

ROMANS 13:8-10

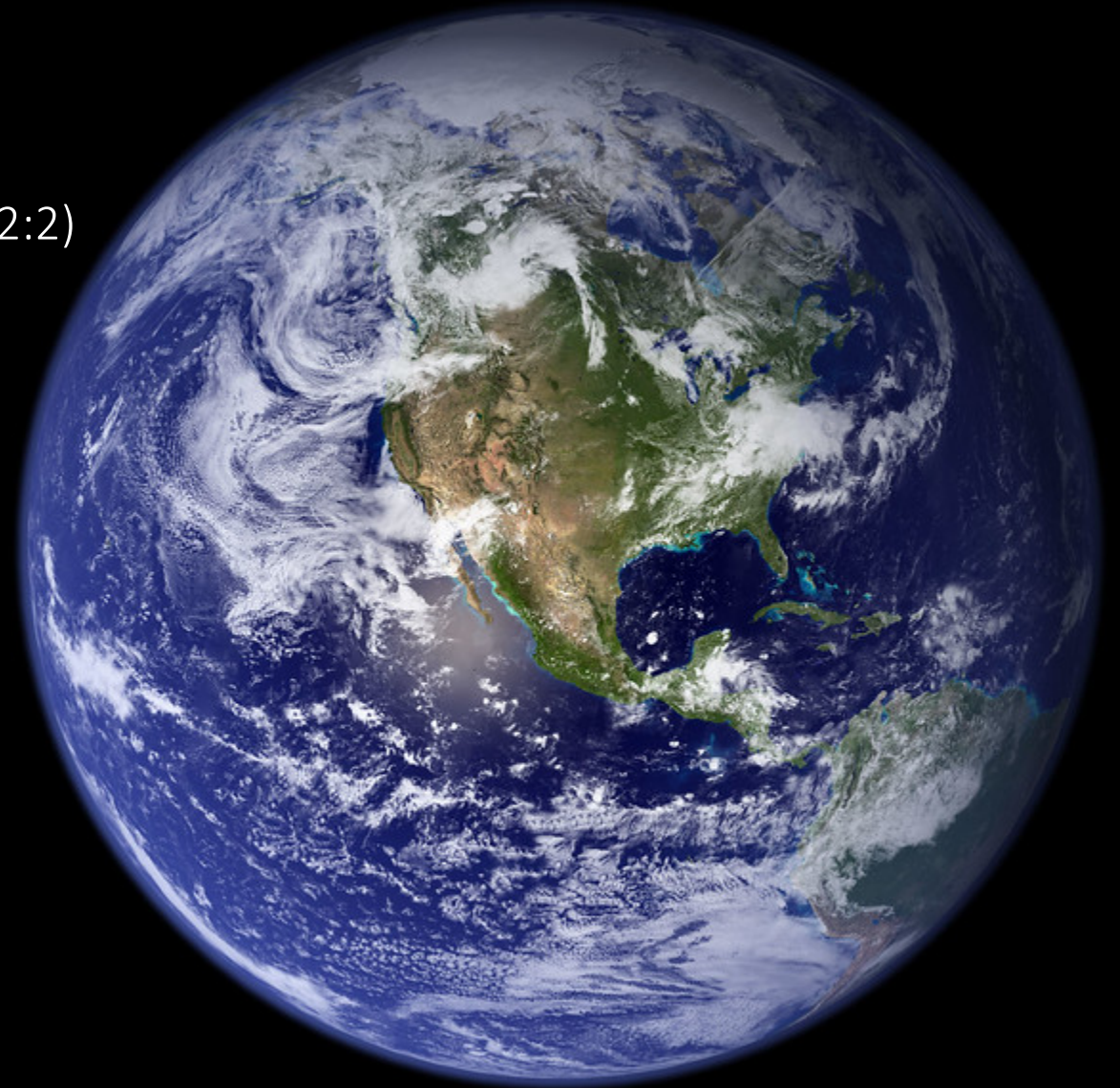


Owe no one anything except to love one another...

(Romans 13:8)

Do not be conformed to this world,
but be transformed
by the renewing of your mind.

(Romans 12:2)



BUT FIRST...

1. A quick review of Romans 13:1-7
2. Then two more points:
 - a) The difference between Government and the Church
 - b) The unique mission of the Church
- 3. Romans 13:8-10**

Review:

GOD

*The Most High rules
in the kingdom of men
(Daniel 4:17)*

The world

Governments

Purpose: to
restrain sin

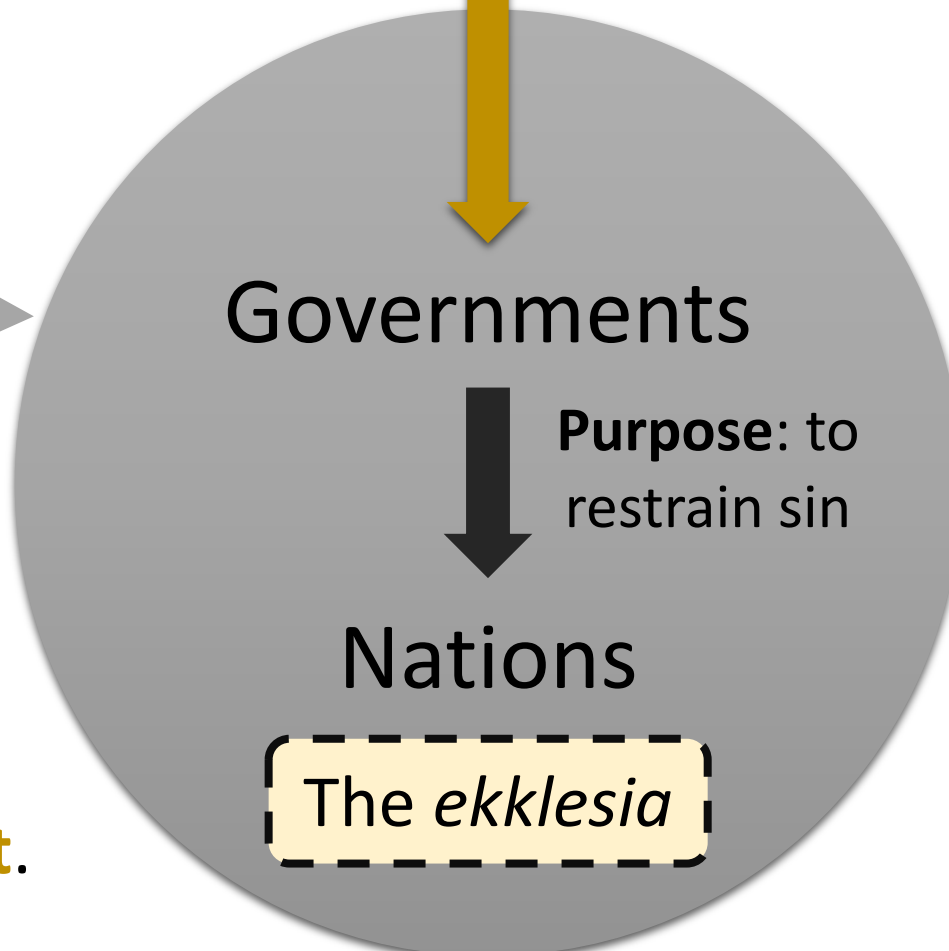
Nations

The *ekklesia*

Authorities

Communities

The church's mission:
To be and to make
disciples of Jesus Christ.



Review:

- Paul is describing our **foundational view** of government and authority
- Authorities are **God's servants** (Greek: *diakonos*)
- We obey primarily from **conscience**

Let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a busybody in other people's matters.

(1 Peter 4:15)

Being involved in things that should not concern you

THEREFORE

Render to all their due...

Two more points:

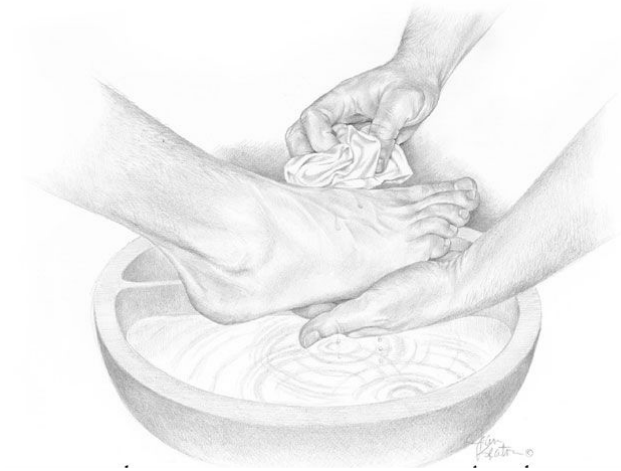
a. The difference between Government and the Church

Hierarchy and
command
authority

*We, being many, are **one body** in Christ,
and individually members of one another.*
(Romans 12:5)

The teaching of the Lord Jesus:

- Matthew 18:1-5
 - A question
- Matthew 20:20-28
 - James and John
- Matthew 23:6-12
 - Not like the Pharisees
- Luke 22:24-27
 - At the last Passover



*I have given you an example, that
you should do as I have done to you.*
(John 13:15)



Two more points:

b. The unique mission of the Church

Go therefore and **make disciples** of all the nations, **baptising them** in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you;** and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.

(Matthew 28:19-20)

OBJECTION:

- Unjust and incompetent government
- Crime and corruption
- The environment
- Broken families, drugs, mental health

ROMANS 13:8-10

Owe no one anything except to love one another...

(Romans 13:8)

... for he who loves another has fulfilled the law.

(Romans 13:8)

“Just this?”

... Love does no harm to a neighbour;
therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

(Romans 13:10)

***“No! Love desires
a neighbour’s
good...”***

Owe no one anything except to love one another...

(Romans 13:8)

The rich rules over the poor,
And **the borrower is servant to the lender.**

(Proverbs 22:7)

***Clear away
whatever hinders
love***

What hinders love?

1. Duty:

- “I have no time...”
- “I cannot focus – too much distraction”

2. Disorder:

- “I have no time...”
- “I cannot focus – too much distraction”



Now the purpose of the commandment is **love**

- from a **pure heart**,
- from a **good conscience**, and
- from **sincere faith**...

(1 Timothy 1:5)

Love from a **pure heart**

- An undivided heart
- No other agenda
- A pruned vine

*“Every branch that bears fruit He **prunes** ...
You are already **clean** because of the word
which I have spoken to you.”*

(John 15:2-3)



Love from a **good conscience**

Paul:

“I myself always strive to have a conscience without offense toward God and men.”

(Acts 24:16)

John:

If anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

(1 John 2:1)



The **blood of Christ** ... cleanse your conscience from **dead works** (Hebrews 9:14)

A painting depicting a person's lower legs and feet as they walk on a body of water. The person is wearing light-colored, flowing pants and simple sandals. The water is rendered with visible brushstrokes, showing ripples and reflections. The overall tone is somewhat somber, with muted colors and a focus on the physical act of walking on water.

Love from sincere faith

Faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead

(James 2:17)

Owe no one anything except to love one another

(Romans 13:8)