

THE CRISTIAN'S RELATIONSHIP TO GOVERNMENT

(Romans 13:1-7)

- I. The AUTHORITY of the State (Rom.13:1-3)
 - A. Its SOURCE
 1. DELEGATED by God (cf. John 19:11)
 2. DIRECTED by God (cf. Prov. 21:1)
 3. ACCOUNTABLE to God
 - B. Its JURISDICTION
 1. RESTRAINING and PUNISHING evil
 2. ENCOURAGING and REWARDING good
 - C. Our RESPONSE
 1. In SUBMISSION, not necessarily OBEDIENCE
 2. Not RESISTING or REBELLING
 3. Doing GOOD without FEAR
 - D. Applying the principle of SUBMISSION
 1. Obey ANY ordinance that does not require DISOBEYING God
 2. Accept the CONSEQUENCES for DISOBEYING any ordinance that requires disobeying God (cf. Acts 5:29; Dan. 3; 6)

II. The MINISTRY of the State (Rom. 13:4-7)

A. The RESPONSIBILITY of a RULER

1. To be a “MINISTER of GOD to you”
2. To encourage and reward GOODNESS
3. To administer God’s WRATH upon EVIL

B. The responsibility of a CITIZEN

1. SUPPORT is required
2. SUBMISSION is required
- [3. One must correctly IDENTIFY the “governing AUTHORITY”]
 - a. Not the GOVERNOR or the PRESIDENT
 - b. But the CONSTITUTION

III. Summarizing the Duty of the CHRISTIAN Regarding Government

- A. Non-conformity to the WORLD does not include RENOUNCING key social institutions established by God (Rom. 12:2)
- B. Submission to GOVERNMENT does not supersede submission to GOD
- C. Serving in government can be as SACRED a calling to GOD’S ministry as serving in the CHURCH as a deacon or pastor