

**The Gospel and the Civic Sphere**  
**Romans 13:1-7**

- I. Subjection To Governing Authorities (1-2)
  - A. Subjection – to obey, be in submission to
  - B. Why?
    - 1. All authority exists because it was established by God
    - 2. Resisting authority is opposing the work of God
- II. The Purpose of Government (3-4)
  - A. The purpose of government is twofold
    - 1. Minister to encourage good behavior
    - 2. An agent of wrath against ungodliness
  - B. Are you encouraged to the good by the governing authorities?
  - C. Are you discouraged from the evil by the governing authorities?
- III. Negative and Positive Affirmation of Government Value (5-7)
  - A. We should be in subjection, not just from fear, but from a good conscience
  - B. We should support the governing work with our taxes, customs, fear, and honor
- IV. But What About?...
  - A. What if the government I am under is inherently wicked?
  - B. What if my taxes go to support things inherently wicked?
  - C. What about civil disobedience, or just war?