

ROMANS 13

✘ Ro 13 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. ² Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. ³ For 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.

ROMANS 13

- ✘ Ro 13** **4** For 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.
- 5** Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience. NIV

1. GOD IS IN CONTROL

- ✘ ...there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.
- ✘ This has been tested through the years
- ✘ Millions have died
- ✘ God is not a despot
- ✘ God is moving history toward a goal

2. CHRISTIANS ARE TO SUBMIT TO AUTHORITY; DON'T REBEL

- ✘ Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities...whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.**
- ✘ Paul is not interested in our personal rights**
- ✘ Paul is only interested in the furtherance of the gospel**
- ✘ Live within the law to spread the gospel without roadblocks**

3. RULERS BRING ORDER

- ✘ . 3 For 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.**
- ✘ Right and wrong are key issues**
- ✘ Peace vs anarchy**
- ✘ Order vs chaos**

4. WRONG SHOULD BE PUNISHED

- ✘ 4 For 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.**
- ✘ Paul says we need a valid, impartial justice system**
- ✘ Paul would stand against vigilante justice**

5. LIVE IN GOOD CONSCIENCE

- ✘ 5 Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience.**
- ✘ Doing wrong with the expectation that no punishment will follow is the lure of all criminals**
- ✘ It is not the pattern for a just government**
- ✘ Many who have been imprisoned for their Christian faith went willingly due to conscience**

PRAYING FOR THE FUTURE

- ✘ **The polarization in the U.S. is high**
- ✘ **I anticipate rioting or targeted unrest in the coming days as a result of the upcoming election**
- ✘ **People are in fear of the United States of the future on both sides**

✘ So What?

LAST WEEK'S SO WHAT?

- ✘ **Live as a Christian**
- ✘ **THINK!**
- ✘ **Vote your conscience**
- ✘ **Commit yourself to love those who love Jesus but differ from you.**
- ✘ **Accept that you will never understand them.**

TODAY'S SO WHAT?

- ✘ **Park your fear and set fear aside**
- ✘ **Be careful not to choose battle lines**
- ✘ **The role of a military chaplain- be one.**
 - + **“I’m in the Lord’s army”**
- ✘ **Minister to people in their fear**
- ✘ **Be the voice of courage and reconciliation**
- ✘ **Bring God into the conversation gently**
- ✘ **Remind people that God is in control**