

**Romans 13**

**1 Every person** is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God.

**2 Therefore whoever** resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves.

**3 For rulers are not** a cause of fear for good behavior, but for evil. Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do what is good and you will have praise from the same;

**4 for it is a minister** of God to you for good. But if you do what is evil, be afraid; for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil.

**5 Therefore it is necessary** to be in subjection, not only because of wrath, but also for conscience' sake.

**6 For because of this** you also pay taxes, for rulers are servants of God, devoting themselves to this very thing.

**7 Render to all** what is due them: tax to whom tax is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor.

**8 Owe nothing** to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law.

**9 For this, "YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, YOU SHALL NOT MURDER, YOU SHALL NOT STEAL, YOU SHALL NOT COVET,"** and if there is any other commandment, it is summed up in this saying, "**YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.**"

**10 Love does no wrong** to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

**11 Do this,** knowing the time, that it is already the hour for you to awaken from sleep; for now salvation is nearer to us than when we believed.

**12 The night is almost gone,** and the day is near. Therefore let us lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.

**13 Let us behave properly** as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy.

**14 But put on** the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts.  
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