





Romans 13:1-7

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

Romans 13:1-7

³For 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. ⁴For 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.

Romans 13:1-7

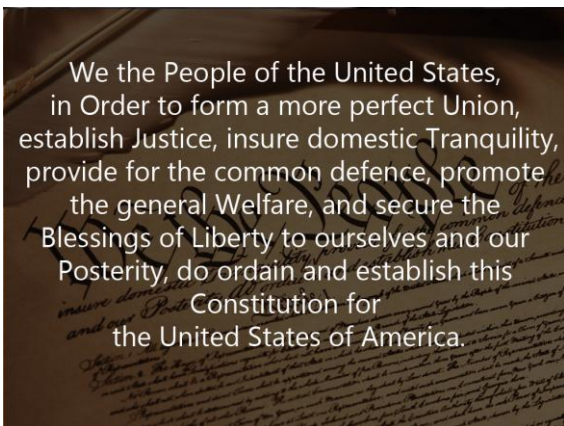
⁵Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience. ⁶This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. ⁷Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.

**The Divine Establishment
of Authority**



God establishes authority for:



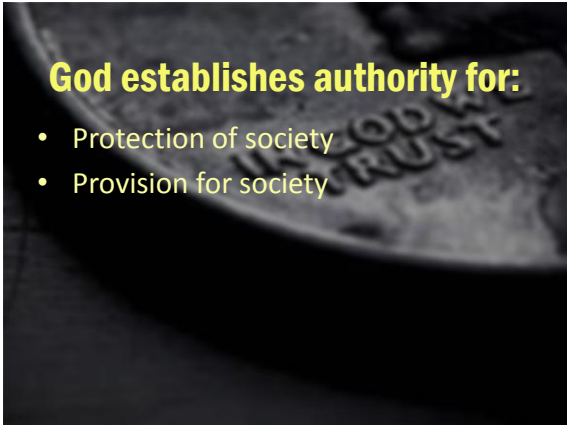


We the People of the United States,
in Order to form a more perfect Union,
establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility,
provide for the common defence, promote
the general Welfare, and secure the
Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our
Posterity, do ordain and establish this
Constitution for
the United States of America.



God establishes authority for:

- The protection of society



God establishes authority for:

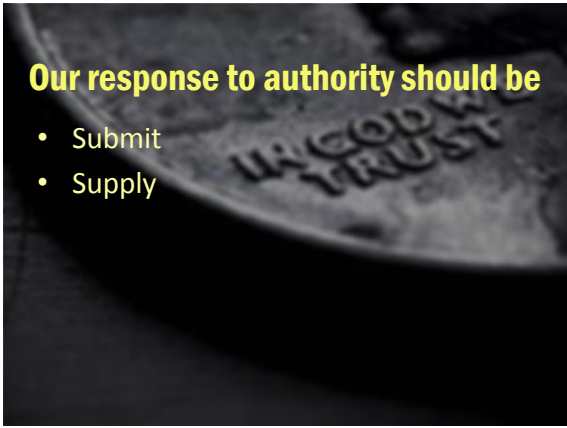
- Protection of society
- Provision for society



The Christian's Responsibility to Authority









Mark 12:17

Then Jesus said to them, "Give back to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's."



Matthew 17:27

"...go to the lake and throw out your line. Take the first fish you catch; open its mouth and you will find a four-drachma coin. Take it and give it to them for my tax and yours."



Our response to authority should be

- Submit
- Supply
- Supplicate

Matthew 5:44

But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,

Luke 6:28

Bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.

Civil disobedience in the Bible

1. Hebrew midwives (Exodus 1)
2. Rahab (Joshua 2)
3. Death sentence of Jonathan (1 Samuel 14:45)
4. Obadiah saves prophets / Jezebel (1 Kings 18)
5. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego (Daniel 3)
6. Daniel and the Lion's Den (Daniel 6)
7. Peter and John – (Acts 4:19-20; 5:29)
8. Worshiping the Beast (Revelation 13:15)

Romans 12:18-21

¹⁸ If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. ¹⁹ Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. ²⁰ On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head."

Romans 12:18-21

²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Civil disobedience must be civil

- Christians should resist a government that *commands* or *compels* evil and should work nonviolently within the laws of the land to change a government that permits evil.
- Civil disobedience is permitted when the government's laws or commands are in direct violation of God's laws and commands.
- If a Christian disobeys an evil government, unless he can flee from the government, he should accept that government's punishment for his actions.

Psalm 20:7

Some trust in chariots and some in horses,
but we trust in the name of the LORD our
God.

