

THE CHRISTIAN AND GOVERNMENT

Part 2 – God-Ordered Citizenship

Romans 13:3-5

Outward Con_____:

Let Us Be Viewed as Law-Abiding Citizens (3,4)

●God uses government

1. For our g_____ (vv. 3,4)
 - a. No government makes people fear doing g_____ (except those things having to do with religion)
 - b. Christians eliminate f_____ of authorities (e.g. police officers) by doing good.
2. To punish e_____ behavior (v.4)
 - a. The authorities do not carry the s_____ for nothing
 - 1) This weapon was used to c_____, defend, and even to kill.
 - 2) Modern application: policemen do not carry g_____ for nothing. They will use them if they have to!
 - b. Since God's wrath is inflicted on evil doers through government, Christians should never take personal r_____.

●Christians must be viewed by society as law-abiding citizens – Are you?

Inward Con_____:

Let Us Be Moved by the Indwelling Holy Spirit (5)

●All people have a conscience but not all l_____ to that conscience.

1. The believer has an additional motivator that works through the conscience - _____
2. Are you listening?

●Situations

1. Speeding - Is this evil doing? No, but r_____ against authority and purposely putting others in danger is evil.
 - a. Are you motivated only by the presence of an officer?
 - b. What does that say about your conscience?
2. Finders keepers (a wallet containing driver's license & \$700) – what is the motive for your final decision?

Upward Con_____:

Let Us Obey God Rather Than Men (Acts 5:28)

●Paul is assuming that the laws are NOT in conflict with God

1. Early on, the apostles declared their obligation when the laws of the land conflicted with the h_____ law of God (Acts 5:28)
2. The apostle Paul himself had experienced legal in_____ prior to writing this letter (Acts 16:16-24).

●Situations

1. Same-sex marriage – what is the obligation of the Christian clerk who issues marriage licenses and a Christian justice of the peace?
2. What if a law were passed outlawing ownership and the reading of the Bible?

3. What if a law were passed against Christianity? (Rev 13).

Conclusion:

Let it be said that we Christians are
outstanding consciencious
citizens
of
state, local, and federal governments

BECAUSE

IN GOD WE T_____.