

I am a Man Under Authority.

I am a Man Under Authority!!!!

God's Sovereignty through Human Authorities

We tend to look at “**what**” our authority said. God says: I want you to look at the “**who**” concerning our authorities.

Roman 13:1 – 7

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ² Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³ For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴ for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵ Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶ For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷ Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

I. All authorities are established by God

v. 2 “Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is **no authority except from God**, and those that exist have been **instituted by God**”

God is sovereign – God can sustain that which He creates – God is in control – God is omnipotent and omnipresent.

There are two types of authority: Direct Authority and Delegated Authority

Ps. 115:3 “Our God is in heaven; he does whatever pleases him.”

Isa. 46:10 “I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient time, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.”

Job 9:4 “God is wise and all powerful. Who has opposed Him and come out unharmed.”

Job 12:13 “Wisdom and strength belong to God; counsel and understanding are His.”

Jer. 32:17 “Oh, Lord God! You Yourself made the heavens and earth by Your great power and with Your outstretched arm. Nothing is too difficult for You!”

Luke 1:37 “For nothing will be impossible with God”

Is. 55:8 “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.”

So what do you believe about Delegated Human Authorities?

Who are some of the delegated authorities from God?

1. **Children** are under the authority and protection of their **parents** – Eph. 6:1, 2
 2. **Wives** are under the authority and protection of their **husbands** – Eph. 5:22; 1 Cor. 11:3
 3. **Employees** are under the authority of their **employers**. – Eph. 6:5
 4. **Citizens** are under the authority of their **government**. – Rom. 13:1-7; 1 Pet. 2:13-18
 5. **Christians** are under the authority of their **pastors**. 1 Thess. 5:12, 13; 1 Tim. 5:17
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II. Rebelling against authority brings judgment from God.

v. 2 Therefore whoever **resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment.**

What does judgment mean to the **unbeliever**? Judgement – to every entity is given a measure of sin, that when that measure is met, the wrath of God comes to that entity.

What does judgment mean to the **believer**? Judgement – discipline – Heb. 12:7-12

Can I **Trust** God?

Can **I** Trust God?

Is God is good? Is God good all the time?

Matt. 6:26 “Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value?”

Is. 43:2 – “When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.”

Which is harder for you, to trust God or to obey God?

III. How Should I view my Authorities?

1. Human Authorities are not to be Feared!

v. 3 “For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. **Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority?** Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval,”

2. Human Authorities are Ministers (servants) of God!

v. 4 “for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the **servant of God**, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer.

v. 6 “For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are **ministers of God**, attending to this very thing.”

Proverbs 21:1 (ESV) “The king's heart is a stream of water in the hand of the LORD; he turns it wherever he will.”

Proverbs 21:1 Easy-to-Read Version (ERV) “To the LORD, a king's mind is like a ditch used to water the fields. He can lead the king wherever he wants him to go.”

Ps. 75:7 “but it is God who executes judgment, putting down one and lifting up another.”

Our future on earth is in God's hands. Our future in heaven is in our hands.

Col. 3:23 “Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men”

3. Human Authorities are to be obey for our Conscience sake.

v. 5 “Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of **conscience**.”

1 Samuel 24:5 “It came about afterward that David's **conscience** bothered him because he had cut off the edge of Saul's robe.”

Acts 24:16 “So I always take pains to have a clear **conscience** toward both God and man.”

1 Tim. 1:19 “keeping faith and a good **conscience**, which some have rejected and suffered shipwreck in regard to their faith.”

4. Human Authorities are due what they are Owed.

v. 7 “Pay to all what is **owed** to them: taxes to whom taxes are **owed**, revenue to whom revenue is **owed**, respect to whom respect is **owed**, honor to whom honor is **owed**.”

Taxes, revenue, respect, honor – these are signs of inward and outward obedience.

What to do? Every day this week confess three things:

1. I am a man under authority.
2. Apart from Jesus I can do nothing.
3. With Christ all things are possible.