, chain of command At what point does trying to change the law run out?</p> <p><i>Trafficking, abortion, wicked rituals</i></p> <p>Israel's kings tearing down</p> <p>We'd be breaking the law...and you wouldn't want to hurt people.</p> <p>Changing hearts, good - but we've used that as an excuse to let evil flourish</p> <p>Government enforcing unrighteousness "Marriage" "hate speech"</p>	<p>Slavery, right to overthrow? Slavery still exists. Sexual. Financial. Illegal workers paid less.</p> <p>Our system, try and get out of it Rich thrive, poor survive, everyone in middle runs it. Feudalism</p> <p>Our slavery was based on immoral belief that certain people were not human, not made in the image of God</p> <p>We undid the evils of treating humans as less than human</p> <p>But we allowed that to bring in a more powerful federal government, eroding state's rights, people's rights</p>
<p>Row v Wade overturned Some states doubled down on evil Others reversed course</p>	<p><u>Montana Republican votes yet voted for abortion in constitution</u> <i>Where's the church? Or was it the church?</i></p>

<p>Paul's <u>unjust</u> arrest Opp. to preach the gospel to unjust rulers <i>Gospel not advanced by force</i></p>	<p>Resisting just government's <u>just</u> rule? Play dumb games win dumb prizes</p>
<p>:3-5 You <u>must</u> be <u>subject</u></p> <p>Wrath - the punishment for sin, breaking the righteous law</p> <p>Conscience - maybe you'd get away with it, but you'd have your own conscience on you</p> <p>Conscience is the government of life - moral standing</p> <p>Searing it, corrupting it, leads us down the path of punishment</p> <p>Judges 21:25 - In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.</p>	<p>Hate for police, law and order <i>Old rap songs hating cops, why? Because they were drug dealers, gangs!</i></p> <p><i>Ignorance, wickedness, foolishness, stoked to create unrest to bring in more authority</i></p> <p>Ruin the power of the people</p> <p>Don't want to be afraid of the police?</p> <p>Don't break the law.</p> <p><i>Pulled over, be polite, show hands, make the police unafraid</i></p>
<p>Government: uphold good, punish evil</p> <p><i>Those in authority who don't will be judged by a higher standard</i></p> <p>Laws and enforcement to protect life, good things</p>	<p>Also the sword to punish evil</p> <p>The right tool to punish evil?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Government. ● Not mob rule <p><i>not executing people we don't agree with or who are rich CEOs</i></p>
<p>Turn to 1st Peter 2:11-25 (homework If over 30m) We obey because we're ultimately from another kingdom</p>	<p>Law and order must be maintained for the benefit of all</p> <p>Christians should examples of it</p>
<p>A good government protects its citizens A good government fights evil, within and without</p>	<p>Illegals prioritized, voting not protected - to keep those in power...in power.</p>

<p>:6-7</p> <p>The purpose of taxes? To fund the government. Not line pockets of governors.</p> <p><i>UK calls government ministry "To serve and protect" "To punish and enslave"</i></p> <p><i>Not meant to be full time job Term limits</i></p> <p>A government that works to benefit the people - not the people benefiting the government.</p>	<p><i>World Cup, nations around the world Some rich and full of order, others not 1st World, 3rd World</i></p> <p>High Trust Society</p> <p><i>A functioning society, police, government, health, education, safety</i></p> <p>Allows people to focus on better things! To prosper</p> <p><i>20th Century vs. 21st No trust in institutions we're losing it Because we don't want God in charge!</i></p> <p>Healthy government allows people to prosper Unhealthy government prospers itself on the backs of the people</p>
<p>"Taxation is theft"</p> <p><i>Person A wants money to do something, doesn't have it Government goes to person B and takes their money - or else jail unjust taxation is theft" Some taxation is necessary for civil society</i></p> <p><i>We have many good tax laws - non-profits, 501c3. Don't need permission, just a benefit.</i></p> <p>"Missionary" not paying taxes Went to jail for it</p>	<p><i>A democracy cannot exist as a permanent form of government. It can only exist until the voters discover that they can vote themselves largesse from the public treasury. From that moment on, the majority always votes for the candidates promising the most benefits from the public treasury with the result that a democracy always collapses over loose fiscal policy, always followed by a dictatorship. (continues on to what we talked about before)</i></p> <p>— Alexander Fraser Tytler, 1700s</p>
<p>Income tax, started as a tax on the top 1%...</p> <p><i>So don't believe the lies about taxing the rich...</i></p> <p><i>Death tax, estate tax, wealth tax, sales tax</i></p>	<p><i>New IRS agents, \$600 tax Taxed to the teeth, still in debt</i></p> <p>Uncontrolled government spending! <i>National debt...\$39.28 trillion</i></p>

<i>(taxed when earned, taxed when spent...)</i>	<i>Dollar for every second? 1.244 million years</i>
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<p>We must be good citizens and pay taxes to our governments... because God says so</p> <p>Don't vote for new taxes! Vote out old taxes!</p>	<p><i>Helena school levies... I pay school taxes and my 5 kids don't use government school funds!</i></p> <p><i>Once the government has power...it doesn't give it back</i></p>
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Mat 17:24-27 - When they had come to Capernaum, those who received **the [temple] tax** came to Peter and said, "Does your Teacher not pay the [temple] tax?" He said, "Yes." And when he had come into the house, Jesus anticipated him, saying, "What do you think, Simon? From whom do the kings of the earth take customs or taxes, from their sons or from strangers?" Peter said to Him, "From strangers." Jesus said to him, "Then the sons are free. **"Nevertheless, lest we offend them, go to the sea, cast in a hook, and take the fish that comes up first. And when you have opened its mouth, you will find a piece of money; take that and give it to them for Me and you."**

Mat 22:15-22 - Then the Pharisees went and plotted how they might entangle Him in [His] talk. And they sent to Him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that You are true, and teach the way of God in truth; nor do You care about anyone, for You do not regard the person of men. **"Tell us, therefore, what do You think? Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?"** But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, **"Why do you test Me, [you] hypocrites? "Show Me the tax money."** So they brought Him a denarius. And He said to them, "Whose image and inscription [is] this?" They said to Him, "Caesar's." And He said to them, **"Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."** When they had heard [these words], they marveled, and left Him and went their way.

<p>If the government takes your money, that's on them Your soul belongs to God And your treasure is in heaven</p> <p><i>But again, we have it special in America. Vote. Make your voice heard...</i></p>	<p>Honor the office, not the man Honor the flag, not the crimes Love your neighbor, not his sin Obey the law, try to change it</p> <p>You're paying taxes with God's money You're to be a good steward - vote for it to be used right!</p>
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<p>Faith, Family, Freedom Why is family so important?</p>	<p>The way to maintain dictatorship? Break down all relationships</p>
<p>China, single, no relationships, keep your head down (even in NY)</p> <p>The minute you have someone else to care about is the minute you start doing something the government might not like</p>	<p>California Legislature Seeks to Let Kids Divorce Their Parents <i>https://www.breitbart.com/politics/2026/06/18/nolte-california-legislature-seeks-to-let-kids-divorce-their-parents/</i></p> <p>My parable of the neighbor <i>(coming for your family, hurting you)</i></p>
<p>If you love God,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● love your neighbor ● submit to His rules ● Submit to your government ● be prepared to defend righteousness, even in the face of punishment ● Prioritize His Kingdom over earthly ones (that doesn't mean don't be involved) 	<p>Phi 3:20 - For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,</p> <p>Subject of Heaven Be a loyal subject to Your King</p>