

Render to Caesar, Render to God
Matthew 22:15-22

Review:

1. We should pay our taxes and obey the laws because we benefit from the stable social order that government provides.
2. Americans are both citizens and Caesars, electing the people who make the laws we must obey
3. So as individual Christians owe God our tithes and obedience, so we should seek to elect people who will put godly principles into practice in our public life

Reflect:

1. What government rules or regulations do you find hardest to follow? Given what you've learned from this passage, how has your attitude toward them changed?
2. In what concrete ways can you exercise the right and responsibility God has given you to be involved in American government?

Go further: Read Romans 13:1-10

1. Who does Paul say should be subject to governing authorities?
2. Who does Paul say is the source of all authority?
3. If people resist human authorities, what else are they resisting?
4. What does Paul say will happen to those who resist authority?
5. To what does Paul say rulers are supposed to bring terror?
6. What does Paul advise us to do if we don't want to be afraid of human authorities?
7. In verse 4, to what two kinds of people have God made rulers His ministers? What are rulers supposed to do to these two groups?
8. In verse 5, what two reasons does Paul give for being subject to human rulers?
9. According to verse 6, why should we pay our taxes?
10. What four things does Paul say we should give to those who deserve them?
11. What is the only thing Paul says we should go on owing other people?
12. What does Paul say is the fulfillment of the Law of Moses?
13. In verse 9, what does Paul say sums up the five commandments that he lists?
14. If we love our neighbors, what will we never do to them?

Summary and Application:

1. In verse 9, Paul lists five of the Ten Commandments. How do each of these things express love for our neighbors?
2. How do you think being subject to the law can be an expression of love for our neighbors?