Romans Lesson 22 (2018)

**RESPONSIBLE CHRISTIAN CITIZENS**

Romans 13:1-14

Key Verse: 13:1 & 14

**Open it:**

1. How do you feel when you have to prepare your income tax forms?

**Explore it:**

1. Read verses 1-2. How is a Christian to respond to the laws and leadership of government? (1; Mk. 12:17; Titus 3:1; 1 Pet. 2:13-17) What attitude is a Christian showing toward God when he or she rebels against the government? (2) What consequence will those who rebel about the government bring upon themselves? (2)
2. Read verses 3-5. What should a Christian do to maintain a good relationship with the government? (3-4) What motivation does the Christian have to submit to the government? (5) How does verses 4-5 imply a limit on our obedience to human government? (see also Acts 5:29)
3. Read verses 6-7. How should a Christian respond to the tax laws and requirements of the government? (6-7) In addition to tax revenues, what does a Christian owe his or her government? (7)
4. Read verses 8-10. In what area of life is a Christian to maintain a continuing debt? (8) What does it mean that love is the fulfillment of the law? (Mt. 22:37-40; Gal. 5:13-14) What specific acts of love can Christians show to friends, family, neighbors, and strangers?
5. Read verses 11-14. How did Paul encourage his audience to live godly lives? (11-12; Mt: 24:36-39, 25:1-13) What specific behaviors does God forbid? (12-13) What kind of behavior contrasts with what God wants of us? (13) What does “clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus” mean?

**Apply it:**

1. Why do you think it’s important for Christians to be good and responsible citizens?