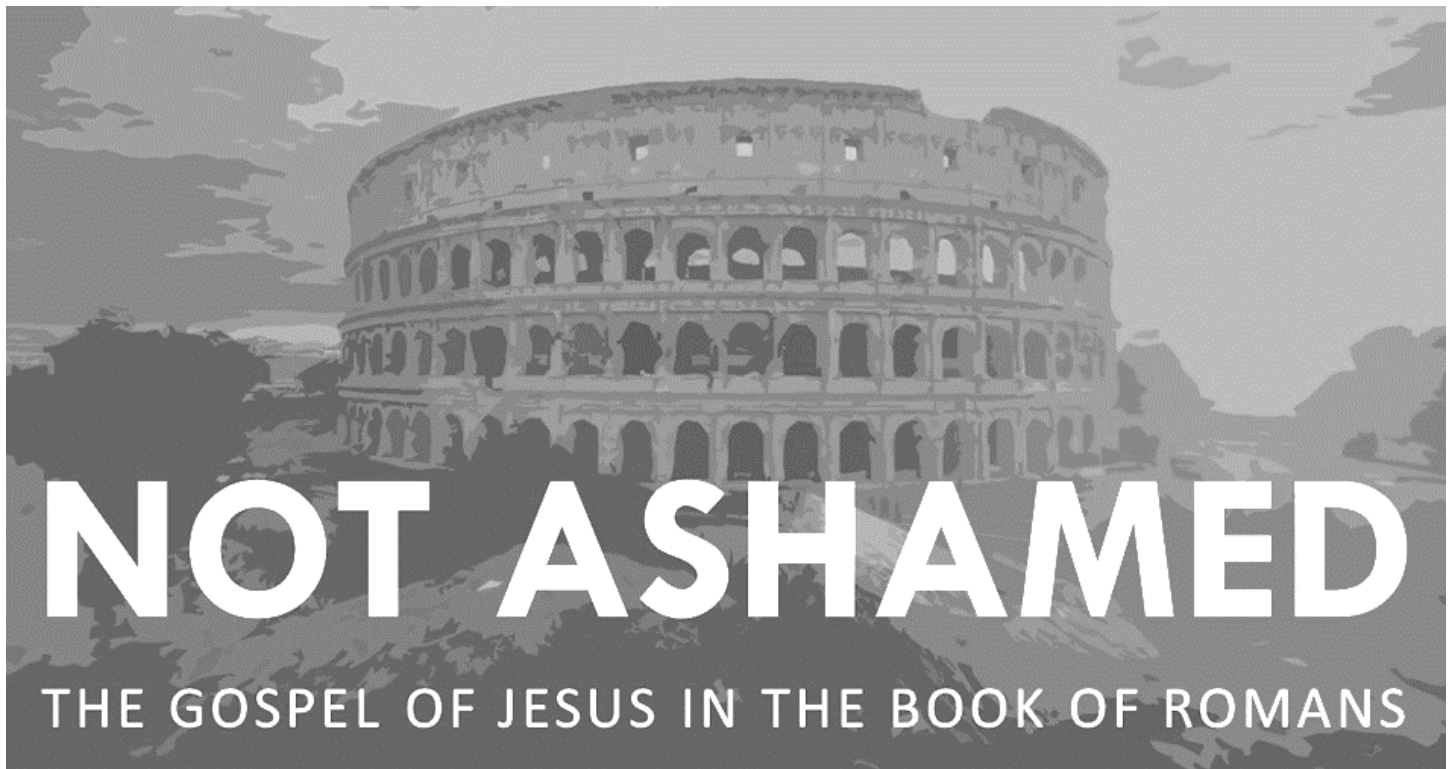




ROMANS 13:1-7

¹ Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ² Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³ For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴ for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵ Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶ For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷ Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed. (Romans 13:1-7)

Introduction

- Romans 1:16-17 is the theme verse for Romans ... these verses and the first eleven chapters of Romans explain how sinners can be _____.
- Romans 12:1-2 is the theme verse for the final five chapters of Romans ... these verses and the final five chapters of Romans explain how saved sinners should _____.
- Paul assumed that Christians (noun) would live distinctly "Christian" (adjective) lives.
- Living a distinctly "Christian" life involves relating to human _____.

A “Christian” Life

- A “Christian” life involves being _____ to the governing authorities (Romans 13:1-5).
 - God _____ human governments (generally and particularly).
 - God establishes human governments to _____ wicked conduct.
 - God establishes human governments as his _____, or ministers.
- A “Christian” life involves paying _____ and showing _____ to the governing authorities (Romans 1:6-7).

Church and State

- Erastianism is where the state _____ the church.
- Theocracy is where the church _____ the state.
- Constantinianism is where the state _____ and _____ the church.
- Totalitarianism is where the state _____ the church.
- Partnership is where the church and state _____ independently, and each institution embraces its God-given _____.

How do we apply Paul’s charge to our lives today in the United States of America?

- Understand the unique _____ in which we live as Americans in the 21st century.
- Remember that our _____ allegiance is to Jesus Christ the King of kings (Romans 1:1, Philippians 3:20, Hebrews 11:13-16).
- Live in subjection to legitimate authorities as long as they don’t ask us to disobey _____ or violate _____ (1 Peter 1:13-17, Acts 5:29).
- _____ in the political process since American government is “of the people, by the people, for the people.” (President Abraham Lincoln, “The Gettysburg Address”)
- Participate in the political process knowing that every government will operate on the basis of some prevailing _____.
- _____ for the salvation of our governing authorities and for the opportunity to live “a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.” (1 Timothy 2:1-4)