

BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE FELLOWSHIP

ROMANS Lesson Four



CHAPTER THIRTEEN

THE CHRISTIAN'S RELATIONSHIP TO GOVERNMENT

The first half of this short chapter teaches what the Christian's attitude and responsibility toward his government should be. The remaining verses teach us how to relate to our neighbors and how we should live our Christian life.

Read Romans Chapter 13 _____ Check.

1. (v. 1) Why should Christians submit to the higher powers (government authority)? Use your own words.

(“He removeth kings and setteth kings” Daniel 2:21 KJV).

2. (v. 2) If a person rebels against authority, he is resisting what? _____

Note: The word *damnation* in the KJV version of this verse means the judgment (NIV) or condemnation of men. It does not mean that the person is eternally lost.

3. (v. 3) Rulers hold no terror for those who do right, only for those who do what? _____. If we do that which is good (obey the laws), what will we have? _____

4. (v. 4) The ruler here is called a servant (minister) of God for our good. What will he do to the one who does evil? _____

5. (v. 5) Why should we be subject to man's law? _____

Note: In spiritual or moral matters “...we ought to obey God rather than men” (Acts 5:29). While we should obey civil authority, a believer should refuse to do anything that God's Word clearly says is wrong.

6. (v. 6) Why should we pay tribute (taxes) to our government? _____

Note: They are ministers (servants in the sense that God has given them authority over us).

7. (v. 7) What are four “dues” we should render (give) to civil authority?

1. _____ 2. _____
3. _____ 4. _____

8. (v. 8) Should we always pay our debits? _____ What debt do we have always? _____
 He that loves his fellowman has done what? _____
9. (v. 9) Which of the Old Testament law's ten commandments are listed here? What is said about love?
 1. _____ 2. _____
 3. _____ 4. _____

10. (v. 10) Why does love fulfill the Law? Use your own words. _____

11. (v. 11) Why are we to wake out of sleep? Use your own words. _____

Note: Our salvation here refers to the time when we are taken out of this world into the presence of the Lord.

12. (v. 12) Since the day of Christ's coming may be near, what should we put aside? _____
 What should we put on? _____
- 13 (v. 13) Here we are told to walk honestly. List six (6) ways that the believer should not walk.
 1. _____ 2. _____
 3. _____ 4. _____
 5. _____ 6. _____

(The KJV word *chambering* refers to adultery.)

14. (v. 14) Instead of the things listed in v. 13, using your own words, what should we do? _____

For Further study read Ephesians 4:24-32 and Colossians 3:10-15.

To *clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus* means to be so occupied with Him and so desirous of pleasing Him others will see Christ in you and know he controls your life.

“Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature” Romans 13:14.

CHAPTER FOURTEEN

CONCERNING DOUBTFUL PRACTICES

In the Scofield Bible the heading given to this chapter is, “The Law of Love Concerning Doubtful Things.” This refers to the Christian’s responsibility to the immature believer, the one who is said to be “weak in the faith (v. 1).” These brothers are to be welcomed into fellowship rather than to be condemned or looked down upon. Many converts from paganism and Judaism had convictions about eating meat offered to idols and observing religious days. The stronger brother, realizing that under grace he need not be concerned about such things, must yet have a spirit of love and tolerance toward the weaker brother and his beliefs.

Read Romans 14:1-12. _____ Check.

1. (v. 1) Whom are we to accept? _____
2. (v. 2) What difference of opinion do we see illustrated here? Use you own words. _____

3. (v. 3) There are principles which show what believers should **not** do to one another. These are _____
and _____
4. (v. 4) A new believer may be considered wrong in some of his convictions. What is God able to do for
him? _____
5. (v. 5) One believer may observe certain days (such as the Sabbath) and another may not observe any. What is
the rule given here? _____
6. Verses 6 and 7 illustrate verses 8 and 9. In verse 8, what does Paul say about living, dying and belonging to
the Lord? _____

7. (v. 10) Why should we not judge or condemn our brother? _____

8. Verse 11 is quoted from Isaiah 45:23. What does verse 12 say that every one of us will do. _____

Note: This judgment for the believer does not have to do with our salvation. Our sins have already been judged in Christ. However, the judgment seat of Christ is for rewards for our works.

9. (v. 13) We are not to judge one another, rather, how are we to act towards one another? _____

10. (v. 14) Paul, knowing he was under grace, was convinced of what? _____

Therefore, he could eat any kind of meat, even that which had been offered to idols. Note (v. 15): If we cause our brothers to be grieved (offended) when we eat meat that he will not eat, then we are not “walking charitably” (showing love). So verse 16 says that we must not let what seems good to us be considered evil or wrong to another.

11. (v. 17) Please write out this verse in your own words. _____

12. (v. 18) He who serves Christ in these things is _____ and _____

13. (v. 19) What two things should we make the effort to do? 1. _____
 2. _____
14. (v. 21) Even if a Christian has a clear conscience about doing certain things, why should he be willing to avoid doing them? _____

It is much more blessed to have liberty before God which we do not use on account of our brother's Weakness than to insist on our liberty, though it be distinctly given.

Read Romans 14:22-23. _____ Check.

15. (v. 22) The question of “doubtful things” raised in this chapter is just as important for us today as it was in Paul’s day. Many Christians are puzzled over engaging in certain practices or activities that are not strictly forbidden in scripture. Our actions must be done in faith before God. Who does Paul say is blessed?

16. (v. 23) In reaching decisions on doubtful practices, it would be helpful to ask yourself these questions:
1. Can I do it with God’s approval? Would it glorify Him?
 2. Even though convinced that a thing is right for me, will others speak evil of my act?
 3. Will my actions cause a weaker Christian to sin or be tempted?
 4. Does it violate the scripture in any way?

In questionable things the yielded believer will be subject to the following principle:

When in doubt, don’t _____

“Everything that does not come _____ is _____.”

CHAPTER FIFTEEN

This chapter is a long one, with many important truths for us. The student should read the entire chapter carefully, trying to understand each verse as he/she reads. The first three verses continue the teaching of Chapter 14.

Read Romans Chapter 15. _____ Check.

1. (v. 1) The first part of this verse tells us that those who are strong (spiritually) should do what? _____

2. (vv. 1-3) Each of these three verses contains the word “please”.
 - (v. 1) We are not to please _____
 - (v. 2) Everyone should please _____

- (v. 3) For Christ pleased not _____
3. (v. 4) The things written in times past (the Old Testament) were written for our instruction. Why?

4. (vv. 5-6) Paul prays that God, who gives patience (endurance) and consolation (encouragement), would grant us _____. So that with one mind (heart) and mouth we might _____
5. (v. 7) How should we receive each other? Why? _____

6. (v. 8) During Jesus Christ's ministry on earth, He was a minister (servant) to the _____ (Israel). Why? _____

Note: The fathers of Israel are Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The promises here refer to the Kingdom that God promised to Israel. These promises are the main theme of the Gospel of the Kingdom, preached by the Lord Jesus (Luke 4:23) and the twelve apostles (Matthew 10:7).

7. (vv. 9-12) These verses are references from the Old Testament concerning salvation to Gentile nations. What does v. 10 tell the Gentiles to do? _____

8. (v. 13) What blessing is stated in this verse and what is the result of the blessing?

9. (v. 14) Paul was persuaded that his brethren (brothers) were full of _____ and _____

10. (vv. 15-16) We saw in verse 8 that Christ was a minister to Israel; now we see a contrast in that Paul was the minister of _____ to the _____, ministering the gospel of _____. (See also Romans 11:13.)

Note: The phrase "So that the Gentiles might become an offering acceptable to God" refers to the saved Gentiles who are sanctified by the Holy Spirit, presented to God, and accepted by Him.

11. (vv. 17-18a) Paul said here that he had reason to glory (boast) in Christ Jesus. Explain what Paul had to boast about and whether this was prideful boasting. Use your own words. _____

12. (vv. 18-19) Christ worked through Paul, by the Holy Spirit, to bring the Gentiles to obedience (salvation). What did the Holy Spirit empower Paul to do? _____

13. (v. 20) What phrase in this verse shows Paul's great desire to preach to those who have never heard of Christ? _____

14. (vv. 21-24) In these four verses Paul talks about his desire to go to Rome. What had kept Paul from visiting Rome? _____

15. (v. 25-26) What was the main reason Paul was going to Jerusalem? _____

16. (v. 27) Why were the Gentile believers debtors to the saints in Jerusalem. Use your own words? _____

Note: The spiritual things here refer to the salvation of God through Christ which was sent to the Gentiles (see Acts 28:28 and 13:46). The carnal things refer to contributions (such as money) that were sent.

17. (v. 29) What was Paul sure of? _____

18. (vv. 30-32) What are the four things that Paul asks the Roman believers to pray for?
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____

CHAPTER SIXTEEN

In this closing chapter of Romans we find a long list of salutations to believers that Paul knew in Rome. In these personal greetings we get some insight into the lives of these people, Paul's love for them, and his thankfulness for their faithfulness. Many of these were previously fellow workers with Paul who now lived in Rome.

1. (vv. 1-2) Because Phebe had been a succorer (helper) of Paul and many others, what two things were the saints in Rome asked to do for her?
 1. _____
 2. _____
2. (vv. 3-4) Here Paul says what two things about Priscilla and Aquila?
 1. They were Paul's _____

2. To save Paul's life they had _____
3. (v. 5) Where did the believers meet in Paul's time? _____
Who was the first convert in Achaia? _____
4. Many faithful Christians are mentioned in verses 6 through 16. Identify them by name.
 1. Paul's fellow prisoners who were saved before Paul. _____
 2. "Our helper in Christ". _____
 3. "Approved in Christ". _____
 4. "Whom Paul loves in the Lord". _____
5. The importance of women helping in the Lord's work is clearly brought out in this passage. Tell something about each of these women.
 1. Phebe: _____
 2. Mary: _____
 3. Priscilla: _____
 4. Tryphena and Tryphosa: _____
6. In verses 17 and 18 Paul gives warnings against false teachers. What two things do they cause (v. 17)?
 1. _____
 2. _____
7. (v. 18) Whom do they not serve? _____

8. (v. 19) About what would Paul have the believers be wise? _____
About what would Paul Have the believers be simple (innocent)? _____
9. (v. 20) This verse speaks of the promise that God made in Genesis 3:15 concerning Christ who would come and bruise the head of the serpent (Satan). Satan's power will be destroyed. When we go to be with Christ, we will have the victory over sin, death, and Satan. How does Paul encourage the believers ?

10. Evidently Paul had a problem with his eyesight (see Galatians 4:15), often dictating his letters to a scribe. Who wrote this epistle for Paul (v. 22)? _____
11. In verses 21 and 23, Paul names seven men who are with him. How does he describe each of them?
 1. (v. 21) Timothy _____
 2. (v. 21) Lucius, Jason, and Sosipater _____
 3. (v. 23) Gaius _____
 4. (v. 23) Erastus _____
 5. (v. 23) Quartus _____
12. (v. 25) By what two ways does Paul state a Christian may be established in sound doctrine?

1. According to _____

2. By the preaching of _____

Note: The "mystery" referred to in verse 25 is more fully revealed to us in Ephesians 3:1-10 and Colossians 1:24-27. This mystery, revealed through Paul, refers to all the truths concerning the body of Christ in this present dispensation of grace. These truths are found only in Paul's epistles, and it is important to know them in order to be established in the faith.

13. (v. 26) This mystery now is manifested (revealed) and made known by the "scriptures of the prophets." (The literal Greek translation is "prophetic writings.") Paul writes the only scriptures we have concerning this mystery, thus the mystery is revealed through Paul's prophetic writings. The scriptures that Paul wrote concerning this mystery were made known to whom by whose command? _____

14. (v. 27) How does Paul close this letter? _____

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