



Talk it Over

PASTOR DAVE - ROMANS 13:1-2 SUMMARY – 4/12/26

KEY SCRIPTURE

Romans 13:1–2 (NAS)

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.

1 Timothy 2:1–2 (NAS)

First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, 2 for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity.

1 Peter 2:13–15 (NAS)

Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether to a king as the one in authority,

14 or to governors as sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and the praise of those who do right.

15 For such is the will of God that by doing right you may silence the ignorance of foolish men.

Romans 9:33 (NAS)

just as it is written, "Behold, I lay in Zion a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense, And he who believes in Him will not be disappointed."

START TALKING

What was one of the most outrageous things a boss ever asked you to do?

START DISCUSSING

AUTHORITY: WAYS TO OVERCOME EVIL WITH GOOD

Read Romans 13:1-2

NERO AND CHRISTIANS

The context of the Roman church was living under a leader who was irrational and began to persecute Christians.

What were your impressions of the short video on Nero?

Take a little bit of time to talk about what life would have been like.

What kind of thoughts would cross their mind hearing Rom. 13 for the first time, and then remembering its instruction as life got hard?

BE IN SUBJECTION

The sermon made a clear distinction: obedience is an action; submission is a posture of the heart.

Which is harder: obedience or submission? Why?

Why is it possible to obey externally while resisting internally?

What does true submission look like when you strongly disagree?

JESUS AND AUTHORITY

Jesus challenged religious leaders but responded differently to Roman authority.

Why did Jesus not resist Roman authority, even unjustly?

What does this teach us about strength, humility, and trust?

A QUIET AND GODLY LIFE

Read 1 Timothy 2:1-2 and 1 Peter 2:13-15

Several passages (Timothy, Titus, Thessalonians) point toward living a quiet, peaceful, and dignified life.

What does a "quiet life" mean in a culture that values being loud and expressive?

In what situations is it hardest to live this way?

GOD'S WAYS ARE UNFATHOMABLE

Read Romans 9:33

The Rom. 13:1 phrase, "No authority except from God" leaves us speechless and wondering. In the end, we must rest in the sovereignty of God and realize that we are not going to understand.

Why do we instinctively try to figure out exactly what God is doing?

What is the danger of assuming we understand God's purposes?

What does it practically look like to say, "I trust God," when you don't understand?

ACTION STEPS THIS WEEK

Identify one area in your life where you are resisting authority in your heart.

What would it look like this week to respond with a posture of submission before God, even if your circumstances don't change?