

# 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 must be drawn from the New Testament.

### I. RESPONSIBILITY TO GOD.

- A. All citizens, regardless of country, are under the authority of the Son of God. **Matt. 28:18**
- B. Christians in particular understand this for we have special relationship with God. **1 Cor. 6:19, 20; 1 Pet. 1:18; 2:2; 2 Cor. 10:5; Rom. 6:11-13**

### II. OBLIGATION TO GOD.

- A. Christians must teach 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 that they are the offspring of God. **Acts 17:29**
- D. Christians love their fellowmen, respect authority, appreciate right values, know that judgment is coming, and that there is an eternity beyond this life.
- E. They are God's ministers. **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. However, first allegiance is to a higher power. **Acts 4:19, 20; 5:29**

### IV. OBLIGATION TO GOVERNMENT.

- A. It is clear that civil government is ordained by God for the purpose of protecting those who do well and punishing those who do evil. **Rom. 13:1-4**
- B. The Christian's basic obligation. **Rom. 13:5-7**

### 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.