

<p><b>A</b></p>	<p><b><u>“For in it the righteousness of God is revealed through faith for faith” (Rm 1:17)</u></b>  <b><u>Introduction of Related Scriptural Passages</u></b></p> <p><i>The Church, like every family, passes on to her children the whole store of her memories. But how does this come about in a way that nothing is lost?...It is through the apostolic Tradition preserved in the Church with the assistance of the Holy Spirit [which] comprises everything that serves to make the people of God live their lives in holiness and increase their faith. In this way the Church, in her doctrine, life and worship, perpetuates and transmits to every generation all that she herself is, all that she believes.</i></p>	<p>Rm 13:1-14:23</p> <p>LF #40</p>
<p><b>B</b></p>	<p><b><u>Being Subject to Authorities</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First reason: Any legal governing authorities, regardless of their virtues, receive their power from God.</li> <li>• Second reason: this is a reflection and fulfillment of the obedience in all Christians.</li> <li>• In my early retirement story, God has taught me the importance of obedience mystically: <a href="http://elodocuments.blogspot.ca/2011/10/my-early-retirement-story-part-4-cliff.html">http://elodocuments.blogspot.ca/2011/10/my-early-retirement-story-part-4-cliff.html</a></li> <li>• Dealing with one’s superior, one should never repay unkindness with unkindness since vengeance belongs to God.</li> <li>• Blessed John Henry Newman: Bearing injustice for the glory of God.</li> <li>• Christians must reject laws that are immoral and against the teachings of the Gospel.</li> <li>• “... for he does not bear the sword in vain; he is the servant of God to execute his wrath on the wrongdoer” – death penalty is reasonable under the most serious circumstances according to the Church’s tradition. Execution without blood is preferred where possible as such method respects human dignity.</li> </ul>	<p>Rm 13:1-7</p> <p>CSB Rm 13:1-7                  Jn 19:11, Wis 8:15-16, CCC 1899                  CCC1900, SN1</p> <p>1Pet 2:13-21</p> <p>Rm 12:19, Deu 19:18-19, Mt 5:44                  SN2, Col 1:24</p> <p>CCC 2242,                  Acts 25:11                  CSB 13:4                  CCC 2266-7</p>
<p><b>C</b></p>	<p><b><u>Love For One Another / Be Awake</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Love is the fulfilling of the law”: “Love your neighbour as yourself” – “neighbour” could also refer to one’s enemies (Mt 5:44) as well as anyone who needs help (Lk 10:25-37). Loving one’s neighbor and God are the two greatest commandments.</li> <li>• “For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness, ... not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling</li> </ul>	<p>Rm 13:8-14</p> <p>Rm 13:8-10                  Mk 12:29-31</p> <p>Rm 13:11-14,                  CSB                  Confessions,</p>

**Chinese Martyrs Catholic Church  
Bible Sharing Program 2013-2014  
Romans #9: The Actions of Christians**

	and jealousy” – the day of Last Judgment is near, in this evil era of death and darkness, one must repent urgently and stay away from all evil. The day of eternal light is in front of our eyes! (Rev 22:5) This passage propels the repentance of St. Augustine.	VIII.12
<b>D</b>	<p><b><u>The Strong Supporting the Weak / Do Not Judge One Another</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Weak man” refers to those Jewish Christians within the Roman Church who obeyed the law of unclean food and follow the Jewish festivals, but were looked down upon by those who opposed them.</li> <li>• Paul teaches that though these “weak” members have not fully understood the Gospel (righteousness through faith instead of the law – Rm 3:21), they should not be mocked and judged which causes division. One must maintain peace and the unity of the Church. This is because judgment belongs to God, “so each of us shall account of himself to God” (Rm 14:12). Do not hinder a brother through judgment.</li> <li>• “For the kingdom of God does not mean food and drink but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit” – Paul urges the Roman Church to focus on righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, which truly belong to God.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<p>Rm 14:1-23</p> <p>CSB 14:1</p> <p>CSB 14:3, 11-13</p> <p>Rm 14:17</p>

**SPECIAL NOTES**

1. Yet this obedience is independent of the virtue and holiness of the officeholder...in the priest’s obedience to the bishop...the bishop is being obeyed because locally he represents the Church as a whole...obeying Christ means obeying his body, obeying him in his body. On the basis of the Letter to the Philippians, the obedience of Jesus, as a matter of overcoming Adam’s disobedience, stands in the center of the saving event...Only in that way can the renunciation of idolizing oneself be given concrete form. Only thus can Adam be overcome in us. (J. Ratzinger, *Pilgrim Fellowship of Faith*, pp. 167-8)
2. “In all his trials, faith in God’s Providence and wisdom gave him strength to be patient: ‘When we get to heaven, if we are worthy, we shall enjoy the sight of how all our failures and disappointments, if borne well, have been for God’s glory and our own salvation.’” (Z, Capuchin, *John Henry Newman – His Inner Life*, p.179)