

## Basic Disciplines of a Believer: A Mature Believer Yields to Authority

### Believer's Government Submission Responsibilities: Believers Submit to Government Leaders

*It is clear from the Word that believers are responsible to submit to government leaders. Not only did Jesus give us His own example, He taught on this. The concept of yielding to government authorities is a repeated theme in the Epistles as well.*

#### **Believers Are To Be Subject To Government Authorities Because of the Teaching & Example of Jesus**

##### **John 19:1-18**

- <sup>1</sup> So then Pilate took Jesus and scourged *Him*.  
<sup>2</sup> And the soldiers twisted a crown of thorns and put *it* on His head, and they put on Him a purple robe.  
<sup>3</sup> Then they said, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they struck Him with their hands.  
<sup>4</sup> Pilate then went out again, and said to them, "Behold, I am bringing Him out to you, that you may know that I find no fault in Him."  
<sup>5</sup> Then Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And *Pilate* said to them, "Behold the Man!"  
<sup>6</sup> Therefore, when the chief priests and officers saw Him, they cried out, saying, "Crucify *Him*, crucify *Him*!" Pilate said to them, "You take Him and crucify *Him*, for I find no fault in Him."  
<sup>7</sup> The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to our law He ought to die, because He made Himself the Son of God."  
<sup>8</sup> Therefore, when Pilate heard that saying, he was the more afraid,  
<sup>9</sup> and went again into the Praetorium, and said to Jesus, "Where are You from?" But Jesus gave him no answer.  
<sup>10</sup> Then Pilate said to Him, "Are You not speaking to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?"  
<sup>11</sup> Jesus answered, "You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from above. Therefore the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin."  
<sup>12</sup> From then on Pilate sought to release Him, but the Jews cried out, saying, "If you let this Man go, you are not Caesar's friend. Whoever makes himself a king speaks against Caesar."  
<sup>13</sup> When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus out and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called *The Pavement*, but in Hebrew, Gabbatha.  
<sup>14</sup> Now it was the Preparation Day of the Passover, and about the sixth hour. And he said to the Jews, "Behold your King!"  
<sup>15</sup> But they cried out, "Away with *Him*, away with *Him*! Crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar!"  
<sup>16</sup> Then he delivered Him to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus and led *Him* away.  
<sup>17</sup> And He, bearing His cross, went out to a place called *the Place of a Skull*, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha,  
<sup>18</sup> where they crucified Him, and two others with Him, one on either side, and Jesus in the center.

##### **1 Timothy 6:12-16**

- <sup>12</sup> Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.  
<sup>13</sup> I urge you in the sight of God who gives life to all things, and *before* Christ Jesus who witnessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate,  
<sup>14</sup> that you keep *this* commandment without spot, blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ's appearing,  
<sup>15</sup> which He will manifest in His own time, *He who is* the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords,  
<sup>16</sup> who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom *be* honor and everlasting power. Amen.

##### **1 Peter 2:18-25**

- <sup>18</sup> Servants, *be* submissive to *your* masters with all fear, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the harsh.  
<sup>19</sup> For this *is* commendable, if because of conscience toward God one endures grief, suffering wrongfully.  
<sup>20</sup> For what credit *is it* if, when you are beaten for your faults, you take it patiently? But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this *is* commendable before God.  
<sup>21</sup> For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:  
<sup>22</sup> "Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth";  
<sup>23</sup> who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed *Himself* to Him who judges righteously;  
<sup>24</sup> who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness-- by whose stripes you were healed.  
<sup>25</sup> For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

##### **Matthew 17:24-27**

- <sup>24</sup> When they had come to Capernaum, those who received the *temple* tax came to Peter and said, "Does your Teacher not pay the *temple* tax?"  
<sup>25</sup> He said, "Yes." And when he had come into the house, Jesus anticipated him, saying, "What do you think, Simon? From whom do the kings of the earth take customs or taxes, from their sons or from strangers?"  
<sup>26</sup> Peter said to Him, "From strangers." Jesus said to him, "Then the sons are free.  
<sup>27</sup> "Nevertheless, lest we offend them, go to the sea, cast in a hook, and take the fish that comes up first. And when you have opened its mouth, you will find a piece of money; take that and give it to them for Me and you."

### **Matthew 22:17-21**

<sup>17</sup> "Tell us, therefore, what do You think? Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?"

<sup>18</sup> But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, "Why do you test Me, *you* hypocrites?"

<sup>19</sup> "Show Me the tax money." So they brought Him a denarius.

<sup>20</sup> And He said to them, "Whose image and inscription *is* this?"

<sup>21</sup> They said to Him, "Caesar's." And He said to them, "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."

### **Believers Are To Be Subject To Government Authorities Because of the Teachings / Commands in the Epistles**

#### **Romans 13:1-7**

<sup>1</sup> Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.

<sup>2</sup> Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.

<sup>3</sup> For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same.

<sup>4</sup> For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to *execute* wrath on him who practices evil.

<sup>5</sup> Therefore *you* must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake.

<sup>6</sup> For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing.

<sup>7</sup> Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes *are due*, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.

#### **Titus 3:1-8**

<sup>1</sup> Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work,

<sup>2</sup> to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men.

<sup>3</sup> For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient (*apeithes*), deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another.

<sup>4</sup> But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared,

<sup>5</sup> not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,

<sup>6</sup> whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior,

<sup>7</sup> that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

<sup>8</sup> This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men.

#### **1 Peter 2:9-17**

<sup>9</sup> But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

<sup>10</sup> who once *were* not a people but *are* now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

<sup>11</sup> Beloved, I beg *you* as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul,

<sup>12</sup> having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by *your* good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation.

<sup>13</sup> Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, whether to the king as supreme,

<sup>14</sup> or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and *for the* praise of those who do good.

<sup>15</sup> For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men--

<sup>16</sup> as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as bondservants of God.

<sup>17</sup> Honor all *people*. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.

### **Related COMMANDS in the Epistles**

- **Rom 13:1** Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. (ὑποτάσσω)

Πᾶσα ψυχὴ ἐξουσίαις ὑπερεχούσαις ὑποτασσέσθω. οὐ γὰρ ἔστιν ἐξουσία εἰ μὴ ὑπὸ θεοῦ, αἱ δὲ οὖσαι ὑπὸ θεοῦ τεταγμέναι εἰσὶν.

- **Rom 13:5** Therefore *you* must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake. (ὑποτάσσω)

διὸ ἀνάγκη ὑποτάσσεσθαι, οὐ μόνον διὰ τὴν ὀργὴν ἀλλὰ καὶ διὰ τὴν συνείδησιν.

- **Titus 3:1** Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work, (ὑποτάσσω)

Ὑπομύνησκε αὐτοὺς ἀρχαῖς ἐξουσίαις ὑποτάσσεσθαι, πειθαρχεῖν, πρὸς πᾶν ἔργον ἀγαθὸν ἐτοιμοὺς εἶναι,

- **1 Pet 2:13-14** Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, whether to the king as supreme, <sup>14</sup> or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and *for the* praise of those who do good. (ὑποτάσσω)

Ὑποτάγητε πάσῃ ἀνθρωπίνῃ κτίσει διὰ τὸν κύριον, εἴτε βασιλεῖ ὡς ὑπερέχοντι,