

ROMANS



Romans 13:1-7

Part 1 – Lordship in Scripture



Romans 13:1-7

¹ 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.

Romans 13:1-7

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.

Romans 13:1-7

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.

Romans 13:1-7

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.

Romans 13:1-7

Why take two weeks?

Why talk about Lordship?

- 1. It is a major theme of the text.**
- 2. To avoid the abuse of the text.**
- 3. Because it is wildly relevant today.**

Lordship in Romans

1:1, 6 – Paul’s first words

1:7 – Jesus is Christ & Lord

1:17-3:20 – Rebellion from rightful Ruler

5:12-21 – Brought under Christ as head

6:16 – Slaves to whom you obey

10:9 – “Jesus is Lord” is the confession

12:1-2 – “Living sacrifices” as worship

Lordship in Scripture

Genesis 1-2 – God reigns in Creation

Genesis 3 – Rebellion from God's rule

Genesis 12 – God chooses Abram

1 Samuel 8:7 – God's rule rejected

2 Samuel 7:1-17 – THE King promised

Luke 3:31 & Matthew 1:6 – Jesus is from David, as promised

Jesus is THE King

Matthew 6:24, 12:30, Luke 16:13 – You can only serve one master.

Matthew 23:8-10 – Only one teacher

Luke 14:25-33 – The cost of discipleship

John 13:13 – Jesus, Lord and teacher

Matthew 28:16-20 – TGC → His Lorship

Jesus is THE King

Jesus sits at the right hand of God

Matthew 26:64, Luke 22:69, Acts
2:33, 5:31, 7:55-56, Ephesians 1:20,
Colossians 3:1, Hebrews 1:3, 8:1,
10:12, 12:2, 1 Peter 3:22

Jesus is THE King

The throne at the end:

**Revelation 4 & 7:9-11 – Worshipped
on His throne**

**Revelation 20:11-15 – Judging from
His throne**

**Revelation 21:1-8 – Making all
things new from His throne**

Jesus is THE King

Isaiah 45:23

Romans 14:11

Philippians 2:10

**At the name of Jesus, every knee
will bow and tongue confess that
Jesus is Lord**

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Avoiding poor exegesis

We submit to local authorities out of a greater submission to our ultimate authority.

- **Submission to God**
 - **Submission to local authorities**

Avoiding poor exegesis

Submission is obedience and, in this case, may include taxes, honor, respect, etc.

It is not endorsement nor agreement.

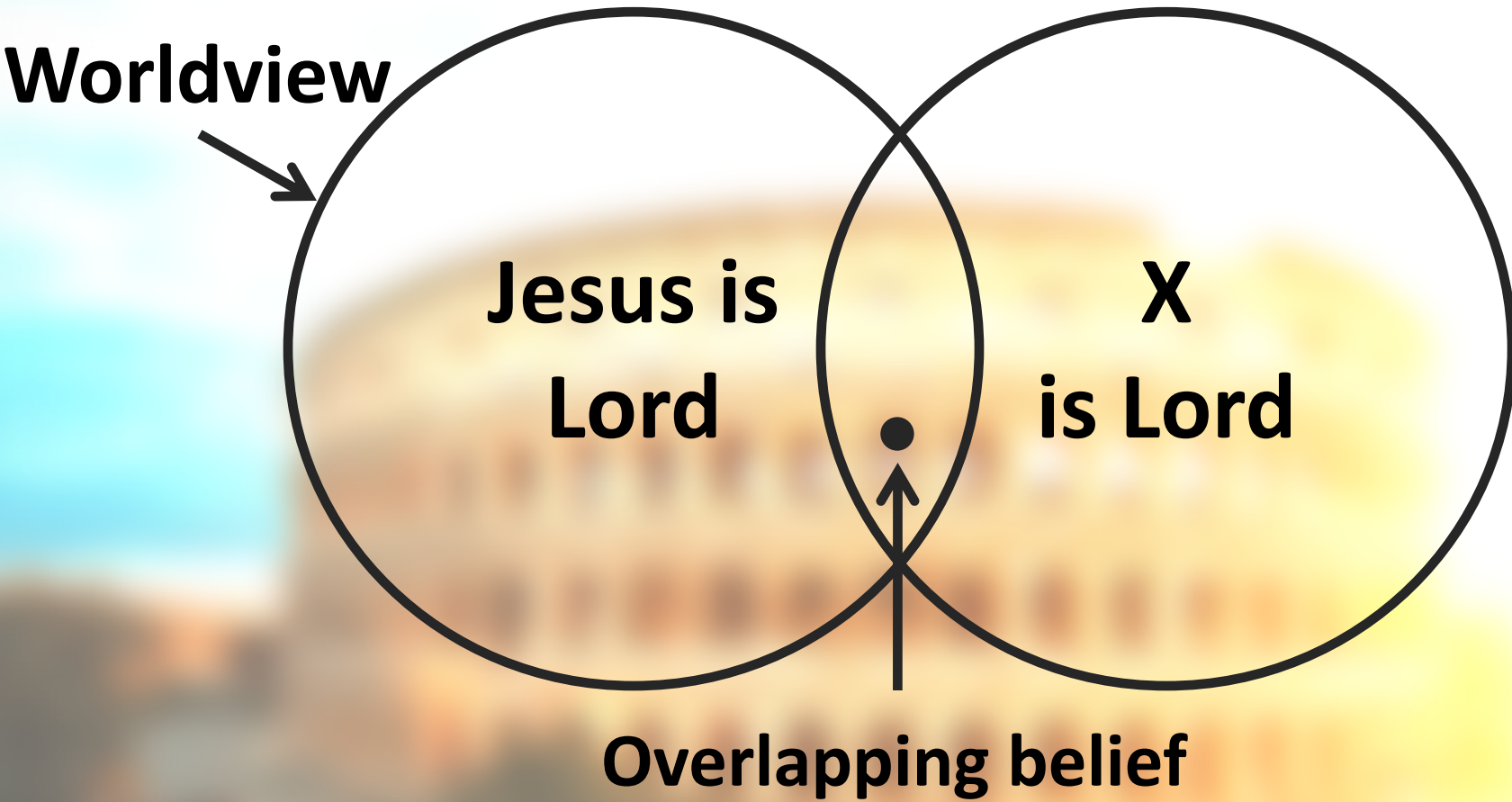
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Contending Lords



Contending Lords

Two major contenders

- **Nationalism**
- **Secular Humanism**

Nationalism

Easy to define ... difficult to diagnose

Where allegiance to tribe (nation) subverts or replaces allegiance to God.

- ~~Submission to God~~
 - Submission to local authorities
- 

Nationalism

Nationalism is not...

- **All forms of love for tribe/country**
- **A critique of the tribe/country**
- **Only possible in the + sense**

Diagnosing Nationalism

- **Evangelism**
- **Special knowledge & judgment**
- **Hope**
- **Identity**
- **Loyalty**
- **Moral Duty**
- **The move test**

Secular Humanism

Tenets of secular humanism.

- **People are the object of chief moral duty**
 - **Do no harm and pursue pleasure**
- **Horizontal peace is the highest good**
- **Subjective truth**
- **Affirmation = love**
 - **Affirm all that affirm you**

Diagnosing Secular Humanism

- **Does God have a right to judge?**
- **Moral duty to God?**
 - **“What’s the harm if nobody is hurt?”**
- **Are people their own authorities**
- **What is Christianity about?**
 - **Views of repentance, self-denial, wrath**

Diagnosing Secular Humanism

- **Where do your passions come from?**
 - **Are they internally consistent?**
- **Do you care about eternal suffering or only temporary suffering?**
- **Do you love your enemies?**

Searching Christian

There are some who don't feel they align with either popular Lord and therefore feel lost, like there is nowhere for them to stand.

Jesus is Lord!

King of a better kingdom

A teacher of a better ideology

A leader without sin

A better, more radical, love

The only Lord that saves!

Questions

- **Was there anything that jumped out to you from the text or the sermon?**
- **Did anything offend you about the sermon?**
- **Have you bumped up against these or other contending Lords in others?**
- **Have you bumped up against them in yourself?**
- **Is there a place in your life where you want Jesus to have greater Lordship? What is it?**
- **If you feel inclined to another Lord, are there any changes you can make to avoid temptation?**