

Romans Series

Lesson #139

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Dean Bible Ministries

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Dr. Robert L. Dean, Jr.

Submission to Governing Authority

Romans 13:1–7



Rom. 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.

Rom. 13:2, “Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.

Rom. 13:3, “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.

Rom. 13:4, “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.

Rom. 13:5, “Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience’ sake.

Rom. 13:6, “For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God’s ministers attending continually to this very thing.

Rom. 13:7, “Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.”

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Deut. 17:15, “you shall surely set a king over you whom the Lord your God chooses; one from among your brethren you shall set as king over you; you may not set a foreigner over you, who is not your brother.”

- **Passages which address submission to government issues.**
- **“Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s and to God what is God’s”, Mark 12:17**
- **Prayer for rulers, 1 Tim. 2:1–3**
- **Be subject to rulers and authorities, Titus 3:1**
- **Submit to every ordinance of man, 1 Pet. 2:13–17**

**Also see: Prov. 8:15; Jer. 29:7;
Dan 1; 2:21, 37–38.**

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ὑπερέχω
huperechō

pres act part fem
plur dat

“to excel, exceed,
be better than;
used for ‘higher’
or ‘superior’
authorities.”

ὑποτάσσω *hupotassō*

pres mid impera 3
sing

“to subject; to
submit”

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ἐξουσία *exousia*

Noun nom fem sing

“authority, power;
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τάσσω tassō
perf pass part fem
plur nom
“to appoint; to
station”

ὑποτάσσω hupotassō
pres mid impera 3
sing
“to subject; to
submit”

ἐξουσία exousia
Noun nom fem sing
“authority, power;
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Rom. 13:2, “Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.”

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ἀντιτάσσω *antitassō*

pres mid part masc sing
nom

“to resist, to oppose”

Rom. 13:2, “Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.”

ἀντιτάσσω *antitassō*
pres mid part masc sing
nom
“to resist, to oppose”

ἀνθίστημι
anthistēmi
perf act indic 3
sing
“to resist,
oppose, to stand
against”

Rom. 13:2, “Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.”

**διαταγή *diatagē*
dat fem sing
“decree, ordinance”**

**ἀνθίστημι
anthistēmi
perf act indic 3
sing
“to resist,
oppose, to stand
against”**

The Doctrine of Submission

1. God is the ultimate authority over His creation.

Heb. 12:9, “Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live?”

James 4:7, “Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.”

The Doctrine of Submission

2. As such, God the Father will bring all things into submission to Himself.

1 Cor. 15:28, “Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.”

The Doctrine of Submission

1 Cor. 15:27, “For He [the Father] has put all things under His [the Son’s] feet.” But when He says “all things are put under Him,” it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted.

1 Cor. 15:28, “Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.”

The Doctrine of Submission

3. Christ submits Himself to the authority of the Father.

1 Cor. 15:27, “For He has put all things under His feet.” But when He says “all things are put under Him,” it is evident that He [the F] who put all things under Him [the S] is excepted.

1 Cor. 15:28, “Now when all things are made subject to Him [F], then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him [F] who put all things under Him [S], that God may be all in all.”

The Doctrine of Submission

4. All things will be subjected to Christ, or brought into obedience to His authority.

Phil. 3:21, “who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.”

Heb. 2:8, “You have put all things in subjection under His feet.” For in that He put all in subjection under Him, He left nothing that is not put under Him. But now we do not yet see all things put under Him.

1 Pet. 3:22, “who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.”

The Doctrine of Submission

5. Believers are to submit to the authority of human governing authorities.

Titus 3:1, “Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work,”

1 Pet. 2:13, “Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord’s sake, whether to the king as supreme,”

The Doctrine of Submission

6. The Church is to submit to the authority of Christ.

Eph. 5:24, “Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.”

The Doctrine of Submission

7. Believers are to submit to one another.

Eph. 5:21, “submitting to one another in the fear of God.”

The Doctrine of Submission

8. Slaves are to submit to their masters.

Titus 2:9, “Exhort bondservants to be obedient to their own masters, to be well pleasing in all things, not answering back,”

1 Pet. 2:18, “Servants, be submissive to your masters with all fear, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the harsh.”

The Doctrine of Submission

9. Wives are to submit to their husbands.

Eph. 5:24, “Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.”

Col. 3:18, “Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.”

The Doctrine of Submission

1 Pet. 3:1, “Wives, likewise, be submissive to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives,”

1 Pet. 3:5, “For in this manner, in former times, the holy women who trusted in God also adorned themselves, being submissive to their own husbands,”

Titus 2:5, “to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient [submitted] to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.”

The Doctrine of Submission

10. The young are to submit to their elders.

1 Pet. 5:5, “Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for ‘God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.’ ”