

Relationships that Matter Series Message 8: “Our Relationship with the Government”

Romans 13:1-7

Message Title: “Our Relationship with the Government”

- I. The Divine **Rule** (vs 1a)
 - a. The **Recipients** of the Rule
 - b. The **Roots** of the Rule
 - c. The **Reach** of the Rule

1 Peter 1:1 “Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia,”

1 Peter 2:13-17 “Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; ¹⁴ Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well. ¹⁵ For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men: ¹⁶ As free, and not using *your* liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God. ¹⁷ Honor all *men*. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.”

- II. The Biblical **Reasons** (vs 1b-5)
 - a. The Government is **Ordained** by **God** (vs 1b)

Psalm 62:11 “God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power belongeth unto God.”

- b. The Government is the **Executer** of **Judgement** (vs 2)

Ecclesiastes 12:14 “For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.”

- c. The Government is the **Punisher** of **Evil** (3a)
- d. The Government is the **Promoter** of **Good** (3b)
- e. The Government is the **Bearer** of the **Sword** (vs 4)

Genesis 9:6 “Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.”

- f. Our **Conscience** Tells us Too (vs 5)

Genesis 1:26-27 “”And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. ²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.”

John 1:6-9 “There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. ⁸ He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. ⁹ That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.”

III. The Christian's **Response** (vs 6-7)

- a. We Must **Pay Taxes** (vs 6-7a)
- b. We Must **Respect** (vs 7b)
- c. We Must **Honor** (vs 7c)