

**Transformed Living: “From to ”**  
**Romans 13:1-7**

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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,

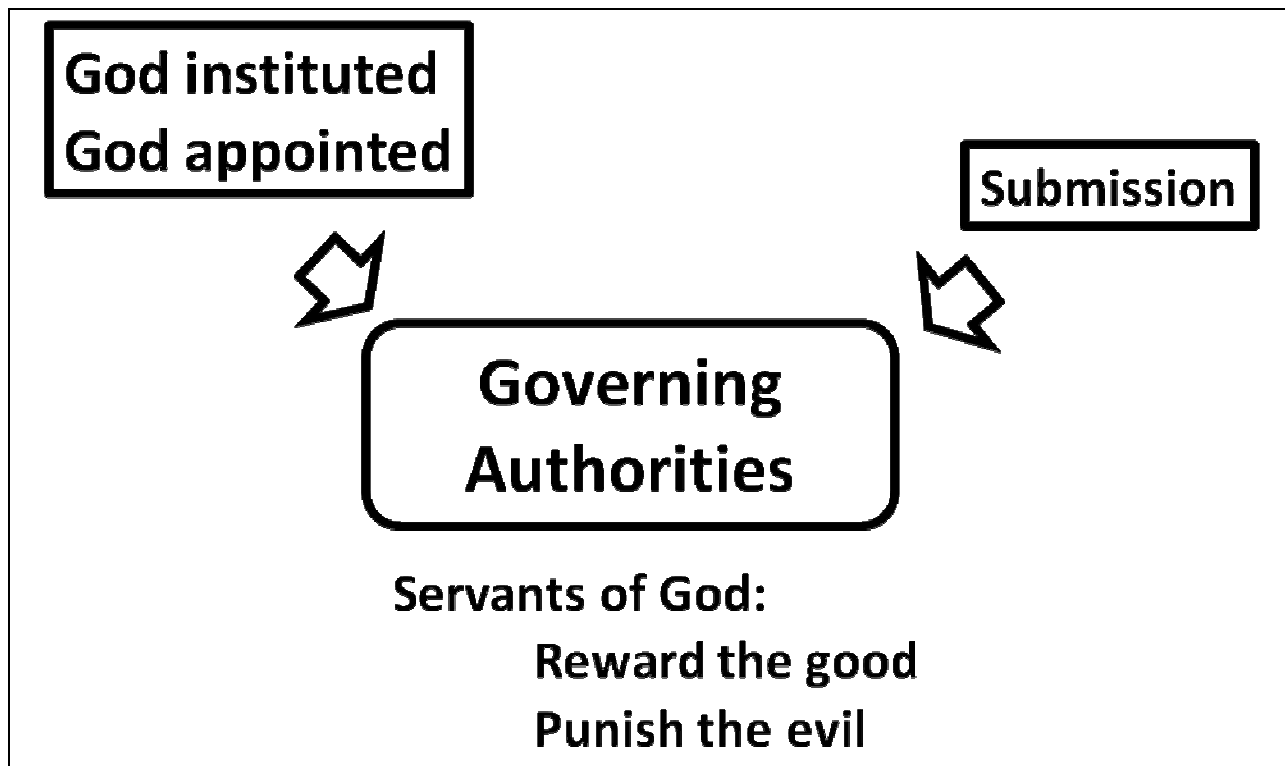
<sup>4</sup> for he is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God’s wrath on the wrongdoer.

<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.

For further help, see 1 Timothy 2:1-6; Titus 3:1-2; 1 Peter 2:13-17.



## Day by Day in the Word

“Day by Day in the Word” is a tool we use to help in the transformation process in which the Spirit of God uses the Word of God to bring about Christlikeness.

### Monday-Tuesday

- Let’s read Mark 12:13-17 today (parallels: Matthew 22:15-22; Luke 20:20-26). This event takes place during the Passion Week, probably on Tuesday. What do you know about the Pharisees and the Herodians? Use a Study Bible or a Bible Dictionary to gain a brief overview. Do these groups normally work together? What was their purpose in coming to Jesus? Notice what they say about Jesus, that is, their flattery. What were they trying to do with this question about Caesar and taxes? If Jesus answered “No,” what would the Herodians do? If he answered “Yes,” what would the Pharisees do?
- What do you learn about Jesus’ response? What do you learn about our obligations to the state? What do you learn about our obligations to God? How do these obligations relate with each other?
- What point is being made about the coin (denarius), which would have had the image of the emperor with the inscription, “Tiberius Caesar Augustus, son of the divine Augustus,” on one side, and the image of his mother Livia (goddess of peace) with the inscription “*pontifex maximus*” (high priest), on the other side?
- What principles can we learn from this passage that will help us in our living transformed lives in the political situation we find ourselves? Discuss this with a group of friends and determine how these principles can be put into practice in your life.

### Wednesday-Thursday

- What do you find from the following passages—1 Timothy 2:1-6; Titus 3:1-2; 1 Peter 2:13-17—that will help you live in our contemporary society? What could we be doing? Why should we be doing this?
- Determine one way that you can put this into practice. Share your practical steps with a friend and hold each other accountable.

### Friday-Saturday

- From the following passages, what do you discover about God’s sovereignty over all governing authorities: See 2 Samuel 12:8; Proverbs 8:15-16; Isaiah 45:1; Jeremiah 27:5-7; Daniel 2:21, 37; 4:17, 25, 32; 5:21?
- Read Acts 17:24-31. What do you discover about God from verse 24? See Acts 7:48 and Isaiah 42:5. What do you discover from verse 25 about God’s providential provision for humankind and all creatures? What do you discover from verse 26? Read Genesis 1:27-28 and 2:7 as background. Notice that God created humans for two purposes: to dwell or inhabit and to seek. What do you discover about God in verse 26? See Deuteronomy 32:8. What have you learned from this passage?
- Because God is sovereign, what thoughts, attitudes, and actions does He desire for you and me today?