

PUT ON THE ARMOR OF LIGHT

Romans 13:1-14
Key Verse 13:14

Lesson 13

* SUBMIT TO AUTHORITIES (1-7)

1. What should be the Christian's attitude toward the government under which he lives? Why? What do you know about the government under which the Romans lived?
2. Why did God institute governments? Why is it wrong to rebel against the governing authorities? Does this apply to oppressive, pagan governments or only to just and moral governments?
3. Generally speaking, who are the ones who are fearful of rulers? How can we be free of such fear? Do you think Paul was aware of governments which persecuted Christians? Why didn't he mention this?
4. What are the limits of a Christian's obedience to government? Do you think Paul and the Christians of his day obeyed laws which forbid the practice of Christianity or insisted on emperor worship? Why didn't Paul mention this?
5. What does verse 4 teach about the morality of using force to maintain order? What are the 2 reasons Paul gives for submitting to governing authorities? (5)
6. Why should Christians pay taxes? What other responsibilities do we have toward those in authority? Why? (6,7)
7. What guidance do verses 1-7 give to Christians living under totalitarian regimes?

* CLOTHE YOURSELVES WITH THE LORD JESUS CHRIST (8-14)

8. What is the one outstanding debt which Christians should permit? Why? Why pay off the others?
9. How does loving one's fellowman fulfill the Law? (8-12) What is the positive side of the 'Do not's' in verse 9? -
10. What must we understand about the present time? (11,12) What does it mean that the night is nearly over and the day has almost come?
11. In the light of this understanding, what must we do? (12b) What are the deeds of darkness?
12. What is the armor of light? How can we put it on? How can we clothe ourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ? Why should we do this?