
THE BOOK OF ROMANS pt. 2: “Be Subject” – Yet How Far?

*New Hope Community Church
Dr. Jack Bracy, September 24, 2017*

Romans 13:1-7

Resetting Our Perspective

Countries Are Not Football Teams

Believers Are NOT to Be Bound to
Any Authority Other Than God

“These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that

they were strangers and exiles on the earth.
Hebrews 11:13, ESV (See 1 Peter 2:11)

“But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,” *Philippians 3:20, ESV*

“I have given them your word. And the world hates them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I’m not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one. They do not belong to this world any more than I do.” *John 17:14–16, NLT*

God Ordains Governments and
Authority for Me to Submit to

“Everyone must submit to governing authorities. For all authority comes from God, and those in positions of authority have been placed there by God. So anyone who rebels against authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and they will be punished.” *vs1-2*

Jesus Is Lord, Governments Are His Servants

“That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” *Philippians 2:10–11, NLT*

The authorities are God’s servants, sent for your good... Give to everyone what you owe them: Pay your taxes and government fees to those who collect them, and give respect and honor to those who are in authority” v 4, 7

My Duty to Honor God Supersedes My Obligations to Everyone and Everything Else

The Ultimate Measure of Right and Wrong Is Not
Whether a Ruling Authority Commands It, But
Whether God Commands It

There May Be Times That to Obey God, I Must Be Civilly Disobedient

“All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.” *2 Timothy 3:16–17, NLT*

“But Peter and John replied, “Do you think God wants us to obey you rather than him?” *Acts 4:19, NLT*

“We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man’s blood

upon us.” But Peter and the apostles answered,
“We must obey God rather than men.” *Acts 5:28–29, ESV*

When the Demands of The State Do Not Require Us
to Disobey Jesus
We Will Be Subject for The Lord's Sake

“Be subject for the Lord’s sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people.” *1 Peter 2:13–15, ESV*

“I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and

give thanks for them. Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. This is good and pleases God our Savior” **1 Timothy 2:1-3, NLT**