

An underwater scene featuring a wooden staircase that descends from the surface into a deep blue ocean. The water is clear, and the sunlight creates shimmering patterns on the surface. At the bottom of the frame, a vibrant coral reef is visible. The overall mood is serene and mysterious.

# *Deep Truths*

A JOURNEY THROUGH ROMANS

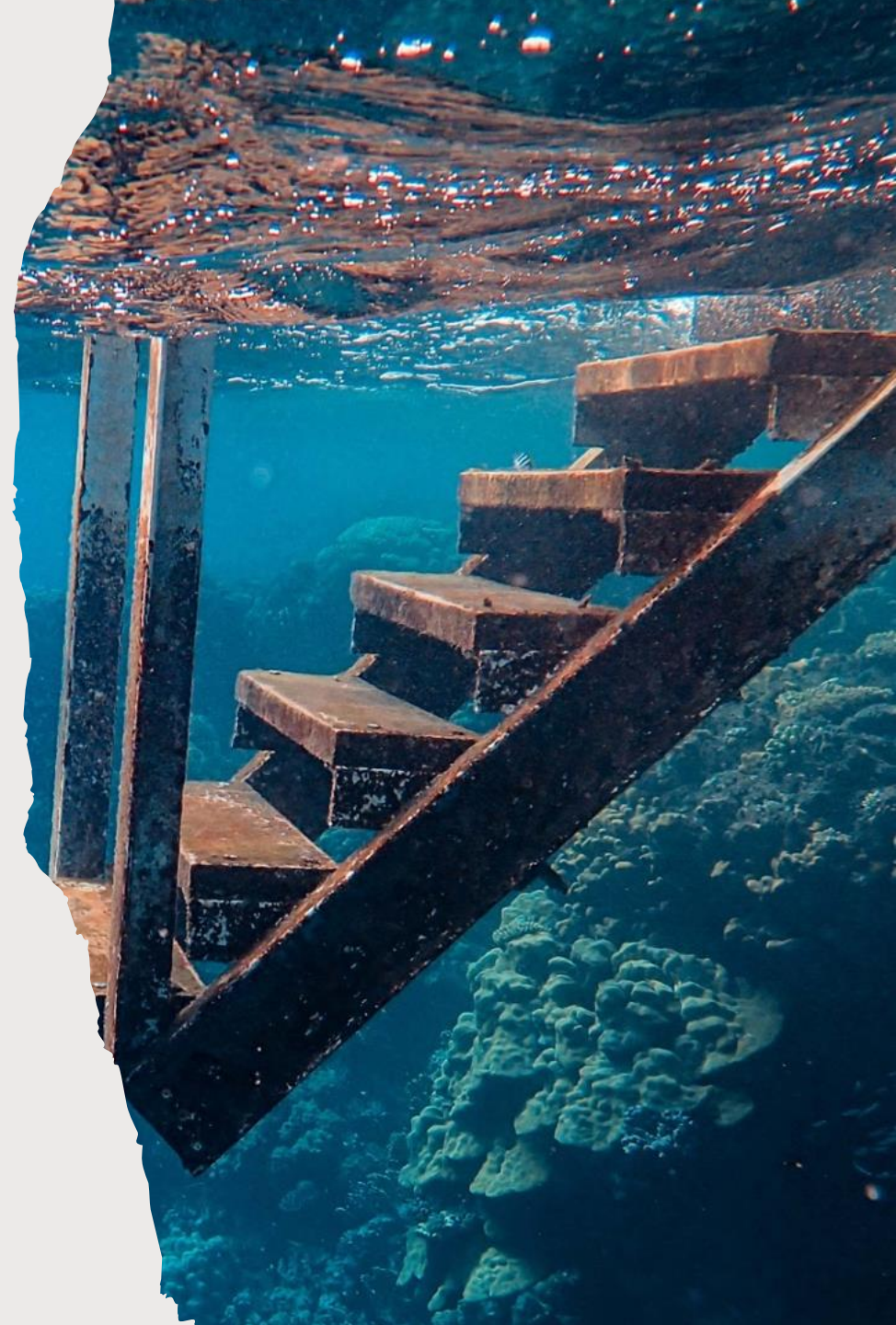
Romans 13:1-14

THE AUTHORITIES

## ROMANS 13:1-14

<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.

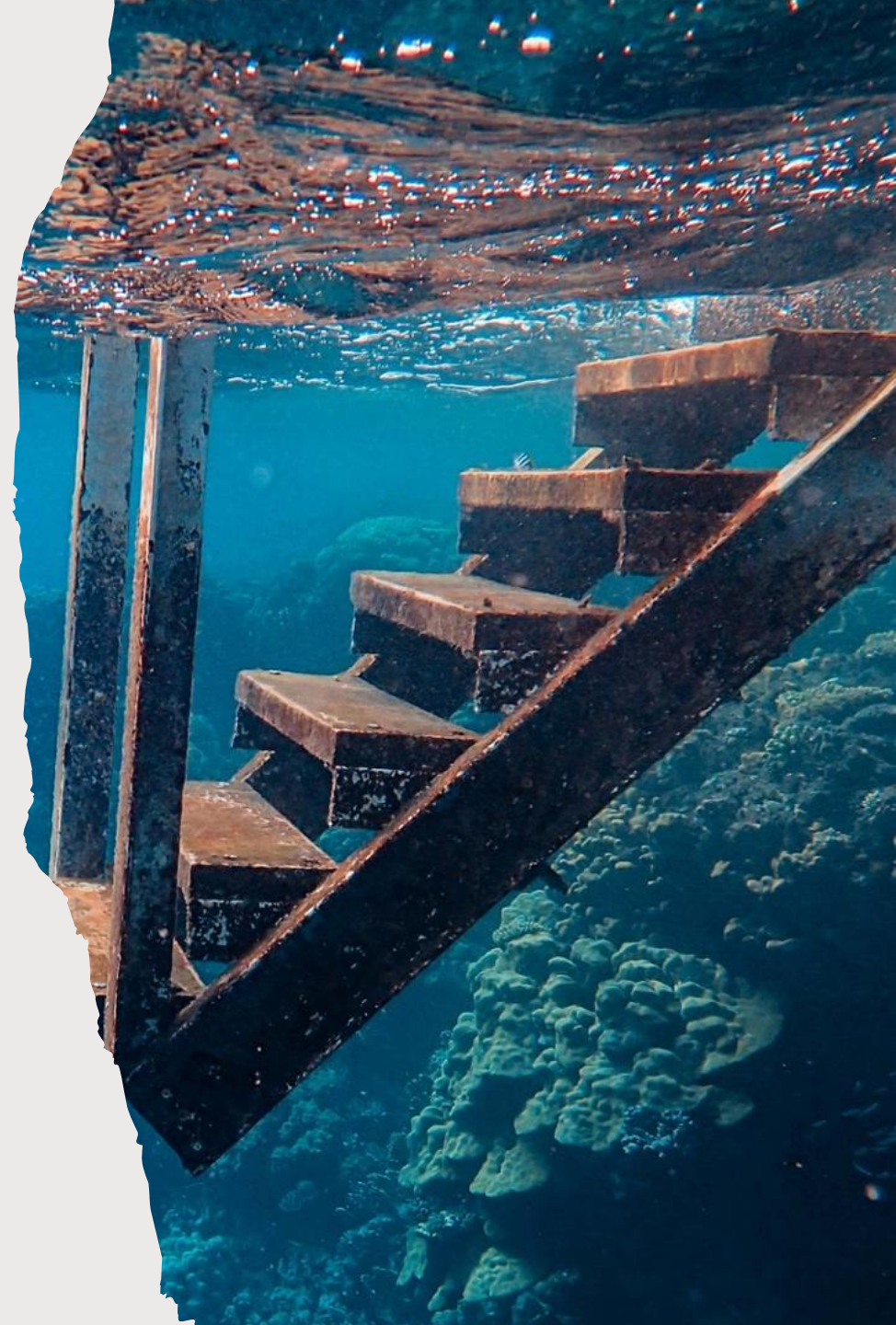
<sup>3</sup> For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended.



## ROMANS 13:1-14

<sup>4</sup> 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. <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.

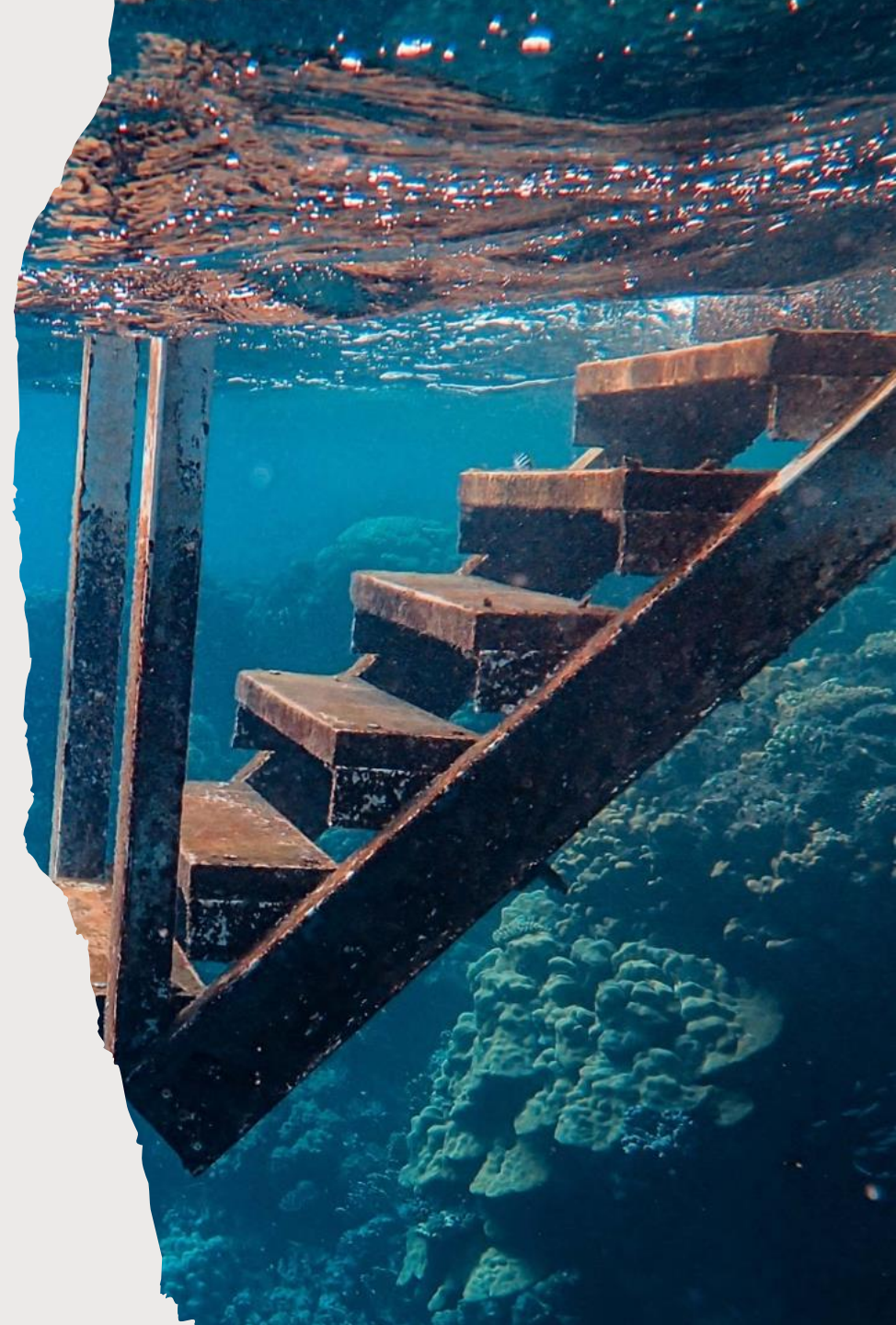


## ROMANS 13:1-14

<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.”

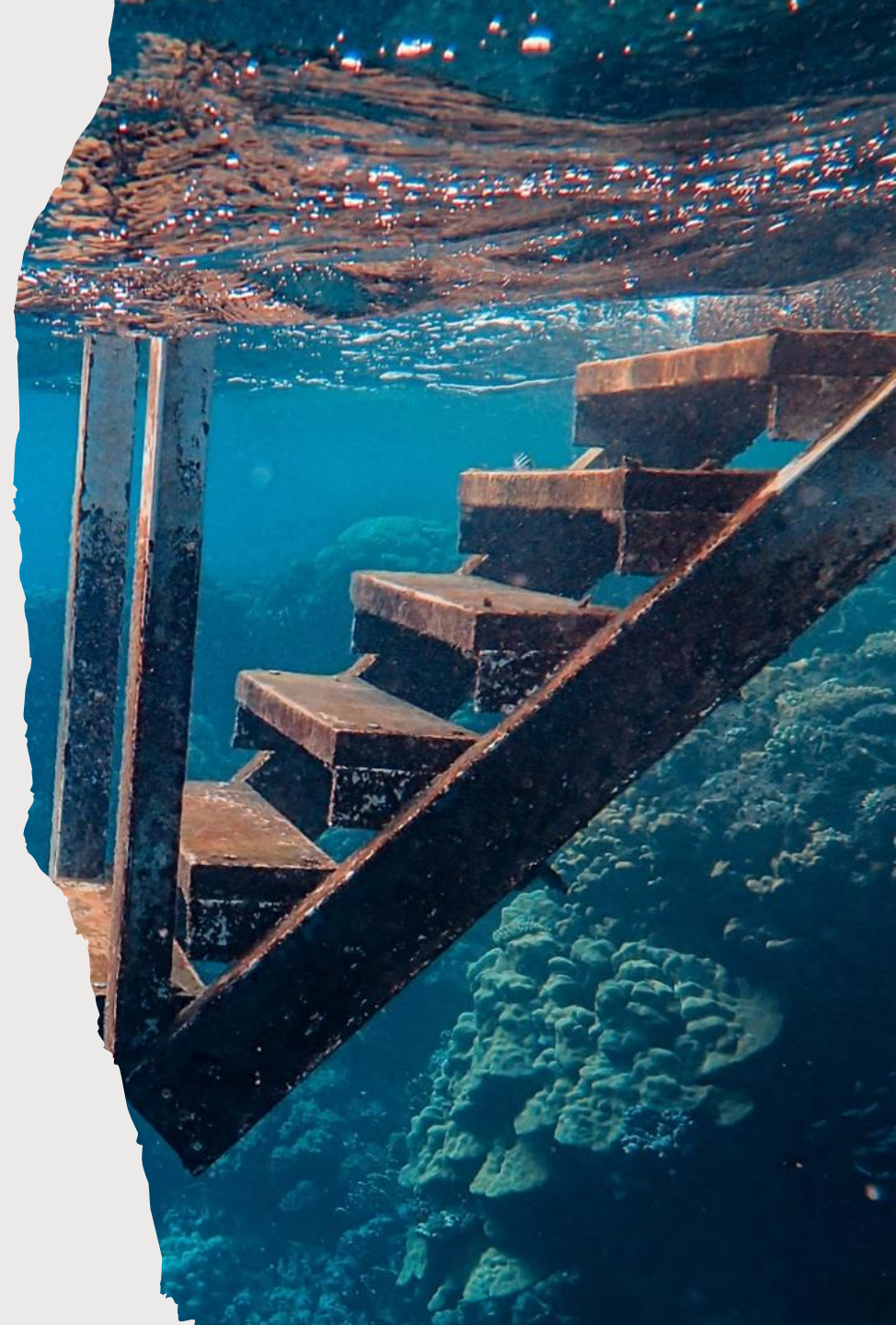
<sup>10</sup> Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.



## ROMANS 13:1-14

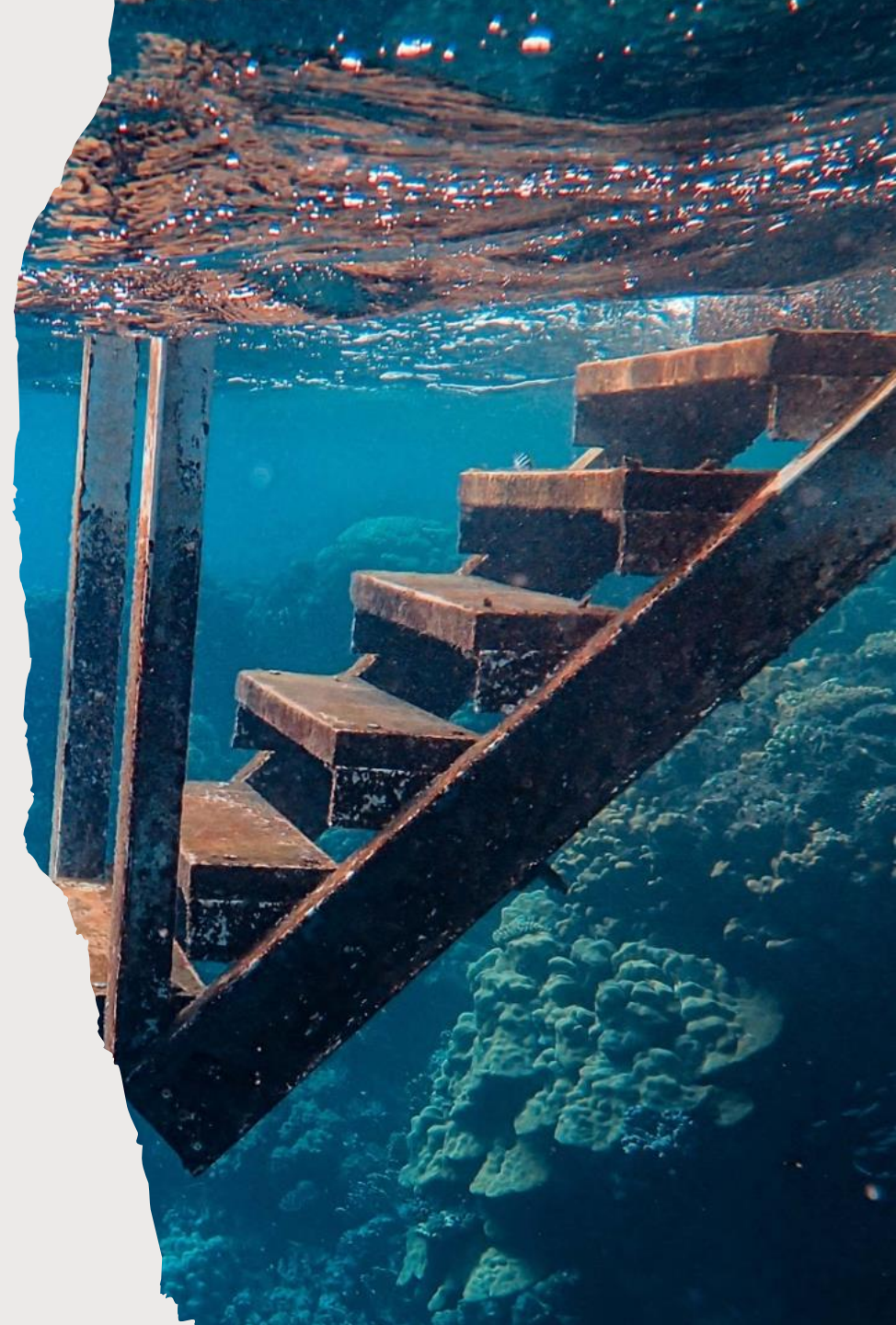
<sup>11</sup> And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup> The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put 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 (*sarx*).



## ROMANS 13:1-2

<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.



AUTHORITY BEING  
REFERENCED =  
ROME





# WHAT SUBMISSION IS NOT

(TO GOVERNING  
AUTHORITIES)





# WHAT SUBMISSION IS NOT

(TO GOVERNING  
AUTHORITIES)

1. **Approving** their actions



# WHAT SUBMISSION IS NOT

(TO GOVERNING  
AUTHORITIES)

1. **Approving** their actions
2. **Attributing** their actions  
to God

## The Way of Christ

<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? Then *do what is right* and you will be commended.  
(Romans 13:3)



A wooden staircase leads down from a sandy beach into the ocean. The water is clear and blue, revealing a vibrant coral reef below. In the background, a large crowd of people is gathered on the beach, many holding up their phones to take pictures. The scene is captured from an elevated perspective, looking down the length of the stairs.

I CAN CONTROL MY RELATIONSHIP  
WITH AN AUTHORITY, EVEN IF I  
CAN'T CONTROL THEIR  
RELATIONSHIP WITH ME.

**WE SUBMIT...**

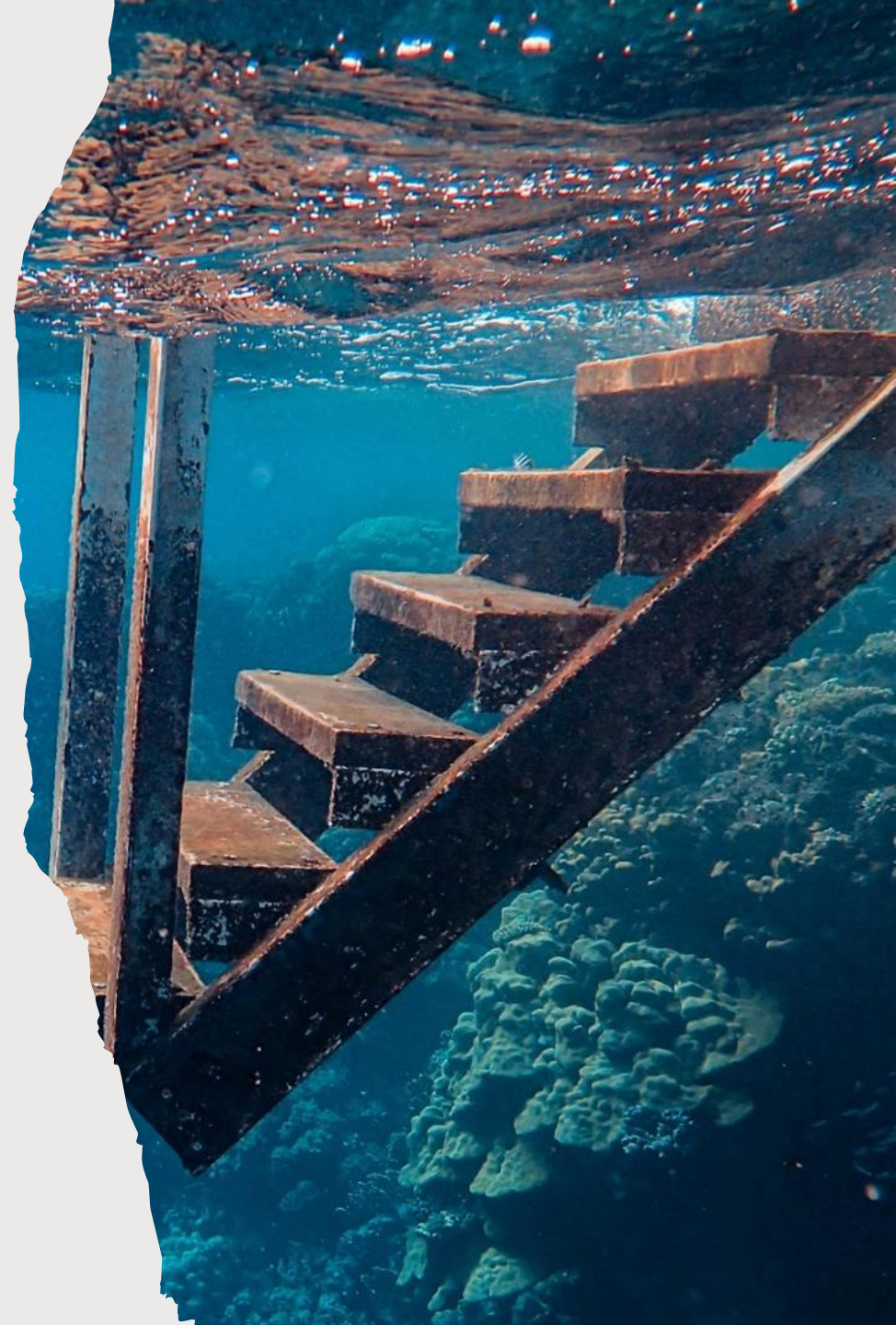
Not just to avoid pain, but  
*to honour God.*



## ROMANS 13:4-5

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<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.*



An underwater scene featuring a wooden staircase that descends from a bright, shimmering surface at the top of the frame into a deep, blue ocean. The surface is covered in many small, glowing red and blue lights, creating a vibrant, ethereal atmosphere. The staircase is made of dark wood and leads down towards a dark, rocky seabed. The overall mood is one of mystery and hope.

*TO SUBMIT IS TO TRUST THAT GOD  
IS BIGGER THAN THIS PRESENT  
MOMENT OR THIS PRESENT POWER.*

**WE SUBMIT...**

Because our *neighbor*  
includes the governing  
authorities.



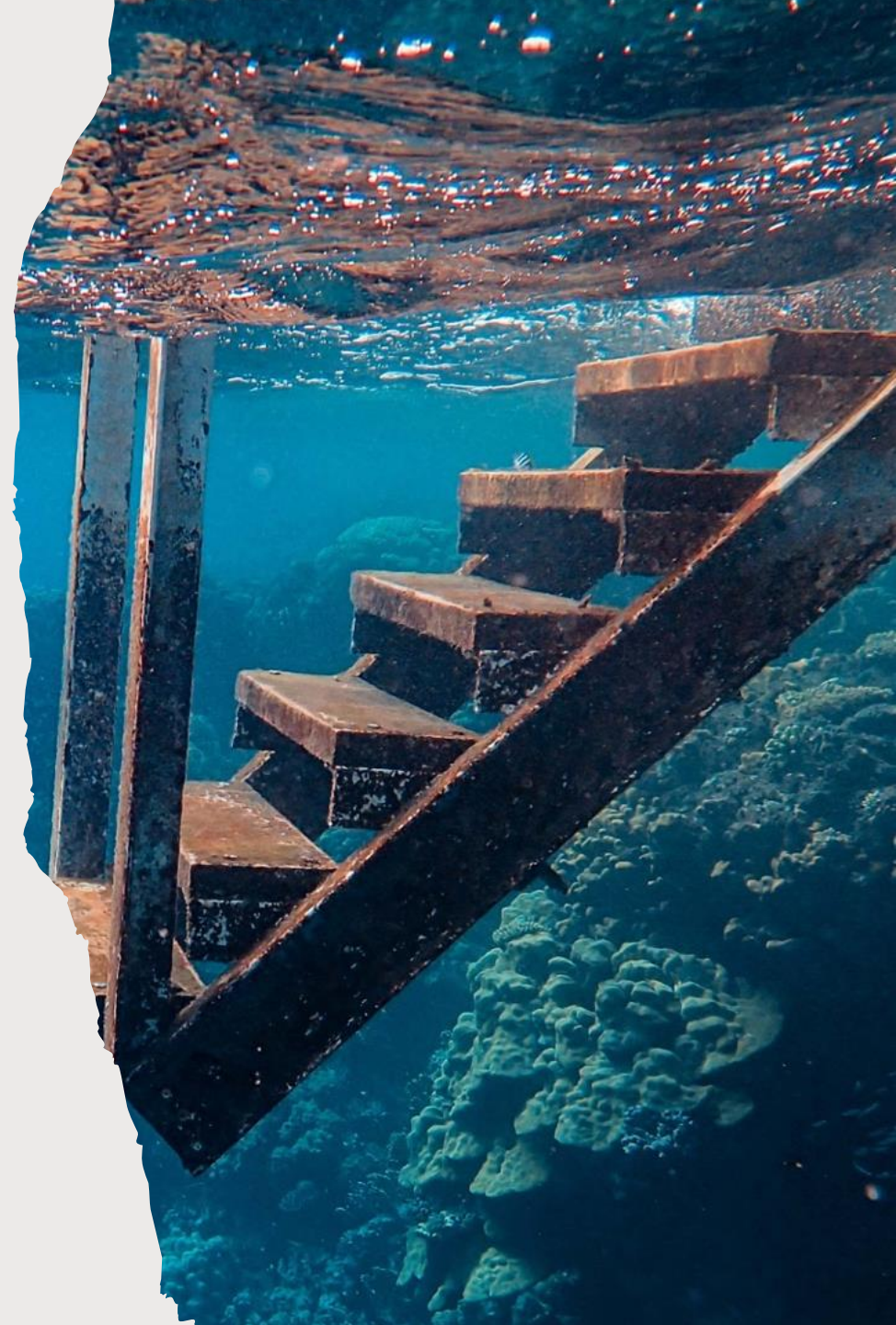


## ROMANS 13:8-10

<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...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.





## LUKE 10:25-37

*A PARABLE ABOUT LOVING THOSE WE HATE*

<sup>36</sup> “Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?”

<sup>37</sup> The expert in the law replied, “*The one who had mercy on him.*”

Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”

An underwater scene featuring a wooden staircase that descends from the surface into a deep blue ocean. The surface is covered with numerous small, glowing lights, possibly buoys or lights from a boat. The water is clear, and the overall atmosphere is serene and contemplative.

TO SUBMIT IS TO IMITATE THE  
GOD *WHO LOVES YOUR*  
*ENEMIES TOO.*



# WHAT SUBMISSION *IS*

(TO GOVERNING  
AUTHORITIES)

1. *Trusting* that God is bigger than this present moment, or this present power
2. *Loving our enemies* and those who may persecute us.

## The Way of Christ

“Did you trust *my*  
authority, by living with  
integrity under *that*  
authority?”

