

THE CHRISTIAN AND GOVERNMENT

Part 1 – God-Ordained Governments

Romans 13:1,2

Introduction:

● Mark the following as true or false:

T or F God is not a Communist, but a Democrat or Republican.

T or F God ordained the communist government of N. Korea.

● Romans 13 addresses the Christian's relationship to government

1. Verse 6 makes clear that the authorities of verse 1 refer to governmental authorities (KJV translates as *higher authorities*) – we pay t_____ to them.
2. There are two principles that must be understood by all Christians, which is given in verses 1,2

God Ordains All Governments, But No Corruption (1)

● What does verse 1 mean?

1. The Greek word translated as “established” (KJV – “ordained”) literally means “to a_____ or put in order”
2. God is named as the direct a_____ in establishing governments.
3. There are no ex_____ - all governing authorities are established or ordained by God and none can exist without God.

● What was the political setting of this letter to the Romans?

1. The R_____ Empire was the governing authority.
2. N_____ was the Emperor – he was one of the most corrupt of Emperors, morally and politically.

● An example in scripture of another government that was full of corruption, yet ordained by God – Daniel 1-4

1. B_____ was established by God as a world power to punish the nation of Judah (Dan 1:1,2; Jer 25:8-11)
2. Nebuchadnezzar demanded w_____ of an image and even threw three Jews into a furnace for refusing (Dan 3)
3. Daniel implored Nebuchadnezzar to r_____ and recognize that God was the ultimate ruler and establishes all authorities (Dan 4:24-27).

● God ordained the U.S. government but not the corruption within

God Orders All Christians to Submit, Never to Rebel (2)

● There is much that is good about the U.S. government but there is much that is not so good.

1. It has burdened the people with t_____.
2. It has gone against its own Constitution
 - a. Used the court systems to establish l_____ (e.g. Roe v Wade making abortion legal)
 - b. Violated the 10th Amendment by forcing S_____ to adopt federal law (e.g. gay marriage).
 - c. Treading upon the 2nd Amendment – the right to bear a_____

● The U.S. was formed by r_____ against a government that was abusive. If our government turns into a Despot, should we rebel? What does verse 2 tell us?

1. Anyone who resists a governing authority sets themselves in o_____ to God (i.e. His establishment)
2. Verse 1 does not apply to disobeying laws that are in conflict with o_____ to God.
3. Governments should view Christians within its boundaries:
 - a. As l_____ abiding citizens
 - b. As r_____ to authority even when they disagree.
 - c. As being loyal to G_____, above all and so peaceful not violent.
4. Therefore, Christians should not participate in the overthrow

of their government, but must submit to it as the governing authority.

Conclusion:

- Although we are blessed to be in America, the U.S. is not any more special in God's eyes than any other nation. All governments have been _____ by God (communist, democracies, monarchies, dictatorships, etc.)
- Although God has ordained all governments, He has not ordained the c_____ within governments.
- Although there is much corruption in governments, Christians are ordered to s_____ to governmental authority without submitting to their corruption.