

**Romans 13:6-7**  
Your Tax Dollars

*Hard work ...*

I. Taxation

- A. An Inevitability
- B. Jesus and the Taxman
- C. Dual Citizens

II. Representation

- A. Ordained Purposes
- B. Abusive Practices
- C. Proper Recourse

III. Obligation

- A. God's Money
- B. Your Stuff
- C. God's Portion
- D. Caesar's Chunk

*... contentment*

**Children, Listen ....**

1. Who has given you all that you have?
2. Do your parents still have to work to have the things your family needs?
3. Have you thought about what kind of job you would like to have some day?
4. Tax is something we have to pay to our government. What did Jesus say about this?
5. What is the part of our money we give to the church called?

**Assisting Uncle Sam, Etc., Etc. ...**

Two bumper sticker-worthy statements come to mind in reference to today's text: "Nothing is certain but death and taxes" and "Tithe if You Love Jesus ... Anyone Can Honk!" The Bible addresses all three topics mentioned – today we focus on the two having to do with our money. Painful as it may be to see a big chunk of your paycheck lopped off for all-too-often-inefficient government use, we are required by God to turn over to the powers that be the percent of our hard earned income demanded by our leaders. While we are within our rights to fight abuses of the revenue system we simply don't have the right to withhold our money even from corrupt governments: God does not allow for it and the civil law will punish the evasion of taxes if discovered. We are also called to financially contribute to a higher government called the Kingdom of God. While expenditures of the church cover a wide range of needs the ultimate goal in our stewardship of church funds is to in some way advance the Kingdom of God. Scripture teaches that we have to do both. One may be an inevitable burden the other a worshipful joy, but neither can be neglected. What you have left after all the other necessary expenses of life may a lot or a little but if you keep in mind the fact that everything you have is from the Lord the pain of watching it fly out so rapidly may be eased just a little. Better yet, when all is said and done, knowing God, and knowing He is our provider will help us to be thankful for every penny we have, every penny we have to pay out and we can even joyfully give our pennies to be multiplied and used in the advancement of His Kingdom His glory.