

Foundation

- 1:16-17 The good news about Jesus is God's power for salvation to all who trust him.
- 1:18 God's wrath is revealed against all ungodly people who suppress the truth.
- 8:1 There is no condemnation for any of us who trust Jesus.
- 8:21 Our present sufferings are not worthy of comparison to our future glory.
- 8:26-27 The Spirit helps our weakness, because he prays for us in sync with God's will.
- 8:28-30 All things work together for good to us whom God chose to become like Jesus.
- 12:1 Offer our whole self to God in response to his mercy through Jesus.
- 12:2 Be completely altered as our mind is remade, so we may know God's will.
- 12:19 Don't avenge yourself, but let God avenge and repay with wrath.

Command

- 13:1a Arrange ourselves under the various authorities governing over us.
- 13:1b Every authority is arranged into position by God.
- 13:2 If we stand against authority, we stand against God's arrangements & will be judged.
- 13:3a There is no need to fear authority when we do good rather than evil.
- 13:3b-4a Do good and we will be praised, because the authority is God's servant for our good.
- 13:4b Fear authority when doing evil, because he is God's avenging servant for wrath.
- 13:5 Arrange ourselves under authorities to avoid wrath and to protect our conscience.
- 13:6 Completely pay our taxes, because the authorities are God's servants for governing.
- 13:7 Pay everything owed to all authorities—from various taxes to fear and honor.

Conflict

- If we are looking for loopholes, we've already disobeyed Romans 13:1-7.
- However, sometimes circumstances force us to consider disobedience.

- 13:3-4 The authorities are rewarding evil and punishing good.
- 13:4a The authorities are not acting as God's servant for good, but are doing evil.
- 13:5 The authorities cause you to break your conscience.

Examples

- Two Hebrew midwives disobeyed the king's command to kill male children (Exodus 1:15-22).
- A prostitute named Rahab hid two Israelite spies from the king of Jericho (Joshua 2:1-24).
- David's messengers should have stood against taking Bathsheba to the king (2 Samuel 11:1-5).
- Joab should have opposed battle tactics that intentionally killed Uriah (2 Samuel 11:14-27).
- Joab should have continually refused to count the army (2 Sam. 24:1-15; 1 Chron. 21:1-15).
- Esther broke the law and risked her life in hope of saving her people (Esther 4:1-17).
- Three young men refused to worship the golden image of King Nebuchadnezzar (Dan. 3:8-18).
- Daniel refused to pray to King Darius (Daniel 6:6-16).
- Peter & the apostles refused to stop preaching the good news about Jesus (Acts 5:23-33).
- No one will be able to buy or sell without the mark of the beast (Revelation 13:11-18).