



The Transformed Life “Civil Obedience”

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¹Let 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.

Romans 13:1

Reasons for Christians to “be subject” to the state?

1. This is how God designed creation.

“those that exist have been instituted by God.”

Romans 13:1b

2. There are advantages to being in good standing with the government.

“But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain.”
Section of Romans 13:4

3. It is reasonable to be subject based on what the government provides.

“⁷Pay 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.” Romans 13:7

The authority of the government does not supersede God’s authority, and when the two contradict Christians have every obligation to follow the Law of God.

Reflection:

How can you work through civil authority for the advancement of justice and human good?