

Love fulfills the Law

Romans 13:1 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. 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.

1. God placed authorities!

- a. We are to be good citizens **Titus 3:1** Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work, **2** To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, *but* gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men.
 - i. Christians can often have a bad attitude when they get involved in politics
 - ii. We should respect those that God allows to be placed in authority
 - iii. We should be involved in our community
- b. We recognize that God is the One that is truly in charge **I Peter 2:13** Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; **14** Or unto governors, as unto them that are

sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.

- i. The government that is in place can't really hinder the work of God
 - ii. Consider what is happening in Northern Africa-souls being saved, the church of Jesus Christ growing
 - iii. The same thing is happening in China and India
- c. Salvation and what the world needs will never come from government **John 19:11** Jesus answered, Thou couldst have no power *at all* against me, except it were given thee from above: therefore he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin.
- i. Too many times we look to men for solutions that only God can give
 - ii. The only hope for the world is Jesus Christ
 - iii. More important than any political movement is the church of Jesus Christ
 - iv. Help us build a church, start new churches, and send the gospel message
 - v. Be salt and light and watch how God affects the world you live in

d. We simply want the government to allow us to live quiet and peaceably **1 Timothy 2:1** I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; **2** For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

e. While others may obey the law out of fear we do so because of our conscience **5** Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also **for conscience sake.**

2. That is why we pay our taxes **6** For for this cause **pay ye tribute** also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing.

- a. No mention is made here with agreeing with how the government is run or the tax money spent
- b. We pay taxes because we recognize that God puts men and women in power
- c. We pay taxes because of our Christian conscience
- d. We pay taxes because we know that God appointed government to take care of many points of business

3. We are to honor them in authority **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.
- a. Not only do we pay taxes and import fees **Matthew 22:17** Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not? **18** But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, Why tempt ye me, ye hypocrites? **19** Shew me the tribute money. And they brought unto him a penny. **20** And he saith unto them, Whose *is* this image and superscription? **21** They say unto him, Caesar's. Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's.
- b. We also show respect to those that God has placed in governmental authority
- c. We give respect to those that are to be respected, whether they deserve it or not in our opinion
- d. We not only respect them but we show them honor
- e. Remember, others do things because they are supposed to do them, we do things because we want a clear

conscience before God

4. Put love into action **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.****
- a. We are to do right by every man. Pay your bills. We do not want to be one who doesn't pay. It brings a bad testimony on Jesus and a bad reputation for us
 - b. We do not obey out of fear only but also conscience but more than that out of love. We are filled with the love of God
 - c. As you learn to express love towards all you will obey the law
 - d. Love causes us to never do certain things **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.

- i. We will not take another person's spouse [Matthew 5:27](#) **Ye have heard** that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: [28](#) **But I say unto you,** That whosoever **looketh** on a woman **to lust** after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.
 1. We will avoid sexual immorality
 2. That includes pornography
 3. That includes any type of sex outside of marriage
 4. Any thing done sexually outside of marriage is stealing from your brother.
- ii. We will not kill [Matthew 5:21](#) **Ye have heard** that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: [22](#) **But I say unto you,** That whosoever is **angry** with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother,

Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.

1. Killing obviously is taking another's life from him
 2. That is stealing. It would be the opposite of loving the person
 3. We do not even hate or curse our brother
- iii. We will not steal [Ephesians 4:28](#) Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with *his* hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.
- iv. We will not lie about others [Ephesians 4:29](#) Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.
1. We want to be careful to have the right kind of words come out of our mouth
 2. We want words that encourage and build up
 3. Controlling our tongue is the biggest problem we have
 4. We are to be careful about foolish talking, crude language
 5. These things ought not to be named among us

[Ephesians 5:3](#) But fornication, and all uncleanness, or

covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; 4 Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks. 5 For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

v. We will not desire the things of others, covet, crave
Colossians 3:5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and **covetousness, which is idolatry:**

1. Coveting is desiring to have something that belongs to another
2. Some covet or desire, crave for another man's wife
3. Wanting things from dishonest gain
4. Taking things that belong to God like Achan did
5. It is an inordinate desire to have more
6. It is the love of money
7. Here is the story Jesus told so we could understand what it means to covet **Luke 12:15 And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for**

a **man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.** 16 And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth **plentifully:** 17 And he thought within **himself,** saying, **What shall I do,** because **I** have no room where to **bestow my fruits?** 18 And he said, This will **I** do: **I** will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will **I** bestow all **my** fruits and **my** goods. 19 And **I** will say to **my** soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, *and* be merry. 20 But God said unto him, *Thou fool,* **this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be,**

which thou hast provided? **21** So *is* he that layeth up **treasure for himself,** and is **not rich toward God.** **22** And he said unto his disciples, Therefore I say unto you, **Take no thought for your life,** what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on. **23** **The life is more than** meat, and the body *is more than* raiment.

vi. We will love our neighbor as ourself

1. We treat others like we want to be treated
2. We give them the respect we want
3. We take care of others and watch out for others
4. This fulfills the law of God

vii. We do nothing that would harm our neighbor **10 Love worketh no ill to his neighbour:** therefore love *is* the fulfilling of the law.

1. Do right. Treat people right
2. We do not need rules. We know what love would do

