

# Submission to Authority

October 7, 2018

Thank you so much for choosing to worship with us today! We are thrilled you are here!

---

*Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience. This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.*

*Romans 13:1-7*

This seems hard right now. Our system of government is really struggling with a deep desire for power. Republicans, Democrats, Independents, and any other party all want the same thing – a place at the seat of power. It is sometimes hard for us to comprehend that God ultimately is in control of all – even government. Jesus told Pilate in John 19:11 that the only reason he had any power was that it was given to him from above. So, any perceived power that we have is because God has allowed it.

God has set rulers and authorities. As His followers we are to be in submission to them. Respect them. Honor them. Even if we disagree them. The only real power is the presence of Christ. Allow that power to lead everything in your life!

All Things for Christ,  
Michael