

Sermon Study Questions for Romans 13:1-7

Grace Church of Napa Valley – Pastor John Fernandez – 3/26/23

1. The church in Rome was apparently struggling with how to relate to the Roman government. Jesus, through Paul, gives His counsel on how to relate to good and evil rulers.
2. What are some wrong ways that Christians can relate to government?
3. What does 13:1 say about how a Christian must relate to government? What does 13:2 say we should not do?
4. Does 13:1 give any exceptions to the kind of government that should be submitted to?
NOTE: The Roman emperor was evil and cruel. Most in Rome were slaves. Most had no rights.
5. What reasons does 13:1-2 God give for us to submit to and not resist government? What does Jesus say about this in John 19:10-11?
6. In submitting to government, Christians may serve and seek to be a witness to those in government. For example, Daniel and Joseph in the Old Testament. Christians can also use the political rights given them. How did Paul do this in Acts 16:35-40?
7. When Jesus returns, He will completely change the politics of the world. He will remove all earthly rulers and set up His righteous kingdom forever (Psalm 2:7-12; Revelation 19:14-19). What does Jesus say in John 18:36 that would cause us not to resist and fight to change government?
8. We should obey government laws unless they compel us to disobey the scriptures. What do the following verses say about why they disobeyed the commands of rulers?
Acts 4:20; 5:28-29; Exodus 1:17
9. What reasons does 13:3-5 give for submitting to and not resisting government?
10. What does 13:6 tell us about specific ways we are to demonstrate submission to government?
11. In Vs. 13:7 we are told to honor rulers. This means to give appropriate respect because of their position. How would this be communicated? How would disrespect be communicated?
12. What does 1 Peter 2:12-15 tell us about why we should honor rulers? Does it have any effect on a Christian's testimony to the world if they disrespect rulers? How would this affect gospel ministry to others?
13. What effect does it have on a church if it becomes political? What effect does it have on a Christians' joy if they are focused on political change instead of the gospel?
14. What has the Lord shown you in this study of Romans 13 that you need to change?