

Romans

SERMON SERIES

Romans



LIVING IN  
COMMUNITY

**In light of the mercy of God**

## Romans 12:1-2

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.  
2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

**Last Week's Sermon:**

*Love in Action*

Romans 12:9-21

# 1 Peter 2:11-12

<sup>11</sup> Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. <sup>12</sup> Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

If God sees us  
making idols of  
anything, He will  
either break our  
idols, or break us.

— Charles Spurgeon

***I can't say this loud  
enough!***



***I miss the  
AMERICA  
that I grew up in.***





**HE CAME**  
TO PAY A DEBT  
HE DID NOT OWE  
**BECAUSE**  
WE OWED A DEBT  
WE COULD NOT PAY

**WE OWE ILLEGALS**  
\*\*\* NOTHING \*\*\*



**WE OWE OUR**  
**VETERANS**  
—EVERYTHING—



Those who leave everything  
in God's hands  
will soon see God's hands  
in everything.

Grace Filled



## Joel 2:31

The sun shall be turned into DARKNESS  
and the moon into BLOOD,  
before the GREAT  
and the TERRIBLE day  
of the LORD AHAYAH come...



## Revelation 6:12

And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal,  
and, lo, there was a great earthquake;  
and the sun became BLACK as sackcloth of hair,  
and the moon became as BLOOD;

**This Week's Sermon:**  
*Gospel Living in Society: Conflict of Interests*  
Romans 13:1-7

# Romans 13:1-7

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. <sup>2</sup> Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. <sup>3</sup> For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval,

## Romans 13:1-7

<sup>4</sup> for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. <sup>5</sup> Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. <sup>6</sup> For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. <sup>7</sup> Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

**Why does Paul bring this up here?**

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**1. Too much hope in Government**

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- 1. Too much hope in Government**
- 2. This World is not my home so who cares!**



**Why does Paul bring this up here?**

**This is a continuation of the Mercy of God!**

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**This is a continuation of the Mercy of God!  
“Vengeance is mine” says the Lord**

## Romans 12:19-20

<sup>19</sup> Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” <sup>20</sup> To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.”

## Romans 13:4

<sup>4</sup>for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer.

**Submit to Governing Authorities**

## Romans 13:1

Let every person be **subject** to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

## 1 Peter 2:13-14

<sup>13</sup> Be **subject** for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme,  
<sup>14</sup> or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good.

**Do know how incompetent these people  
are?!?!**



**Our rebellion against the government is tied  
to rebellion against God's authority!**

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<sup>5</sup> Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience.

**But what if what they are asking is  
downright evil!!**

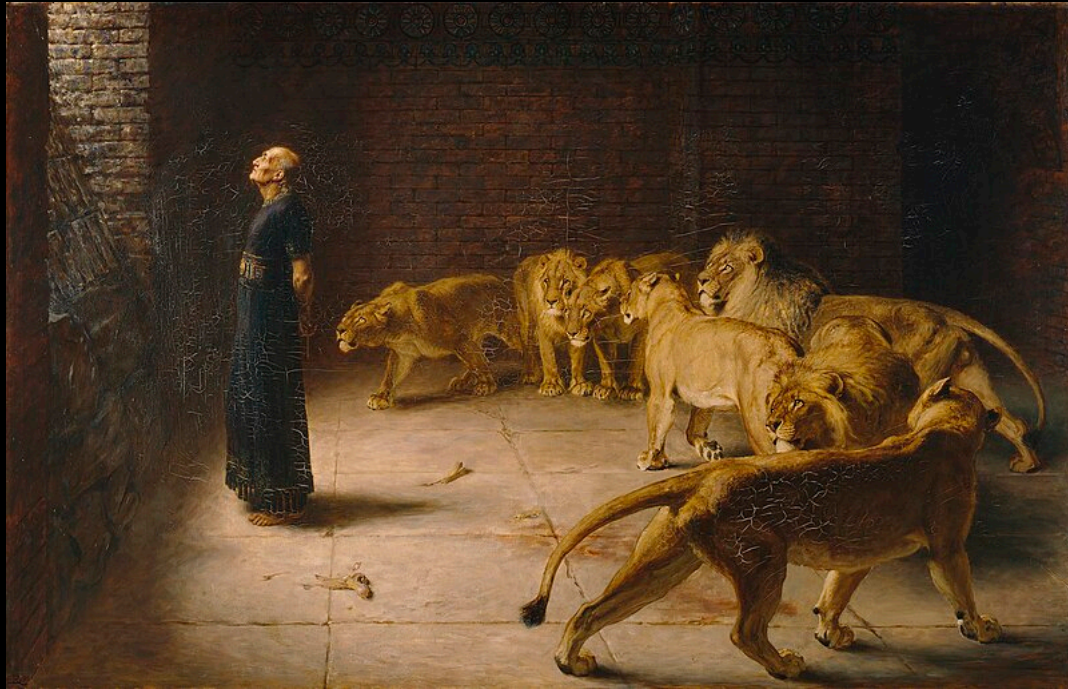
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downright evil!!**



Daniel 4:17  
The Most High rules  
the kingdom of men  
and gives it to whom  
he will and sets over  
it the lowliest of  
men.'



**Submit to Governing Authorities**

**Submit/Subject – Not Obey no matter what!**

At first glance, and taken on its own, this passage seems to require that Christians always, in whatever situation, obey whatever their governmental leaders tell them to do. Almost all Christians recoil from this conclusion. Our own sad experience of situations like the Holocaust during World War II suggests that genuine Christian devotion to God must sometimes require *disobedience* of the government. Moreover, this sense finds support within the NT itself. The classic text is Acts 5:29, in which Peter and John respond to the Jewish leaders' order to stop teaching in Jesus' name: "We must obey God rather than human beings!" ~Moo

Clearly, a willingness to resist the demands of secular rulers, when those conflict with the demand of the God we serve, is part of that transformation of life that Paul speaks about in these chapters.

Moo, D. J. (2018). *The Letter to the Romans*. (N. B. Stonehouse, F. F. Bruce, G. D. Fee, & J. B. Green, Eds.) (Second Edition, p. 823). Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.

**Submission to Governing authorities must  
be looked at through the lens of Scripture,**

**Submission to Governing authorities must  
be looked at through the lens of Scripture,  
not the American Constitution.**

## What is the purpose of the State?

“The primary purpose of government is attainment of the common good and pursuit of justice, that the condition of the poor is a principle measure of common good and justice, and that solidarity with all persons and defense of human freedom and dignity are essential principles of governance. Moreover, the state has a responsibility to maintain order in the social and in the natural world; hence, stewardship of God’s generous gifts is a prime responsibility of governance.”

Clarke E. Cochran (*Church, State, and Public Justice*, pg. 47).

Francis Grimke

Response to the Spanish  
Flu in 1928 in Washington  
D.C. November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

1/3 of the world infected  
(aprox. 500 million)  
50 million deaths



There has been considerable grumbling, I know, on the part of some, particularly in regard to the closing of the churches. It seems to me, however, in a matter like this it is always wise to submit to such restrictions for the time being. If, as a matter of fact, it was dangerous to meet in theaters and in the schools, it certainly was no less dangerous to meet in churches. The fact that the churches were places of religious gathering, and the others not, would not affect in the least the health question involved. If avoiding crowds lessens the danger of being infected, it was wise to take the precaution and not needlessly run in danger, and expect God to protect us.

Francis Grimke



# Honor and Taxes

# Romans 13:1-7

<sup>6</sup> For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. <sup>7</sup> Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

**So what?**

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**In light of God's mercy, there is a new  
sacrificial way of living, just like Jesus**

# Gospel Application

Some of us need to repent

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All of us need to worship Jesus who set his preference aside to help and serve those who didn't deserve it, so they in turn could help and serve those who who need it most.