

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, 3-21-10 AM NOTES
"A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW OF GOVERNMENT"
ROMANS 13:1-7
#10 in Series, "A Biblical Worldview"

"In the total expanse of human life there is not a single square inch of which the Christ, who alone is sovereign, does not declare, 'That is Mine.'"

—Abraham Kuyper

Isaiah 33:22 (NKJV) "For the Lord *is* our Judge, the Lord *is* our Lawgiver, the Lord *is* our King; He will save us."

Jeremiah 17:9 (NKJV) "The heart *is* deceitful above all *things*, and desperately wicked; who can know it?"

I. The Purpose of Government

"Salvation and the Savior will not come to us on Air Force One."

—Cal Thomas

Psalms 146:3 (NKJV) "Do not put your trust in princes, *nor* in a son of man, in whom *there is* no help."

A. Protection

Romans 13:4a (HCSB) "For government is God's servant to you for good."

B. Punishment

II. The Christian's Response to Government

A. Submit

Matthew 22:21b (NKJV) "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."

1 Peter 2:13-15 (NKJV) "¹³ Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, whether to the king as supreme, ¹⁴ or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and *for the* praise of those who do good. ¹⁵ For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men."

"We may not disobey authorities because we disagree with them or because their mandates inconvenience or even oppress us. The Biblical principle is to render obedience whenever we can unless our doing so conflicts with our obeying God."

—R. C. Sproul

Exodus 20:13 (NKJV) “You shall not murder.”

Mark 16:15 (NKJV) “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.”

Acts 5:29b (ESV) “We must obey God rather than men.”

B. Pray

1 Timothy 2:1-2 (NKJV) “¹ Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks be made for all men, ²for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.”

1 Timothy 2:2b (NIV) “...that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.”

Proverbs 21:1 (NKJV) “The king's heart *is* in the hand of the Lord, *like* the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes.”

III. The Church and Government

A. The History of Separation of Church and Government

1 Samuel 13:13-14a (NKJV) “¹³ And Samuel said to Saul, ‘You have done foolishly. You have not kept the commandment of the Lord your God, which He commanded you. For now the Lord would have established your kingdom over Israel forever. ¹⁴But now your kingdom shall not continue.’”

Matthew 22:21b (NKJV) “Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.”

“I contemplate with sovereign reverence that act of the whole American people which declared that their legislature should ‘make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof,’ thus building a wall of separation between Church and State.”

—Thomas Jefferson

“Now the idea that religion and government and belief in God and government should be separate is like trying to separate blood from the body and have the body still live.”

—Pat Buchanan

Psalms 9:17 (NKJV) “The wicked shall be turned into hell, *and* all the nations that forget God.”

B. The Priority of the Church

C. The Influence of an Individual

Matthew 5:16 (NKJV) “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”