

Transforming Daily
“... subject to the governing authorities ...”
Romans 13:1

One of the hardest things for a person of freedom and liberty to do is submit. However, that is how freedom and liberty is established and maintained. Do you think those who have served or are now serving this country did it or do so without willful submission? The greater good is always the by-product of willful submission one to another.

Our country, and for that matter the whole world, is reported to be in recession or in an economic down turn. Everyone seems to be looking for someone to blame, and no one wants to be held accountable by anyone else. Irrespective of how you feel about the past or present presidential administration and its influence on state and local government, our responsibility as believers is to subject ourselves in righteousness to the governing authorities. You might respond, “even if the local, state or national (even global as it will probably soon become) authorities ask us to do something wrong?” What have they asked you to do that is wrong? Not that that time isn’t on the way (regardless of who is president at the time or what political party is in majority), but for now, there is no such persecution.

What we do have to look out for, and is now present, is a sense of fear and pending doom that comes by way of threats and reports that we are heading for an unprecedented depression. If we aren’t careful, we will join the ranks of those who love “witch hunts,” and we will be distracted by mob mentality thinking. The believer is not to wrestle against flesh and blood, but is to understand that our fight is of the spiritual nature not of the human nature. Yes, the loss of jobs, health benefits, higher taxes, etc., is real enough, but has God ever left you without? I’m not talking about wants, necessarily, but needs. Further, I’m not refereeing to those who haven’t tried to help themselves, or choose to live, as my dad used to say, by “champagne taste on a beer budget,” and I would also include those who have purposefully become a burden on society.

God has not given us the spirit of fear, but of love, power and self-control (2 Timothy 1:7). If there has ever been a time that our government needed prayer, it is now, and I am not just talking about for the president of the United States. To be included in our prayers is every office, official, and representative that influences local, state, and national government. If you want to “flesh out” your point of view, in addition to prayer and civil obedience, write those “To Whom It May Concern” as well as becoming an informed voter.

The challenge is not to be uninvolved or disengaged, but to carefully weigh the facts that are reported and that you yourself report. God is neither threatened nor controlled by the politics from Washington D.C., Jerusalem, London, Moscow, Beijing, Tokyo, Paris, Canberra, Ottawa, Tallahassee, Hillsborough Co. or Tampa.

There isn’t anyone more opinionated than I am. Won’t you join me in the challenge to be careful of what we say and how we say it, or as James puts it, “swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath,” (James 1:19)? It is God’s will that we are subject to the governing authorities, and that’s not feeling, that is Scriptural fact.