

Taking Care of Business – Part 3

# “PAYING YOUR DUES”

4/13/08

**Three Biblical ‘Options’ when you are ‘smarter’ than your boss (but only one is from God):**

1. Murmur and complain against those in authority!
2. Usurp or ignore the authority of those over you.
3. Submit to and support those in authority

“Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.”  
Hebrews 13:17 (NIV)

- It’s not so much about the WHAT!
- It’s a lot more about the HOW...and...
- It absolutely matters that we respect the WHO!

## OUR TEXT FOR TODAY:

“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.”  
Romans 13:1 (NIV)

**OUR PRINCIPLE:** *God chooses to work through authorities...and...He wants us to submit to them!!*

## The Problems of Rebellion:

“Consequently, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.”  
Romans 13:2 (NIV)

## The Blessings of Submission:

“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.”  
Romans 13:3

## The Word of God:

“For he is God’s servant to do you good.”  
Romans 13:4

## 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. Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also because of conscience.”  
Romans 3:4-5

## ‘Pay’ Whatever Is Due:

“This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God’s servants, who give their full time to governing. Give everyone what you owe him: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.”  
Romans 13:6-7

## A MEMORABLE PHRASE:

“When someone tells me what to do, the issue is not WHAT but WHO!”

## We obey God’s authorities, because...

- God works through divinely appointed authorities
- God never blesses rebellion!