

authority. Do not kill and turn the other cheek are individual commands.

Action Under Authority (5-7)

“Suneidesis”: conscience, to see or understand together

A higher motive for obedience than a non believer

A stronger reason for disobedience when necessary

“But Paul said to them, ‘They have beaten us publicly, uncondemned men who are Roman citizens, and have thrown us into prison; and do they now throw us out secretly? No! Let them come themselves and take us out.’” Acts 16:37

“If I am a wrongdoer and committed anything for which I deserve to die, I do not seek to escape death. But if there is nothing to their charges against me no one can give me up to them. I appeal to Caesar.” Acts 25:11

“Be subject for the Lord’s sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.” 1 Peter 2:13-17

YOUR ROLE IN GOVERNMENT

RELATIONSHIP

Dublin Baptist Church

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Romans 13:1-7

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore, whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, and avenger who carries out God’s wrath on the wrongdoers. Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God’s wrath but also for the sake of conscience. For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God attending to this very thing. Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

Political authority was an issue to Jewish believers

“You may indeed set a king over you whom the Lord your God will choose. One from among your brothers you shall set as a king over you. You may not put a foreigner over you, who is not your brother.” Deuteronomy 17:15

Romans was written about 57 AD, when Claudius had

issued an edict that forced the evacuation of Jews.

Under Authority (1-2)

Believers and non-believers are to live under authorities

“Huptasso”: subject, under the arrangement, a military term for the organization of troops.

God gives authority and establishes authorities.

Why should a believer should be under the authority of a corrupt leader?

“For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, ‘For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show My power in you, and that My name might be proclaimed in all the earth.’” Romans 9:17

Daniel served under Nebuchadnezzar

Authority is different from power

Power: “kratos” People: “demos”

“Exousia”: authorities, power out of the position or nature

The authority of the ruler is not in themselves, but in what God has given them.

“Jesus answered him, ‘You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above. There he who delivered Me over to you has the greater sin.’”

John 19:11

Resist means to arrange a battle against

“Be subject to such as these, and to every fellow worker and laborer.”

1 Corinthians 16:16

“But Peter and John answered them, ‘Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.’” Acts 4:19-20

“But Peter and the apostles answered, ‘We must obey God rather than men.’”

Acts 5:29

Understanding Authority (3-4)

Government leaders presented as servants (diakonos) and with the power to enforce the death penalty, (bear the sword in vain).

“First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayer, intercession, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.” 1 Timothy 2:1-2

The authority punishes in order to prevent evil and protect people. The church is committed to change of the nature of an individual.

The restoration of a people is not based upon a better leader or government but upon the intervention of God.

“If My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.” 2 Chronicles 7:14

Don’t confuse individual commands with government