

Lesson 21
Christian Behavior Toward Others and Self
(Romans 13:1-14)

• **Questions**

1. Who gives civil government its authority to rule (13:1,2,4,6)?

2. Who are Christians to be subject to and why (13:1-2)?

3. What function or purpose do rulers serve for good citizens and for evil citizens (13:3-4)?

4. Why are Christians to be subject to rulers (13:5)?

5. What are the four duties of Christians toward rulers and why are those duties commanded (13:6-7)?

6. What do Christians owe others and why (13:8)?

7. What will love refuse to do and why (13:9-10)?

8. What contrasts in daily living are given by Paul (13:11-12)?

9. Why are Christians to “awake out of sleep” (13:11)?

10. What are Christians to “cast off” and what are they to “put on” (13:12)?

11. What kind of actions and attitudes are Christians to avoid (13:13)?

12. What will keep the Christian from serving fleshly lusts (13:14)?

• **Digging Deeper**

1. Who are the “higher powers” (13:1)?

2. What does “the sword” refer to in verse 4? How does verse 4 relate to Romans 12:19?

3. Define these words as they relate to the Christian’s duty toward civil government: “tribute,” “custom,” “fear,” and “honor” (13:7).

4. When Paul writes “owe no man anything” (13:8), is he talking about borrowing money, credit debt, installment plans, etc.?

5. Where in the Old Testament are the commandments of verse 9 found?

6. “Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself,” is found where in the Old Testament (13:9)?

7. In what way is love a “fulfillment” of the law and what “law” is referred to here (13:8,10)?

8. What do “sleep,” “night,” and “darkness” refer to in verses 11 and 12?

9. Where else in the New Testament does Paul write about the Christian’s “armor” (13:12)?

10. Define these words found in verse 13: “becomingly” (“honestly,” KJV), “reveling” (“rioting,” KJV), “drunkenness,” “chambering,” “wantonness,” “strife,” and “jealously” (“envying,” KJV).

11. How does a Christian “put on” the Lord Jesus Christ (13:14) when he has already “put on” Christ in baptism (Romans 6:3; Gal. 3:27)?

• **Applications for Today**

1. Christians must obey and support civil government as long as civil government is obeying God (13:1-7).
2. True love never hurts or harms anyone (13:8-10).
3. Let us be urgent about proper living and highly conscious of our time left on earth. We come closer to the Judgment Day each passing day (13:11).
4. Faithful Christians will be spiritually awake and sober and will not practice the works of the flesh (13:11-14).