

VI. Laws of Divine Establishment and the Royal Family Honor Code: Punishment Clause

Romans 13:2a

Those who resist the authority have opposed the divine institution of God.

Please note that verse 1 issues a mandate, “*keep on subordinating yourselves to governing authorities.*”

The rationale for doing so is given in the second half of Romans 13:1 which states that establishment authority is the system God invented to maintain order among men.

Further, those who hold positions of establishment authority are ordained by God.

Discipline of unjust rulers is assigned to Jesus Christ who controls history on behalf of the Pivot.

Whenever a nation falls under the rule of a tyrant it is first of all because its citizens permitted such a personality to gain ascendancy.

If Jesus Christ does not remove tyrants from power, it is because the Lord’s inventory of the emotions and streams of consciousness of the people did not provide Him the motivation to do so.

If the Lord does remove a tyrant from power, it means that His inventory found a strong enough Pivot to warrant the action.

PRINCIPLE: Pivot politics always wins out over Power politics.

All mandates have a penalty clause either stated or implied.

Romans 13:2 begins by identifying those to whom the penalty clause for violating the mandate of Romans 13:1 will be applied, “*those who resist the authority have opposed the divine institution of God.*”

It is therefore to seditionists, insurrectionists, and revolutionaries that the penalty clause applies.

The penalty clause is stated next and is introduced by the post positive conjunctive participle: *de* - “*In fact.*”

Used to insert an explanation indicating what happens to those who oppose establishment authorities. Anti-authority types are mentioned next in the plural definite article: *hoi* - “*they.*”

This is in agreement with the verb, the perfect active participle from: *anthistemi* - “*who oppose*” “*they who oppose.*”

perfect - Dramatic; emphasizes the existing status of those who oppose. They are apostate believers whose reversionism has entered them into a liberal attitude toward government and theology.

active - Reversionists produce the action of anti-establishment beliefs.

participle - Circumstantial. With this we have a future, middle, indicative of the verb: *lambano* – “*shall receive.*”

future - Gnostic; judgment from God which can be expected upon those who have an anti-establishment attitude.

middle - Direct; refers the results of the action directly back to the agent with reflexive force.

indicative - Declarative; a statement of doctrinal fact. Romans 13:2

Those who resist the authority have opposed the divine institution of God. In fact, they who oppose shall receive back upon themselves.

What they receive is the direct object from the noun: *krima* - “*punishment; punitive action; discipline.*”

God punishes all who are anti-establishment. This includes revolt against any of the four divine institutions.

Nobody gets away with anything. Individuals receive punishment from the system of divine discipline.

There is first of all the Law of Volitional Responsibility. If adjustment to the Justice of God does not follow, then discipline enters the warning stages, followed by an intensification of suffering, and ultimately terminal discipline.

When a large number of individuals are under divine discipline this is reflected throughout the society in the five stages of national discipline.

Even though the nation may be destroyed, the Pivot survives.

What preserves the mature believer is the huge inventory of ideas contained in his stream of consciousness.

Before executing the cycles, the Lord inventories the souls of the Pivot and although He is unable to deliver the nation, He is honor bound to preserve the Pivot.

This is why reversionists are removed from the scene along with unbelievers during the cycles of discipline.

No anti-authority type is permitted to survive national discipline without suffering punishment for their rejection of establishment truth.

All believers are encouraged to seek alteration of all unjust laws, but they are not privileged to enter into civil disobedience, violence, insurrection, or revolution.

The believer's cause may be right, but seeking to promote one's cause through violence is promoting the right thing in a wrong way.

If fighting evil causes you to destroy establishment authority, then any freedom restored is immediately lost due to the resultant anarchy.

No matter how great the erosion of freedom may be, as long as you have freedom to witness for Jesus Christ and to take in the Word of God, then you have no right to oppose the authority of government.

Even though the Roman government was tyrannical, the first century was still a great time of evangelism, Bible teaching, and missionary activity.

Even with all the persecutions of Christianity it was still a period to which Paul referred as the "*fullness of time*" in:

Galatians 4:4 - *When the fullness of time came [SPQR identified as the first Gentile client nation], God sent forth His Son.*