

Bible Study
Romans 13 (1)

1. For whom is this command (to be subject to the higher powers)? When did God first institute government and why? How did Jesus show His obedience to this command?
2. Prove from Scripture that the 'higher powers' are also to be subject to the higher power?
3. Find supporting Scripture of the truth that all government powers are of God as vs. 1b teach. Does that apply also to dictators or others who have used illegitimate ways to become the governor or government?
4. Define 'damnation' in vs. 2. What would that include?
5. If rules are a terror to good, we are not to obey them. Correct? Where do you draw your lines on that if you can Biblically show that is correct?
6. God teaches us that we are to be subject to our government for two reasons (vs. 5): for wrath and for conscience sake. What is meant with each?
7. It appears from vs. 6-7 that perhaps there was a question on whether they needed to pay tax to this (ungodly) Roman government which was financing all kinds of evil entertainment. Could we then for 'conscience sake' refuse to pay a portion of our taxes as we don't support our government in such practices? In our days that includes paying for such things as abortion, gender-altering surgery, euthanasia.
8. Many Christians have taken Romans 13:8 as saying that we must not borrow money from others but that God's pattern is set in Acts 2 and 4. How would you answer that view (even if it is not based on this verse)?
9. "As long as we love each other sincerely, then the details don't matter to God, for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law (vs. 8) and love is the fulfilling of the law (vs. 10). So even if I live in a same-sex relationship, as long as we love each other, God is fine with it." How would answer this sad degeneration in thinking found too often even in (so-called) Christian circles?
10. Is vs. 11 spoken to believers or unbelievers? If you chose for believers, what is this 'sleep' referring to? Is that limited to be awake to the reality of Christ's second coming?
11. One Bible note reads on vs. 11-12, "The **night** is the time while Christ is out of the world, and the world has been delivered into the control of the prince of the power of the air (Eph. 2:2)." Is that a correct view or truth?
12. Casting off the works of darkness must mean turning away from the practice of sin like in 13a. But how do you 'put on the armour of light?' (vs. 12) Is this the same as in vs. 14?
13. Let's assume you have the opportunity to counsel a backsliding brother or sister who has

made some bad choices in his computer usage and has been slipping into addictive behaviors. What practical guidance would you give him or her based on these verses?