

# Morning Lesson

## CIVIL RESPONSIBILITY

**Matt. 22:15-22**

### INTRO:

1. Jesus said there are things that must be rendered to civil government.
2. Our understanding of our responsibility to God and government must be drawn from the New Testament.

### I. RESPONSIBILITY TO GOD

- A. All citizens, regardless of country, are under Christ's authority  
**Matt. 28:18**
- B. Christians especially should understand this. 1 Cor. 6:19, 20; 1 Pet. 1:18; 2:21; 2 Cor. 10:5; Rom. 6:11-13

### II. OBLIGATION TO GOD

- A. All Christians are charged with teaching the word of God.  
**Mark 16:15**
- B. Our daily life is to reflect the transforming power of the gospel. **Eph. 4:1; Gal. 6:10**
- C. Christians strive to bring men to a belief in God, to convince them that they are the offspring of God. **Acts 17:29**
- D. Christians love their fellowmen, have respect for authority, acknowledge and appreciate right values in life, are aware that judgment is coming for all, and that there is an eternity beyond this life.
- E. They serve as God's ministers of peace and reconciliation.  
**Rom. 12:17-21; 2 Cor. 5:17-21**

### III. RELATIONSHIP TO CIVIL GOVERNMENT

- A. We are to be subject to and pray for government.  
**Rom. 13:1-4; 1 Pet. 2:13-17; 1 Tim. 2:1, 2**
- B. Our first allegiance is to a higher power. **Acts 4:19, 20; 5:29**

### IV. OBLIGATION TO GOVERNMENT

- A. Civil government is ordained by God for the purpose of protecting and punishing. **Rom. 13:1-4**
- B. Paul gives the Christian's basic obligation. **Rom. 13:5, 6, 7**

### CONC:

1. "The Christian...is subject, upon command of his Lord, to the laws of the land..."
2. In so doing, he acts in harmony with the instructions of the Lord.