



The Book of ROMANS

Chapter 13

“God & Country!”

> Three Keys for God & Country:

~ Key #1 – THE CHRISTIAN & GOVERNMENT! (v1-7)

~ Key #2 – THE CHRISTIAN & SOCIETY! (v8-10)

~ Key #3 – THE CHRISTIAN & THE LAST DAYS! (v11-14)

~ Key #1 – THE CHRISTIAN & GOVERNMENT! (v1-7)

(v1-5) Christians are called to be subject to the government and its laws. However, if the government and its laws demand a Christian to do that which is against the law of God, then we will not and must submit.

> Observe the following biblical acts of civil disobedience:

- **Pharaoh ordered the midwives to kill all male babies - Exodus 1:17-22** - *But the midwives feared God, and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the male children alive. So the king of Egypt called for the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this thing, and saved the male children alive?" And the midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are lively and give birth before the midwives come to them." Therefore God dealt well with the midwives, and the people multiplied and grew very mighty. And so it was, because the midwives feared God, that He provided households for them. So Pharaoh commanded all his people, saying, "Every son who is born you shall cast into the river, and every daughter you shall save alive."*

- **Shadrach, Meshach & Abed-Nego would not bow to the image (idolatry) made by Nebuchadnezzar** (Daniel Ch. 3 - Remember the fiery furnace).

- **Daniel would not stop praying to His God even though the law commanded it** (Daniel Ch. 6 – Remember the lion’s den).

- **Peter and John were warned not to speak or teach in the name of Jesus** (Acts Ch. 4:17-21)

> **What is our Christian responsibility in regard to the nation and our government leaders?**

May God bless America! - 2 Chronicles 7:12-20 - *Then the LORD appeared to Solomon by night, and said to him: "I have heard your prayer, and have chosen this place for Myself as a house of sacrifice. When I shut up heaven and there is no rain, or command the locusts to devour the land, or send pestilence among My people, if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to prayer made in this place. For now I have chosen and sanctified this house, that My name may be there forever; and My eyes and My heart will be there perpetually. As for you, if you walk before Me as your father David walked, and do according to all that I have commanded you, and if you keep My statutes and My judgments, then I will establish the throne of your kingdom, as I covenanted with David your father, saying, 'You shall not fail to have a man as*

ruler in Israel.' "But if you turn away and forsake My statutes and My commandments which I have set before you, and go and serve other gods, and worship them, then I will uproot them from My land which I have given them; and this house which I have sanctified for My name I will cast out of My sight, and will make it a proverb and a byword among all peoples.

1 Timothy 2:1-7 - Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time, for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle — I am speaking the truth in Christ and not lying — a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

(v6-7) **Jesus & taxes – Mark 12:13-17; Matthew 17:24-27 – Warning:** Pay your taxes or pay a penalty; or go to jail. (Remember even tax collectors got saved, Levi – also known as Matthew, Luke Ch. 5) & Zacchaeus (Luke Ch. 19); **Jesus is charge of the I.R.S – Internal Repentance Service!**

~ Key #2 – THE CHRISTIAN & SOCIETY! (v8-10)

> **How to love your neighbor?**

(1) **Jesus says – 13:34-35** – A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

(2) **Obey the commandments in verse 9** - Do not commit adultery – Do not murder – Do not steal – Do not lie – Do not covet (Covetousness is an intense desire to possess something (or someone) that belongs to another person. Covetousness springs from a greedy self-centeredness and an arrogant disregard of God’s law.)

(3) **Is your LOVE defined according to 1 Corinthians 13:4-8** – Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.

~ Key #3 – THE CHRISTIAN & THE LAST DAYS! (v11-14)

(v11) **WAKE UP!** – It’s the last days! – 1 Thessalonians 5:1-10

(v12) **CLEAN UP!** - 1 John 1:5-7 - This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

(v13-14) **GROW UP!** - Galatians 5:19-26 - Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is

*love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. And those who are **Christ's** have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. As Christians we should all be growing in the fruit of the Spirit, year by year bearing fruit thirty, sixty and a hundredfold (Matthew 13:8).*

Conclusion: Matthew 25:1-13