

Shay Logan / General Adult

[Romans 12:21](#) “21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.”

Good citizens:

[Jeremiah 29:7](#) “7 Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf; for in its welfare you will have welfare.”

[1 Peter 2:13-14](#) “13 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.”

Bible Passage: [Romans 13:1-7](#)

Summary: In this passage, Paul instructs believers on the necessity of submission to governing authorities, presenting the idea that every governing body is put in place by God to maintain order. This text highlights the dual responsibilities of Christians: to obey earthly laws and to honor God by recognizing His ultimate authority, even while navigating the complexities of human governance.

Big Idea: Living as citizens of both heaven and the earth means that Christians are called to honor earthly authorities as a reflection of their heavenly allegiance, promoting justice and mercy in a world that desperately needs God’s order and peace.

1. Recognize God's Sovereignty

[Romans 13:1-2](#)

[Daniel 2:21](#) “21 “It is He who changes the times and the epochs; He removes kings and establishes kings; He gives wisdom to wise men And knowledge to men of understanding.”

[Proverbs 21:1](#) “1 The king’s heart is like channels of water in the hand of the Lord; He turns it wherever He wishes.”

[Acts 4:18–19](#) “18 And when they had summoned them, they commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. 19 But Peter and John answered and said to them, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to give heed to you rather than to God, you be the judge;”

[Matthew 20:24–27](#) “24 And hearing this, the ten became indignant with the two brothers. 25 But Jesus called them to Himself and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. 26 It is not this way among you, but whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant, 27 and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave;”

2. Resist Evil, Promote Good

[Romans 13:3–4](#)

The Christian life is not based on ignorance but knowledge, and the better we understand Bible doctrine, the easier it is to obey Bible duties.

Warren W. Wiersbe

3. Render Obedience

[Romans 13:5–7](#)

[Psalm 103:8–9](#) “8 The Lord is compassionate and gracious, Slow to anger and abounding in lovingkindness. 9 He will not always strive with us, Nor will He keep His anger forever.”

[James 1:1-2](#) “1 James, a bond-servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes who are dispersed abroad: Greetings. 2 Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials,”

[Romans 2:15](#) “15 in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them,”

[1 Timothy 2:1-2](#) “1 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.”