

**Romans: The Power of the Gospel (The Gospel Unites)**  
**Authority**  
**May 10, 2017**  
**Romans 13:1-7**

Religion and politics don't mix?

1 Peter 2:13  
Titus 3:1  
1 Timothy 2:1-3

- We are to submit ourselves to our earthly rulers.
- We are to pray for our leaders.
- We are to show proper respect for our rulers.

1. **Government is a derived authority.**

As Daniel 2:21 says, "God changes times and seasons; He sets up kings and deposes them."

No human has intrinsic authority that he wields or exercises over other human beings.

Psalms 72 says that rulers must care for the oppressed and the poor. Take care of the disadvantaged and see to the needs of everybody – not just the privileged few.

Isaiah 10:1-3

2. **Government is God's instrument to preserve order.**

A just government is one that rewards and encourages righteous and moral behavior from its citizens, and also brings discipline and retribution to the law breakers of the land.

Governments are one way that God protects us from ourselves.

3. Honor government through involvement.

- We attend town meetings and give our input.
- We write our congressmen encouraging them to pass just laws.
- When the Spirit leads, we sign petitions, join in legal demonstrations.
- Vote!

Never doubt the potential of your impact.

God calls us to be involved in government by paying our taxes.

We must respect the government, as long as it does not conflict with doing God's will.

Submit does not mean always obey.

A. We don't obey laws that command us to do something that God clearly forbids.

B. We don't obey laws that forbid us from doing something God clearly commands.

















