

How Then Shall We Live

Week 5 | The Christian and the Government

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1. God has established earthly authority for our common good

1 Peter 2:13-14, Romans 13:1b-4

“The “no government” idea gives absolute freedom to unrighteous people who can wield their power and corruption against the innocent and the weak who are defenseless. Pure anarchy is the law of the jungle that God abhors. God uses authorities and governments primarily for the restraint of evil. If God removed all human restraints our lives would become intolerable.”

- R.C. Sproul

A Christian is not an insurrectionist

Matthew 26:50-53, 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 (NIV)

2. A Christian does not give ultimate allegiance to a politician or a party

1 Peter 2:13a, Romans 13:1a, Philippians 3:18-20

Where we place our greatest allegiance reveals where we place our trust

John 18:35-36, Zechariah 4:6

- Are there times when believers should not submit to governing authorities?

Daniel and the three Hebrew children would not submit to laws that would cause them to violate their conscience before God

Daniel 3:4-5, Daniel 6:7

The Apostles before the High Priest

Acts 5:27-29

If civil authority commands us to do something that God has forbidden, or forbids us from doing something God has commanded, we must not obey.

- Should believers get involved in politics?
 - Voting
 - Running for office
- Should believers and pastors speak out on the moral issues of the day?
Mark 6:17-18
- Where is all of this headed?
Isaiah 40:15-17, 21-23