

Romans 13

Chapter 13 of 16 · 14 Verses · Authorized King James Version

Submission to Authorities

¹ Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

² Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.

³ For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same:

⁴ For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil.

⁵ Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake.

⁶ For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing.

⁷ Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.

Love Fulfills the Law

⁸ Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.

⁹ For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other

commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

10 Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Put On the Lord Jesus Christ

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

12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.

13 Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying.

14 But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

Believe — πιστεύω (Pisteuo)

To believe, trust, have faith

The Greek **pisteuo** (πιστεύω) means to believe or trust—active reliance upon Christ. 'For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish' (John 3:16).

Law — νόμος (Nomos)

Law

The Greek **nomos** (νόμος) denotes law—particularly the Mosaic law. While believers are not under law but under grace (Romans 6:14), Christ fulfilled the law (Matthew 5:17) and wrote it on believers' hearts (Hebrews 8:10).

God — Θεός (Theos)

God

The Greek **Theos** (Θεός) refers to deity, used both for the one true God and false gods. Context determines whether it denotes the Father specifically or the Godhead generally.

Lord — Κύριος (Kurios)

Lord, Master

The Greek **Kurios** (Κύριος) means 'lord' or 'master,' used both for human masters and divinely for God the Father and Jesus Christ. Its application to Jesus affirms His deity, as it translates YHWH in the Septuagint.

Love — ἀγάπη (Agape)

Divine love

The Greek **agape** (ἀγάπη) denotes self-sacrificial, unconditional love—the highest form of love, characterizing God's nature (1 John 4:8) and the love Christians are called to demonstrate.

Wrath — ὀργή (Orgē)

Wrath, anger

The Greek **orgē** (ὀργή) means wrath—settled, righteous anger against sin. Believers are 'saved from wrath through him' (Romans 5:9), as Christ bore God's wrath on the cross, satisfying divine justice.

Salvation — σωτηρία (Soteria)

Salvation, deliverance

The Greek **soteria** (σωτηρία) denotes salvation, deliverance, or preservation—rescue from sin's penalty and power. It encompasses justification, sanctification, and glorification.

CROSS REFERENCES

Romans 13:1

Parallel theme: 1 Samuel 2:8; Daniel 2:21; 4:32; John 19:11; Titus 3:1; Jude 1:8; Revelation 1:5; 19:16. **References God:** Psalms 62:11; Ephesians 5:21

Romans 13:2 **Parallel theme:** Titus 3:1; James 3:1; 1 Peter 2:13

Romans 13:3 **Evil:** Deuteronomy 25:1. **Parallel theme:** Proverbs 14:35; 20:2

Romans 13:4

Judgment: Romans 12:19; 2 Chronicles 19:6; Proverbs 16:14. **Parallel theme:** Proverbs 20:2. **References God:** Romans 13:6

Romans 13:5 **Parallel theme:** Ecclesiastes 8:2; Acts 24:16; 1 Peter 2:19

Romans 13:6 **Parallel theme:** 1 Chronicles 18:14; Luke 23:2

Romans 13:7 **Parallel theme:** Exodus 20:12; Proverbs 24:21; Matthew 17:25; 22:21; Mark 12:17; Luke 20:25; Ephesians 5:33; 6:5; 1 Timothy 5:17; 6:1

Romans 13:8

Love: Romans 13:10; John 13:34; Galatians 5:14; Colossians 3:14; 1 Timothy 1:5; James 2:8. **Word:** Matthew 7:12. **Parallel theme:** Romans 13:7

Romans 13:9

Love: Leviticus 19:18; 19:34; Matthew 22:39; Mark 12:31; Luke 10:27; Galatians 5:13. **Word:** Mark 10:19; Luke 18:20

Romans 13:10 Love: Romans 13:8

Romans 13:11 Parallel theme: Ecclesiastes 9:10; Jonah 1:6; Matthew 16:3; Luke 21:28; 1 Corinthians 10:11; 15:34; Ephesians 5:14; 1 Peter 4:7; Revelation 22:12; 22:20

Romans 13:12

Darkness: Ephesians 5:11. **Parallel theme:** Romans 13:14; Isaiah 2:20; 30:22; 2 Corinthians 6:7; Ephesians 4:22; James 1:21; 1 Peter 2:1; Revelation 22:10. **Related:** Song of Solomon 2:17

Romans 13:13

Parallel theme: Luke 21:34; Galatians 5:21; Ephesians 5:15; 5:18; Colossians 1:10; 1 Thessalonians 2:12; 4:12; 5:17; 1 John 2:6; Jude 1:23

Romans 13:14

Parallel theme: Job 29:14; Ephesians 4:24; 1 Peter 2:11. **References Christ:** Galatians 3:27; 5:24

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