

THE BELIEVER AND THE STATE (GOVERNMENT)

Romans 13:1-7

1. BE SUBJECT TO CIVIL AUTHORITIES (V. 1)

2. GOVERNMENT IS ORDAINED BY GOD (V. 1-2) (Prov. 16:12; Isa. 16:5)

- a.) Resistance equals resisting God's ordinance
- b.) Resistance shall be condemned (1 Pet. 2:13-14; Ezra 7:26; Prov. 24:21-22)

3. GOVERNMENT IS ORDAINED TO PROMOTE GOOD AND RESTRAIN EVIL (V. 3-5)

- a.) Fear the state enough to obey its laws
- b.) Do that which is good and lawful (Eccl. 8:2; Matt. 22:21; Acts 23:5; Titus 3:1; 1 Pet. 2:13, 17; 1 Tim. 1:9-10)
- c.) The office of the ruler is ordained by God for good (2 Sam. 23:3; 2 Chron. 19:6; Psalm 2:10-11; Prov. 20:28, 29:14)
- d.) The civil authority exists to maintain order (1 Pet. 2:13-14)
- e.) Obey the state for conscience sake (Acts 24:16; 2 Cor. 1:12; 1 Tim. 1:5, 19; 3:9; Heb 13:18; 1 Pet. 2:19, 3:16)

4. GOVERNMENT IS ORDAINED TO PROVIDE BENEFITS THROUGH TAXES (V. 6-7)

- a.) Rulers are to provide benefits
- b.) Believers are to pay taxes (Matt. 17:24, 27; Matt. 22:21)
- c.) Believers are to pay whatever is due: Money or respect (Prov. 11:11; Prov. 14:34; Prov. 25:5; Prov. 28:2; Isa. 54:14)

***“Although there may be unworthy men in the office,
we are to respect the office, for government was ordained by God.”***