

6. Name the works of darkness listed in Romans 13:13. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. What are we told to put on in Romans 13:14? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Do you think ...*let us put on the armour of light* is referring to ...*the Lord Jesus Christ*; or ...*the whole armour of God*, or both? (Romans 13:12,14; Ephesians 6:11,13-17) \_\_\_\_\_

## THIRTEENTH STUDY

### SUBJECTION TO CIVIL AUTHORITY (Romans 13:1-7)

While the state must not be confused with the Church and is a stranger to God's love in Christ, it nevertheless operates within the providential will of God. It is this view which forms the basis for the Christian's attitude of obedience to the civil authorities.<sup>1</sup> Paul begins this section with this guidance in Romans 13:1,2 (Amplified):

Let every person be loyally subject to the governing (civil) authorities. For there is no authority except from God [by His permission, His sanction], and those that exist do so by God's appointment.

Therefore he who resists and sets himself up against the authorities resists what God has appointed and arranged [in divine order]. And those who resist will bring down judgment upon themselves [receiving the penalty due them].

The function of human government is to protect, punish, and promote.

1. What do you think this country would be like if there were no government? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

1. Beacon Bible Commentary, Romans, p.249.

The moment that Adam sinned, it was obvious that civilizations would need some form of restraint and rule to protect citizens from themselves. An example of this function is seen in Acts 21:27-37 where Roman soldiers step in and save Paul from being murdered by his own enraged countrymen in Jerusalem. <sup>1</sup>

2. What are the two reasons given in Romans 13:5, why we should submit to authority? \_\_\_\_\_

3. In Romans 13:6:

(a) What does Paul say we are to pay? \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Why? \_\_\_\_\_

Christians are just as bound to the common law as any citizen.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES TOWARD NEIGHBORS

(Romans 13:8-14)

1. In Romans 13:8 where it says, *Owe no man any thing*: do you think it means we should do our best to stay out of debt? \_\_\_\_\_

Believers should always pay their debts. But this does not forbid us from borrowing, when a need arises; if we don't have the money available at the time. But to buy things frivolously, and have no intentions of paying that debt, is ungodly. The only debt we should owe is to love one another.

2. If you love your neighbor as much as you love yourself, you will not do the five things mentioned in Romans 13:9. Name them:

(1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

(3) \_\_\_\_\_

(4) \_\_\_\_\_

(5) \_\_\_\_\_

3. In Romans 13:11; where it says --*And knowing the time...* --meaning: we know the time in which we live. Is this referring to "calendar time," or to "divine timing?" \_\_\_\_\_

The Greek word *Kairos* denotes a divinely determined moment in the time of process; and we know ...*our salvation is nearer than when we believed*. so we are warned ...*that is high time to awake out of sleep* (Romans 13:11; I Corinthians 15:34; Ephesians 5:14).

Being in Christ, we *no* longer belong to, or have fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather we reprove them (Romans 13:12; Ephesians 5:11).

4. In Romans 12b, what are we instructed to put on? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Name the armour of God mentioned in Ephesians 6:11,13-17. \_\_\_\_\_

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1. Open Bible, P. 1119.