

# UNASHAMED

A STUDY THROUGH ROMANS



<sup>16</sup> "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile." <sup>17</sup> For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."

ROMANS 1:16-17 NIV

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<sup>18</sup> Then Jesus said, “What is the Kingdom of God like? How can I illustrate it? <sup>19</sup> It is like a tiny mustard seed that a man planted in a garden; it grows and becomes a tree, and the birds make nests in its branches.” <sup>20</sup> He also asked, “What else is the Kingdom of God like? <sup>21</sup> It is like the yeast a woman used in making bread. Even though she put only a little yeast in three measures of flour, it permeated every part of the dough.”

<sup>1</sup> Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. <sup>2</sup> Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. <sup>3</sup> 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?

# Subversive Submission: Why submit to gov.?

- **God establishes governing authorities**



26 He controls the course of world events; he removes kings and sets up other kings. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the scholars.

DANIEL 2:21 NLT

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<sup>26</sup> From one man he created all the nations throughout the whole earth. He decided beforehand when they should rise and fall, and he determined their boundaries. <sup>27</sup> “His purpose was for the nations to seek after God and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him—though he is not far from any one of us. <sup>28</sup> For in him we live and move and exist.

<sup>15</sup> The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. <sup>16</sup> For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.



# Subversive Submission: Why submit to gov.?

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Do I believe that God is ultimately in control?





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Then do what is right and you will be commended.  
4 For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer.

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Do I believe that God is ultimately in control?

- **Consequences follow rebellion**



# **Biblical examples of rebellion against authority :**

- Exodus 1 - Hebrew midwives save newborn boys
- Esther 4 - Esther enters king's presence uninvited
- Daniel 3 - Three men refused to bow to king's idol
- Daniel 6 - Daniel defies law prohibiting prayer
- Matthew 2 - Wise men defy Herod & leave town
- Acts 4/5 - Peter & John boldly preach the Gospel
- Acts 16 - Paul refuses to leave prison unescorted
- Revelation 13 - Church resists anti-God policies

# How to overcome evil with good:

- Love authentically
- Be realistic optimists
- Cherish the church
- Foster a culture of honor
- Serve passionately
- Hope & endure suffering
- Pray continually
- See a need & meet it
- Bless when persecuted
- Cultivate empathy
- Live harmoniously
- Walk humbly
- Act righteously
- Peace out
- Keep calm & carry on
- Extend grace

<sup>1</sup> First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, <sup>2</sup> for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. <sup>3</sup> This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup> who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.



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<sup>5</sup> Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience. <sup>6</sup> This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. <sup>7</sup> Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor. <sup>8</sup> Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one

another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup> The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery,” “You shall not murder,” “You shall not steal,” “You shall not covet,” and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>10</sup> Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

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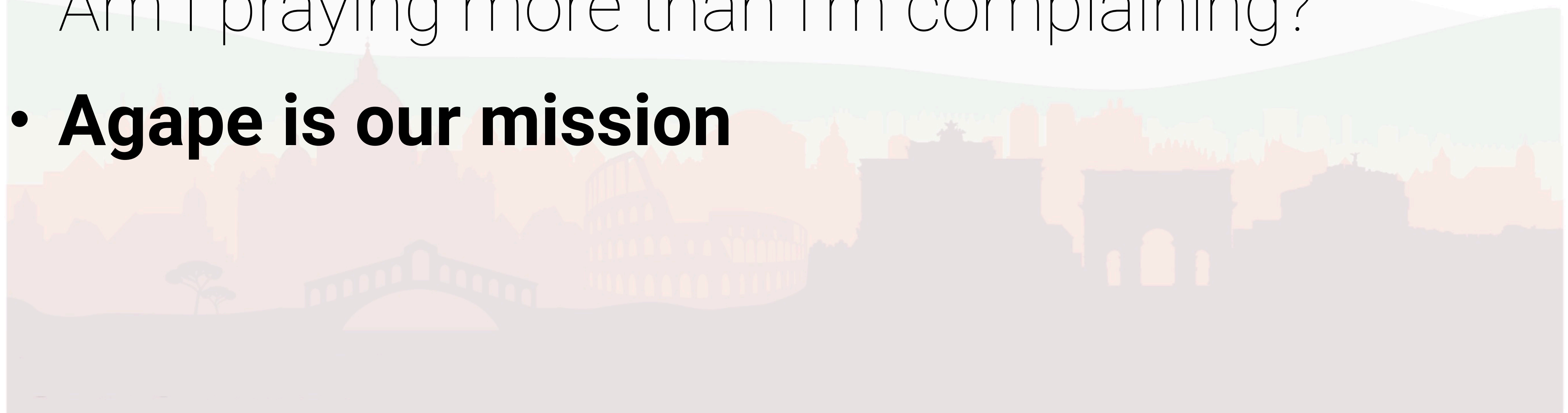
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Am I praying more than I'm complaining?

- **Agape is our mission**



# Mission

Love God.

Love People.

Make Disciples.

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<sup>4</sup> This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: <sup>5</sup> “Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. <sup>6</sup> Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. <sup>7</sup> Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile.

Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.”<sup>8</sup> Yes, this is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says: “Do not let the prophets and diviners among you deceive you. Do not listen to the dreams you encourage them to have.<sup>9</sup> They are prophesying lies to you in my name. I have not sent them,” declares the Lord.<sup>10</sup> This is what the Lord says: “When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my good



promise to bring you back to this place. <sup>11</sup> For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.



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JEREMIAH 29:10-11 NIV

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Do I love others the way that God loves me?



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<sup>11</sup> And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup> The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. <sup>13</sup> Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy.

<sup>14</sup> Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.



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ROMANS 13:14 NIV

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- **Time is short so get ready**

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What am I putting on every morning?



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<sup>37</sup> No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, <sup>39</sup> neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ROMANS 8:37-39 NIV

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