

# The word “Subject” or “Submit” in the New Testament

## The Greek word “hupotasso” is used 40 times in the New Testament.

#1 – 19 times as “subject” or “subjected” or “subjection”.

#2 – 13 times as “submit” or “submitted” or “submissive”.

#3 – 8 times it is translated differently as “obedient” & “under” & “put” & “put under” & “subdue”.

## David Guzik said this about the word “submit”, in Ephesians 5:21...

“The word **submitting** here literally means, “to be under in rank.” It is a military word. It speaks of the way that an army is organized among levels of rank. You have Generals and Colonels and Majors and Captains and Sergeants and Privates. There are levels of rank, and you are **obligated** to respect those in higher rank.”

## He further said...

“We know that as a person, a Private **can be smarter, more talented, and a better person** than a General. But **he is still under rank** to the General. He isn’t submitted to the General so much as a *person* as he is to the General as a *General*.”

## And, he also said...

“To **submit** means that you recognize someone has legitimate authority over you. It means **you recognize that there is an order of authority**, and that you are part of a unit, a team. You as an individual are not more important than the working of the unit or the team.”

# Who Christians are to SUBMIT to:

**#1 – All are to submit to the authority of God, Himself.**

James 4:7.

**#2 – All children are to submit to the authority of their parents (as children in the home).**

Ephesians 6:1 & Jesus demonstrated it in Luke 2:51.

**#3 – All are to submit to the authority of our spiritual leaders.**

1 Peter 5:1-5 & Ephesians 5:21.

**#4 – All are to submit to each other as Christians, when appropriate, including husband and wife to each other.**

1 Peter 5:5 & Ephesians 5:21.

**#5 – All are to submit to our governing authorities.**

Romans 13:1-7 & 1 Peter 2:13-15 & 1 Timothy 2:1-2.

**#6 – All are to submit to the authority of our employers.**

1 Peter 2:18 & Titus 2:9-10.

**#7 – Husband are to submit to Jesus as they lead their homes.**

1 Corinthians 11:3 & Ephesians 5:25.

**#8 – Wives are to submit to their husbands as they would to Christ.**

Ephesians 5:22, Colossians 3:18, 1 Peter 3:1.

# Romans 13:1-7

## Reasons we are to submit to the governing authorities?

- #1 – vv.1b-2a** – For [or because] the governing authorities are established and appointed by God.  
So, to resist this authority is to resist God's ordinance.
- #2 – vv.2b-3a** – Because resisting the governing authority will bring judgment on yourself and you'll be afraid.
- #3 – vv.3b-4a** – For [or because] they are ministers to us for good.
- #4 – v.4b** – For [or because] they do not bear the sword in vain and because they are God's ministers to 'execute wrath'.
- #5 – v.5** – For [or because] they are God's ministers for our conscience' sake.
- #6 – vv.6-7** – For [or because] we are to pay taxes so they can be ministers to our society.