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# ROMANS

A LETTER THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

OBEY AND PAY | ROMANS 13:1-7

OBEY THE \_\_\_\_\_.

“ Everyone must submit to **governing authorities**.”

ROMANS 13:1A (NLT)

\_\_\_\_\_ MEANS \_\_\_\_\_. (INCLUDES \_\_\_\_\_)

“ For all authority comes from **God**, and those in positions of authority have been placed there by **God**. So anyone who rebels against authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and they will be punished.”

ROMANS 13:1B-2 (NLT)

\_\_\_\_\_ ARE ESTABLISHED \_\_\_\_\_.

“ For the Lord's sake, submit to all human authority - whether **the king** as head of state, or **the officials** he has appointed. For the king has sent them to punish those who do wrong and to honor those who do right.

It is God's will that your honorable lives should silence those ignorant people who make foolish accusations against you. For you are free, yet you are God's slaves, so don't use your freedom as an excuse to do evil. Respect everyone, and love the family of believers. **Fear God**, and **respect the king**.”

1 PETER 2:13-17 (NLT)

DO WHAT \_\_\_\_\_.

“ For the authorities do not strike fear in people who are **doing right**, but in those who are **doing wrong**. Would you like to live without fear of the authorities? **Do what is right**, and they will honor you. The authorities are God's servants, sent for your good. But if you are doing wrong, of course you should be afraid, for they have the power to punish you. They are **God's servants**, sent for the very purpose of punishing those who do what is wrong. So you must submit to them, not only to avoid punishment, but also to keep a clear conscience.”

ROMANS 13:3-5 (NLT)

\_\_\_\_\_ ? SHOULD WE NEVER \_\_\_\_\_ ?

“ So they called the apostles back in and commanded them never again to speak or teach in the name of Jesus.  
But Peter and John replied, “Do you think God wants us to obey **you** rather than **him**? We cannot stop telling about everything we have seen and heard.”

ACTS 4:18-20 (NLT)

\_\_\_\_\_ TO A \_\_\_\_\_.

“ Then they brought the apostles before the high council, where the high priest confronted them. “We gave you **strict orders** never again to teach in this man's name!” he said. “Instead, you have filled all Jerusalem with your teaching about him, and you want to make us responsible for his death!”  
But Peter and the apostles replied, “We must **obey God** rather than any **human** authority.”

ACTS 5:27-29 (NLT)

## DO IT \_\_\_\_\_

“ But when Daniel learned that the law had been signed, he went home and knelt down as usual in his upstairs room, with its windows open toward Jerusalem. He prayed three times a day, just as he had always done, giving thanks to his God.”

DANIEL 6:10 (NLT)

“ Very early the next morning, the king got up and hurried out to the lions' den. When he got there, he called out in anguish, “Daniel, servant of the living God! Was your God, whom you serve so faithfully, able to rescue you from the lions?”  
Daniel answered, “**Long live the king!**”

DANIEL 6:19-21 (NLT)

## ...AND BE WILLING TO \_\_\_\_\_

“ I will give you one more chance to bow down and worship the statue I have made when you hear the sound of the musical instruments. But if you refuse, you will be thrown immediately into the blazing furnace. And then what god will be able to rescue you from my power?”

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego replied, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you. If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God whom we serve is able to save us. He will rescue us from your power, Your Majesty. But **even if he doesn't**, we want to make it clear to you, Your Majesty, that we will **never** serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up.”

DANIEL 3:15-18 (NLT)

## PAY YOUR \_\_\_\_\_

“ Pay your taxes, too, for these same reasons. For government workers need to be paid. They are serving God in what they do. Give to everyone what you owe them: Pay your taxes and government fees to those who collect them, and give respect and honor to those who are in authority.

ROMANS 13:6-7 (NLT)

“ Now tell us what you think about this: Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?” But Jesus knew their evil motives. “You hypocrites!” he said. “Why are you trying to trap me? Here, show me the coin used for the tax.” When they handed him a Roman coin, he asked, “Whose picture and title are stamped on it?” “Caesar's,” they replied.

“Well, then,” he said, “give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and give to God what belongs to God.”

His reply amazed them, and they went away.

MATTHEW 22:17-22 (NLT)

## SO WHAT? WHY OBEY \_\_\_\_\_ ? TO \_\_\_\_\_

“ I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. This is good and pleases God our Savior, who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth.”

1 TIMOTHY 2:1-4 (NLT)

## DISCUSSION *Questions* \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 - What is your attitude towards the government? How has it changed over the years?
- 2 - What laws, rules, or taxes do you struggle with and think shouldn't be followed?
- 3 - Why do some people believe the rules shouldn't apply to them?
- 4 - Re-read Romans 13:1-2. According to this passage, why are Christians subject to the laws of the Government? Do you struggle with this Idea? How do you make sense of this passage?
- 5 - Re-read Romans 13:3-5. What are some reasons we should live according to the laws and authorities? Are there any exceptions?
- 6 - Who are some of the earthly authorities God has placed over you? According to Romans 13, what does obedience to each of these authorities look like in both your actions and your heart?
- 7 - What is God calling you to do differently as a result of this passage?