

A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study
Date: October 6, 2021
Romans 13:1-10

1. What was Paul talking about at the end of chapter 12, just before this text?
 - a. I think everything was going fine and there would have been no reason to bring up those in authority because there were only positive interactions with the government.
 - b. Paul made sure they were keeping their zeal, but balanced that with an emphasis on patience, prayer, and hospitality
 - c. Blessing those who persecute you...and live in harmony with one another.
 - d. Do not repay anyone evil for evil or take revenge.
 - e. Feeding and giving something to drink to an enemy that hungers or thirsts.
2. How does Paul start this passage in verse 1?
Let _____ be _____ to the governing _____.
3. Why, according to the second part of verse 1, does this text say that we should be subject to the governing authorities? _____
4. What does it say we are doing if we rebel against these authorities, according to verse 2? _____
5. How does it say to submit to authorities?
 - a. Begrudgingly.
 - b. Because we are afraid of punishment.
 - c. Because our conscious tells us it is the right thing to do.
 - d. Because they have treated us right and haven't done anything wrong.
6. Is this still true if the authority doesn't do the right thing? Yes_____ No_____ Explain. _____
7. Does that mean that all governing authorities are good or of God? Yes_____ No_____ Explain. _____
8. Does that mean we should never speak out for justice when those authorities are not acting justly? Yes_____ No_____ Explain. _____

9. How do we balance these sometimes conflicting truths? _____

10. What does this text say about taxes? _____
11. What does it mean that we should "leave no debt outstanding?"
 - a. We should not take out a loan.
 - b. It doesn't sound like it is just talking about money, because it follows verse 7.
 - c. We should not be the one in the wrong who causes tension in a relationship.
 - d. We should pay what we owe, whatever it is.
 - e. It goes along with the rest of the text...it doesn't focus on the other person and what they did right or wrong, but on whether we treat other people right.
12. What do the commandments have to do with this? _____

13. Have you been treating others in ways that fulfill the commandments (with love)? Yes_____ No_____ Explain. _____