**The Christian and Secular Rulers**

**Romans 13:1–7**

* (13:1) Command – All persons are to be in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to governing authorities.
  + ὑποτασσω – under … rank, fall in line = rank yourself under
  + there is no authority except from God
  + those which exists are established from God
* (13:2–4) Consequence –
  + Resisting authority = resisting ordinances of God –> that resistance brings condemnation
  + The condemnation includes ‘the sword’
* (13:5) Reiteration of command – Therefore it is necessary to be in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ …
  + infinitive form of ὑποτασσω
  + because of wrath and conscience

because of this you pay taxes … so … render to all what is due them … tax, custom, fear, honor

**1 Peter 2:13–17**

* (2:13) Command – \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ yourselves for the Lord’s sake to every human authority
  + imperative form of ὑποτασσω
  + not only to the king … but those *under the king*
  + same result as Romans 13 – evildoers are punished, good are praised
* (2:17) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the king …
  + 1 Tim. 2:1-2 … prayers for all in authority, that we may live a tranquil and quiet life …

Though the government is ordained of God, we are to obey God above human rulers when they make demands against the Word of God.

**Daniel 3:1–30**

Applications/Lessons Learned:

1. Although human government is ordained of God, governing authorities can abuse that power by commanding things contrary to God’s Word.
   * Worship the statue
2. When human government commands something contrary to what God commands, we are to obey God rather than man.
   * S. M. and A. did this when they refused to worship the statue.
3. When the believer disobeys human government in order to obey God, he/she must take the consequences of disobeying the government no matter what the results.
   * S. M. A. were cast into the furnace as a results of their disobedience to N.
   * In this instance, they were delivered from the furnace
   * But God does not deliver in every instance
   * It is in those times, when God does not deliver, that the believer must recognize that he/she exists, not for his/her benefit, but for Gods.
4. If the believer survives consequences of obeying God (punishment of the government) he/she is not to advocate overthrow of the government because it abused its power.
   * S. M. A continued to serve the king after they were delivered
   * They did not demonstrate against N. or did they start a movement to overthrow him.