

## **Those who rule over you - Outline**

*October 28, 2018*

### **How should we respond to those who are in authority over us?**

Our first responsibility is to \_\_\_\_\_ in authority over us.

A believer's attitude in life is to bless others rather than to curse them. (Romans 12:14)

Our second responsibility to those in authority is \_\_\_\_\_ to them.

*Everyone must submit to governing authorities. (Romans 13:1, NLT)*

a. God has \_\_\_\_\_ the authorities.

*For all authority comes from God, and those in positions of authority have been placed there by God. (Romans 13:1, NLT)*

b. God expects those in authority to \_\_\_\_\_.

*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. (Romans 13:3)*

c. Even if they are not just, God is \_\_\_\_\_ over those in authority.

*The authorities are God's servants, sent for your good. (Romans 13:4a, NLT)*

### **When is it appropriate to resist someone in authority over you rather than submitting to them?**

We submit at all points except when \_\_\_\_\_ demands that we break \_\_\_\_\_.

Peter commanded not to preach the gospel.

*But Peter and the apostles replied, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. (Acts 5:29, NLT)*

Three men commanded to worship another God. (Daniel 3:9-18)

Midwives commanded to kill babies. (Exodus 1:15-20)

Reflect the love and the grace of God.

d. As we submit to governing authorities we avoid \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ on ourselves.

*So anyone who rebels against authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and they will be punished. (Romans 13:2, NLT)*

e. When you resist authorities you are actually \_\_\_\_\_ God.

*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. (Romans 13:4, NLT)*

f. Pay your \_\_\_\_\_ willingly.

*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)*

g. And you will experience \_\_\_\_\_.

*So you must submit to them, not only to avoid punishment, but also to keep a clear conscience. (Romans 13:5, NLT)*

Our third responsibility is \_\_\_\_\_ for those in authority over us.

*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. (1 Timothy 2:1-2, NLT)*

# **Digging Deeper**

## Study for individuals and small groups.

What negative attitudes toward government exist in our culture?

### **Read Romans 13:1-3.**

Who are we to subject ourselves to (Romans 13:1)?

Why is it that we are to subject ourselves to them in this way (Romans 13:1)?

When a man rebels against this authority, who else is he resisting (Romans 13:2)?

What happens as a result of this rebellion (Romans 13:2)?

How do we get rid of our fear of the governmental authorities (Romans 13:3)?

### **Read Romans 13:4-7.**

What are the governmental authorities called in Romans 13:4?

What therefore is the responsibility of the governmental authorities (Romans 13:4)?

Besides fearing what the government might do to you if it catches you doing something wrong, what is the other reason we are to submit to the government (Romans 13:5)?

According to Romans 13:6, what are taxes for?

What does Paul say about all the preferential treatment the government might expect (Romans 13:7)?

### **For more discussion:**

How should Christians respond to corrupt or evil governments?

Prayer: Pray for those in authority over you. (1 Timothy 2:1-2)