

CITIZEN & CHRISTIAN

TEXT:

Romans 13:1-14

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. 2 Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. 3 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. 4 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. 5 Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake. 6 For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing. 7 Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor. 8 Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law. 9 For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not bear false witness," "You shall not covet," and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." 10 Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law. 11 And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. 12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. 13 Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. 14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

LIVING AS A CITIZEN IN GOD'S CREATION:

1. God's design for Government—a _____.

Romans 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.

Understand: No authority exists apart from God or that was not established or allowed by God.

LIVING AS A CITIZEN IN GOD'S CREATION:

2. God's _____ is always at work.

Psalms 103:19

The Lord has established His throne in heaven, And His kingdom rules over-all.

Psalms 33:12

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord...

LIVING AS A CITIZEN IN GOD'S CREATION:

3. God's systems He designed:

- a. _____.

Genesis 2:15-17

The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. 16 And the Lord God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; 17 but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die."

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man's all. 14 For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing, Whether good or evil.

If we as Christians live life in LIGHT of an attitude of self-government, then there is less of a need for anyone or anything else to govern them.

LIVING AS A CITIZEN IN GOD'S CREATION:

3. God's systems He designed:

b. _____.

Genesis 2:24

Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

Ephesians 5:23

For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior.

1 Corinthians 11:3

But I want you to understand that the head of every man is Christ, the head of a wife is her husband, and the head of Christ is God.

Ephesians 6:1

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

LIVING AS A CITIZEN IN GOD'S CREATION:

3. God's systems He designed:

c. _____.

Proverbs 14:34

Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.

Matthew 16:18

And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

LIVING AS A CITIZEN IN GOD'S CREATION:

3. God's systems He designed:

d. _____.

Romans 13:3-4

3 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. 4 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.

INTENDED OUTCOME—LIVE AS A CHRISTIAN BEING A CITIZEN:

1. Don't get caught up in _____.

2 Peter 3:17

Therefore, dear friends, since you have been forewarned, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of the lawless and fall from your secure position.

1 John 1:6

If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

1 Corinthians 10:12

So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!

INTENDED OUTCOME—LIVE AS A CHRISTIAN BEING A CITIZEN:

2. Don't be caught _____.

1 Peter 2:25

For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Matthew 24:42, 44

42 Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming.

44 Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

Luke 12:38

It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the middle of the night or toward daybreak.

INTENDED OUTCOME—LIVE AS A CHRISTIAN BEING A CITIZEN:

3. Be _____.

Romans 13:11

And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.

1 Thessalonians 5:6

So be on your guard, not asleep like the others. Stay alert and be clearheaded.

Revelations 3:2-3

2 Wake up! Strengthen what little remains, for even what is left is almost dead. I find that your actions do not meet the requirements of my God. 3 Go back to what you heard and believed at first; hold to it firmly. Repent and turn to me again. If you don't wake up, I will come to you suddenly, as unexpected as a thief.

INTENDED OUTCOME—LIVE AS A CHRISTIAN BEING A CITIZEN:

4. Be a _____.

Romans 10:14

How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?

Ephesians 6:18

Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.

Quote:

Many people want “God bless America” today.
They just don’t want “One nation under God.”
The issue is that you can’t have one without the other.
~ Tony Evans

Reflection:

1. What are you truly following, an elephant, a donkey, or a Lamb?