



## Romans 13:1-7 | Dr. Stan Fowler *September 28, 2008*

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*“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. Consequently, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. 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. For he is God’s servant to do you good. 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. 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 honour, then honour.”*

1. What is your basic attitude toward government as you experience it (federal, provincial, local)? In light of Romans 13, do you need any attitude adjustment?
2. What are some factors that might incline committed Christians in Canada to be negative toward government?
3. Try to imagine some of the complexities that you would face if you were an MP dealing with current issues such as:
  - The environment and climate change
  - Taxes
  - Health care
  - Abortion
  - The price of gasoline
4. What special challenges would confront a Christian in public office?
5. How can we responsibly pray for public officials?
6. What qualities would you look for in a prime minister?
7. If you could ask one question to all the leaders of the federal parties, what would it be?