

/We will now begin the fifteenth lecture on Romans. / Today we will begin with Romans chapter 13.

/The title of this chapter is “Authority.” / First, submit to authority. / Verses 1-7. / Second, debt of love. / Verses 8-10. / Third, prepare for the Second Coming. / Verses 11-14.

/Read Romans 13:1. / Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.

/Everyone must submit to authorities of nations. / This is because God gave the nations authority to rule, so that they would maintain order in the world.

/The responsibility of the authorities of the nations is to restrain from evil and protect the properties and lives of its citizens. / Daniel 2:21/ Daniel 4:25/ Isaiah 10:5-6 / Even Jesus said in Matthew 22:21 to give to Caesar what is his, and give to God what is God’s.

/This means that one must fulfill his duties both to his nation and to God. / However, we must never submit to national orders if they go against God’s will.

/We must obey God’s commands before we obey national orders. / However, we must obey national orders if they do not go against God’s commands.

/Verse 2. / Consequently, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.

/God has instituted authorities of nations. / To rebel against them is the same as rebelling against God. / Then there will be judgment on those who rebel.

/Verse 3./ For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and he will commend you.

/Rulers control evil. / They encourage what is good. / Therefore, authorities of nations must prevent evil. / Here it tells us the purpose and limits of national authorities God has instituted.

/God's purpose in giving authorities to nations was for the prevention of evil and for control. / It was also to commend the good and reward them.

/Verse 4. / For he is God's servant to do you good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword for nothing. He is God's servant, an agent of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer.

/It says that the authorities are God's servants. / Authorities of nations punish those who are evil. / They reward the good. / Martin Luther said, "A tyrant's rule is better than lawless acts of a mob." / "A tyrant's rule is better than lawless acts of a mob."

/Verse 5. / Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also because of conscience.

/God has instituted authorities in the world and told us to submit to them. / When we do so, we had peace and receive protection.

/We must submit to national authorities as a matter of conscience. / We must obey authorities with joy, as long as they do not act against the Bible.

/Verse 6. / This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing.

/We must pay taxes to the government. / God instituted authorities to work for the nations and ensure law and order, and prosperity of the people.

/Therefore, taxes are necessary for a nation to manage its affairs. / Therefore, as citizens, we must rightfully pay taxes. / Here, "taxes" refer to the poll tax.

/Verse 7. / Give everyone what you owe him: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.

/Here, “revenue” refers to tariffs. / We must respect and honor authorities. / We believers must never use our faith for political purposes. / A church must not become an institution that is subject to the rules of a government.

/We must not join anti-government activities. / The church and the state are always separate. / A church should not meddle in state affairs, / and the state must not meddle in church affairs.

/The church is the kingdom of God and an engine that works for the salvation movement. / A nation is an engine of natural grace. / A church is under special grace. / Ephesians 1:22

/Of course, a believer can individually participate in politics. / However, he must never do so in the name of a pastor or a church.

/Verse 8. / Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law.

/We must be endlessly responsible for love. / We must be endlessly responsible regarding love. / A believer must love even his enemies. / We must let no debt remain outstanding, except the debt to love.

/We must be indebted to love and love others. / This is like being indebted to the gospel. / 1:14/ We must love everybody. / Jesus loved us infinitely.

/Therefore, we must share the love of Jesus with others. / We must not be indebted to materials if possible. / Proverbs 22:7.

/If we have material debts, we must live frugal lives and pay back all of it. / We have received cancellation of ten thousand talents before the Lord. / Matthew 18:24-34.

/It also says that whoever loves others have fulfilled the law. / The essence of the law is love. / The first five commandments concern God. / They are commandments about God.

/The last five commandments concern humans. / It tells us, "Love your neighbors." / Thus, the most important command of the law is to love, and love is the completion of the law.

/Verse 9. /The commandments, "Do not commit adultery," "Do not murder," "Do not steal," "Do not covet," and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this one rule: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

/We cannot commit adultery if we truly love our neighbors. / If we truly love our neighbors, we cannot murder them. / If we truly love our neighbors, we cannot rob them.

/When we love, we help others and make sacrifices. / Therefore, the fulfillment of the law is love.

/Verse 10. / Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

/If we truly love our neighbors, we cannot do evil against them. / If we truly love our neighbors, we cannot harm them.

/That is why love is the fulfillment of the law. / One covets and murders because he does not love others.

/Verse 11. / And do this, understanding the present time. The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.

/We must be discerning of time. / The time God has appointed is near. / The Second Coming of the Lord is near. / The end is near. / Matthew 16:3.

/If a believer does not know how to discern time, he cannot keep his faith. / Noah had a discerning heart, and he built the ark. / 1 Peter 4:7/ Luke 12:35/ The word "slumber" refers to

spiritual slumber. / It is to live in flesh.

/To wake up means to live according to the born again spirit. / 8:5-7. /Our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. / The Second Coming of Jesus and the salvation of the believers are near. /Philippians 3:20 / Philippians 3:21

/Verse 12. /The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.

/The night is nearly over, and the day is almost here. / “The night” refers to sin. / It refers to the time of death and tribulations. / It also refers to the time of suffering. / For example, it is the time of sin. / There is murder, sexual immorality, and cheating.

/There is debauchery and drunkenness. / There is hedonism, secularism, and formalism. / These signify that the night is deep. / 2 Timothy 3:1-5 / It says that the day is almost here.

/That means the salvation of the believers is near. / The Second Coming of Jesus is near. / Our Lord will judge when sins becomes full. / Then the Lord will come again.

/God judged sins in Noah’s time. / The world will be full of sin when Jesus’ Second Coming is near./ Matthew 24:12-21 / Revelation 13:6-7/ Revelation 22:11.

/The evil will become more evil. / We must get rid of works of darkness. / We believers must get rid of works of sin. / We must instead be clothed with the armor of light.

/The armor of light is righteousness, truth, and godliness. / Ephesians 4:24/ We must strive to resemble Christ. / We must defend the arrows of Satan with this armor of light. / We must defeat the works of the devil with this light.

/Verse 13. / Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy.

/We belong in the daytime. / We are children of light. / Therefore, we must behave decently. / We must live according to the conscience of our faith. / We must walk down the path of righteousness.

/It says we must not live in orgies and drunkenness. / To live in orgies is to live in self-indulgence. / It is life without self-control. / We must not become drunk. / Ephesians 5:18/ Proverbs 23:31-34. / Believers also must not smoke. / Isaiah 55:2.

/We must avoid paying for things that do not fill us. / We must avoid paying for things that do not fill us. / Smoking does not fill us. / Luke 21:34 / Revelation 17:2. / We must not get drunk with the world.

/We must not be drunk with worldly pleasures. / We must not be drunk with earning money. / Next, it says that we must not live in debauchery and sexual immorality. / We must get rid of sexual immorality between males and females.

/We must get rid of sexual greed. / We must lust after others. / Sexual immorality brings destruction to both concerned parties. / People of Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed because of this sin of sexual immorality. / Matthew 24:37-39 / Luke 17:26-29.

/Next, it says, do not live in dissension and jealousy. / This is sin concerning other people. / People fight with one another. /Why? / Because they want more worldly possessions.

/They want to be in higher places. / They want more. / They fight because they want to do whatever they want. / However, we must trust in the sovereignty of God / and live with faith. / James 4:1-3 / Mark 10:29-30.

/Verse 14. / Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.

/We must be clothed with Jesus Christ. / We must trust in Jesus. / We must resemble Jesus. / Galatians 4:19 / We must resemble the holy image of Jesus. / 1 John 3:3.

/We must become more and more clean. / Our small light should develop into a greater light.
/ We must become more and more holy.

/It says, do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature. / This means that we must not do the works of the flesh out of greed. / We must get rid of greed. / We must live according to God's will. / We must clothe ourselves daily with the holiness of Jesus.

/We will continue with Romans chapter 14. / The title of chapter 14 is, "Do Not Judge One Another."

/First, solution for the problem of food. / Verses 1-4. / Second, solution for keeping the Sabbath. / Verses 5-6. / Third, wronging a brother will bring judgement by God. / Verses 7-12.

/Fourth, do not cause your brother to stumble. / Verses 13-21./ Fifth, acting without faith is sin. / Verses 22-23.

/Read 14:1./ Accept him whose faith is weak, without passing judgment on disputable matters.

/In the church, there are those whose faith is weak and whose faith is strong. /Those with weak faith have not yet realized the deep truth. / Those with strong faith should understand the one with weak faith.

/Those with strong faith should not criticize those with weak faith. / What is discussed here is not a matter that is forbidden in the Bible. / It is not written in the Bible, and it is a problem of the conscience.

/The things that are not forbidden or mentioned in the Bible should be left to the conscience of each believer./ They include issues that are not forbidden or discussed in the Bible that should be left to the conscience of each individual.

/Verses 2-3./ One man's faith allows him to eat everything, but another man, whose faith is

weak, eats only vegetables. The man who eats everything must not look down on him who does not, and the man who does not eat everything must not condemn the man who does, for God has accepted him.

/In Leviticus chapter 11, there is food that can be eaten and food that cannot be eaten. / In the early church, there were Christians who were Jews and Gentiles.

/There was an issue about the law, and the believers were not able to agree with one another. / Just as it is written in Leviticus chapter 11, the issue concerned the forbidden food in the Old Testament.

/This is not about food offered to idols. / We must not eat food offered to idols. / Acts 15:29. / This is speaking about Leviticus chapter 11.

/Jesus abolished the rituals and systems of the Old Testament. / Colossians 2:14-17. / They disappeared in the period of the New Testament. / However, there were some Jewish-Christians who grew up without eating food that was forbidden in the Old Testament.

/They did not eat such food, only because they were not accustomed to eating it. / They did not eat food that were forbidden in the Old Testament.

/However, such food was allowed to be eaten in the period of the New Testament. / Colossians 2:14-15 / Jesus abolished the rituals and systems of the Old Testament. / That is why some Christians who were Gentiles ate such food.

/Still, some Jewish-Christians did not. / In such cases, no one was to judge one another. / They were not to criticize one another. / Instead, they were to understand and accept one another.

/Verse 4. / Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. And he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

/This issue is not about the truth. / This is about the conscience of faith. / We must not judge

others with things like this. / We believers are servants of Jesus.

/Our standing and falling belong to Jesus. / We must leave everything to the Lord.

/Verse 5. / One man considers one day more sacred than another; another man considers every day alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind.

/The first day of the week is Sunday, the Lord's Day. / The seventh day is Saturday. / Thus, the early church disputed over the keeping of the Lord's Day. / In the period of the Old Testament, Saturday was considered the Sabbath.

/Now in the period of the New Testament, we must keep the Lord's Day. /This brought dispute in the times of the early church./ However, it said that they should be fully convinced in their own minds. / This meant that they were to understand that keeping the Lord's Day is right and confirm it.

/The Sabbath day of the Old Testament is a shadow. / Christ is the reality. /Colossians 2:16-17 / Thus, in the New Testament times, we must keep the day that Christ resurrected on. / John 20:19.

/The Holy Spirit came at the Pentecost. / Acts 2:1/ They received a revelation. / Revelation 1-10/ Acts 20:7/ 1 Corinthians 16:2.

/Verse 6. / He who regards one day as special, does so to the Lord. He who eats meat, eats to the Lord, for he gives thanks to God; and he who abstains, does so to the Lord and gives thanks to God.

/We must do everything for the Lord. / We must keep the Lord's Day,/ eat and not eat, / and do everything else for the Lord.

/Verses 7-8./ For none of us lives to himself alone and none of us dies to himself alone. If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.

/Believers were bought by the blood of Christ. / 1 Corinthians 6:19-20/ We believers belong to Christ. /We must now live for the Lord. / We are His stewards.

/We must use whatever we have according to the will of the Lord. / Luke 16:8-9/ If a believer lives for himself, he has left his faith. / We must die and live for the Lord.

/We live for the Lord, and die for the Lord. / Matthew 16:24-25/ Philippians 1:20-23.

/Verse 9. / For this very reason, Christ died and returned to life so that he might be the Lord of both the dead and the living.

/Jesus died on the cross and resurrected to life. /He saved us. / Jesus was the Lord when He lived, and even after His death, He still is the Lord.

/The Lord resurrected from the dead. / Jesus is the Lord of the living and the dead. / Jesus is the Lord who can bring the dead to life.

/Verse 10. / You, then, why do you judge your brother? Or why do you look down on your brother? For we will all stand before God's judgment seat.

/We must never judge our brothers. / We will all stand before the judgment seat of God. / Hebrews 4:13/ 2 Corinthians 5:10 / We must not judge or treat our brothers with contempt. / James 4:11-12.

/Verse 11. / It is written: "'As surely as I live,' says the Lord, 'every knee will bow before me; every tongue will confess to God.'"

/Isaiah 45:23 is quoted here. / God is alive and he is almighty. / He is the King of all kings. / Every knee will bow before him. / Every tongue will confess to God.

/Verse 12. / So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.

/Each of us will give an account of ourselves to God. / We will receive according to what we have done./ 2 Corinthians 5:10.

/Verse 13. / Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in your brother's way.

/Therefore, we must not judge others. / We must understand one another about things concerning the conscience. / We must not be a stumbling block or an obstacle to those whose faith are weak.

/Verse 14. / As one who is in the Lord Jesus, I am fully convinced that no food is unclean in itself. But if anyone regards something as unclean, then for him it is unclean.

/Food itself is not unclean. / It is considered unclean by one's subjective point of view. / However, if one eats food that his conscience does not approve of, then he commits sin. / Eating food while feeling pierced in the conscience is then considered sin.

/Verse 15. / If your brother is distressed because of what you eat, you are no longer acting in love. Do not by your eating destroy your brother for whom Christ died.

/Anyone with strong faith must not eat something that one with weak faith would be bothered in his conscience to eat. / Anyone with strong faith should not carelessly eat something that one with weak faith would be bothered in his conscience to eat.

/This is to make the conscience of one with weak faith distressed. / It is not an act of love for his brother. / Our Jesus died for our brothers. / Therefore, we must not destroy our brothers with food.

/Verse 16. / Do not allow what you consider good to be spoken of as evil.

/We must not let what we know is good be spoken of as evil. / We must not thoughtlessly speak of what we think is right and be spoken of as evil by it. / We must be careful not to be spoken of as evil.

/Verse 17. / For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit,

/The matter of eating and drinking is not important in the kingdom of God. / God's kingdom is about the gospel, salvation, and spiritual life. / Righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit are important.

/"Righteousness" is doing what is right before God. / "Peace" is enjoying comfort with each other. / We must also have joy in the Holy Spirit.

/Verses 18-19. / because anyone who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and approved by men. Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.

/We believers must come go forward with righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit. / Such believers worship Christ. / God is pleased with these believers.

/They will receive praises from people as well. / They will also build good relationships with others. / They will benefit others.

/Verses 20-21. / Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of food. All food is clean, but it is wrong for a man to eat anything that causes someone else to stumble. It is better not to eat meat or drink wine or to do anything else that will cause your brother to fall.

/Food that were once forbidden in the Old Testament times are no longer forbidden in the New Testament period. / However, those with weak faith did not eat the food that were once forbidden.

/By eating food thoughtlessly, those with strong faith distressed the brothers with weak faith. / They made their brothers stumble through food. / Everything God gave us is clean and good.

/Yet, to eat something with a bothered conscience is to sin. / 1 Timothy 1:19/ This does not refer to food offered to idols. / We must not eat food offered to idols. / 1 Corinthians 10:20.

/Verse 22. / So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the man who does not condemn himself by what he approves.

/We must keep our faith according to what our consciences say is right. / We must not feel guilt our consciences for realizing that our thoughts are wrong.

/If a person does something that his conscience realized to be wrong, his conscience would be bothered. / We must keep this from happening. / It is a sin to do something with a bothered conscience.

/Verse 23. / But the man who has doubts is condemned if he eats, because his eating is not from faith; and everything that does not come from faith is sin.

/To eat with doubt is to be condemned. / No one should eat something by doubting, "Am I sinning against God by eating this?" / When such doubt arises, one should not eat that food.

/We must stop what we are about to do when we doubt ourselves and think, "Is what I am about to do a sin before God?"/ If we act on it while doubting, it will become sin. / Anything that is done not according to faith is sin.

/Therefore, we must not do anything that our consciences are bothered by. / We must live according to our consciences. / First, we must live according to God's word. / We must live according to God's commands.

/Then we must live according to our good consciences. / We must not eat something when our consciences are bothered by it. / We must eat only when our consciences are not bothered

by it. / We must live according to our consciences.

/With this we will conclude the fifteenth lecture on Romans. / Thank you very much.