

Romans 13

LW – Beseech you, by the mercies of God, that you present...

TW – More ways to do that...Relationship w/Gov't; Others; Christ!!!

1. Relationship w/Government

V1-2

* Be subject to governing authorities – (While Nero was Caesar!!!)

* **I Tim 2:1-3; Titus 3:1; 1 Pet 2:13; Mk 12:14-17**

Reasons:

1. No authority except by God

2. Authorities that exist are appointed by God

3. Who ever resists those authorities – resists God

* What about Hitler, Sadam Hussein, Iran/Ah-ma-din-e-jad; Burma?

We will get to that in V4

* Paul pictures the rulers in the rightful exercise of their prerogatives.

* See V3 & V4

* Don't look for reasons to NOT follow God's word

* Look for reasons to follow His Word! OR after all...

Job 38:4⁴“Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?

Tell Me, if you have understanding....

V3

* Rulers aren't terror Good – But do Evil

* See person in a police car – Pig or a Police Officer?

* Who They are - Depends on who WE are!

* See the highway patrol – Fear or Friend?

* Depends on who we are! Just like V4 says it!

V4

* But V4 also addresses

* If Individual does Evil, Should be Afraid of Gov't!

* Gov't is God's Minister as Avenger/Execute Wrath on Evil Doer!

* Northern Israel/Assyria; Southern Kingdom/Babylon

* Not only/Individual Citizens, Applies to Presidents/Govts too!

* Governments are suppose to be God's ministers to us for Good!

* God commands us as individuals & Governments to:

Psalms 82:3-4³Defend the poor and fatherless; Do justice to the afflicted and needy. ⁴Deliver the poor and needy; Free them from the hand of the wicked. (**Prov 31:8-9; Isa 1:17**)

V5 – Conscience Sake

What if the Gov't authority is in direct opposition to God's Authority?

1. If in USA – God had provided a way to change that – VOTE!

2. Always follow the Greater authority!

* Israel/Kings/Lead Sin vs. Shadrach/Meshach/Abed-Nego; Daniel/Prayer;

Mark 7:9⁹He said to them, “All too well you reject the commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition.

Mark 15:2²Then Pilate asked Him, “Are You the King of the Jews?”

He answered and said to him, “It is as you say.”

Micah 6:8⁸He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the Lord require of you But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God?

V6-7 - Read Jesus' Response – **Mark 12:14-17**

2. Relationship with Each Other

V8-10

John 13:35³⁵By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love (agape) for one another.”

1 John 4:7⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

3. Relationship w/Christ

V11 – Matthew 24:3-4 “Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?”⁴And Jesus answered and said to them: “Take heed that no one deceives you.

V12 –

1. Let us Cast Off – Works of Darkeness

2. Let us Put ON - Armor of Light

V13 – Works of Darkness (More complete list = Gal 5:19-21)

V14 – Put ON the Lord Jesus Christ

* Detailed Description found in Eph 6:13-18

Communion