

Oct 21, 2018

Proper Response to Government
Romans 13:1-7 (NKJV)

Question: Where does human government come from?

Answer: Human government is established by God. (v.1)

Submit: It means to voluntarily follow the direction of those in authority over you.

God takes responsibility for raising up one leader and pulling down another. (Ps 75:6,7)

To rebel against authority brings judgment. (v.2)

Government rulers are ministers of God. (v.4)

All human authorities exist to do two things:

1. Human authority exists to punish the wicked. (v.3)
2. Human authority exists to reward the righteous. (v.4)

Paul gives us a two-fold reason why our support of government is important:

1. "to avoid wrath"
2. "because of conscience"

Human rulers (God's ministers) deserve four things from us:

1. Taxes
2. Customs
3. Fear
4. Honor

Questions raised by Romans 13:1-7:

1. How far can a Christian go in expressing opposition to an unjust government?
2. What should Christians do if the government orders them to do something that conflicts with their faith? (Acts 5:29)
3. What about civil disobedience?