

THE CHRISTIAN & GOVERNMENT

Part 3 – Paying Taxes

Romans 13:6,7

Introduction:

- Who coined the phrase: *There is nothing more certain than death, except taxes?*- _____
- What is the Christian obligation in regards to paying taxes?
 1. Direct taxes (like income tax) was originally unc_____ (Article I, section 2, paragraph 3).
 2. In 1913, an A_____ to the U.S. Constitution was passed that made income tax constitutional.
 3. Since most do not agree with every way our tax dollars are spent, does this mean that God does not want us to pay some taxes? What is our obligation?

The Use of Taxes (6)

- Two words in verse 6 relate to taxation
 1. Tax (KJV – tribute)
 - a. This tax that was levied on the a_____ of a person (land, animals, gold, etc)
 - b. This tax corresponds to our i_____ tax, personal property tax, and real estate tax.
 2. Custom (NIV – revenue)
 - a. This tax was levied on g_____ that people purchased and also on travelers.
 - b. This corresponds to our s_____ tax, import and export taxes, gasoline tax, and luxury tax.
- The specific use of taxes
 1. To s_____ governmental authorities so that they can protect the good and punish the evil.
 2. Under the Roman Empire, tax-collectors were h_____ to make sure taxes were paid.
 - a. The command is made in verse to pay what is d_____.
 - b. Who determined what was due? – the t_____
 3. In our country
 - a. Most taxes are p_____ by you in full as you purchase something (a car, gasoline, goods) – they are unavoidable.
 - b. Income taxes due has to be determined by mid A_____ of each year – these are complicated and so can be avoided. The government depends on people to be h_____ about what they owe.

The Abuse of Taxes (7)

- Abuse of taxes happens by:
 1. Tax payers – one might be tempted not to r_____ some income (pastors included)
 2. The g_____
 - a. The Roman Empire funded the w_____ of Roman gods, entertainment by gladiators, enslavement of captives, the unjust showing of power, etc.
 - b. American government funds a_____; has funded unjust wars, wastes money, etc.
- Jesus was asked by the Pharisees, if it was lawful to pay taxes or not (Matt 22:15-22).
 1. Jesus asked them a question that had only _____ answer – whose image is on the coin? (answer: _____)
 2. He gave them two commands but did not state how to obey it
 - a. Render (literally, p_____ back) to Caesar what is his.
 - b. P_____ back to God what is His
- How do we pay back God what is His?
 1. What belongs to God? _____ (Ps 24:1)
 2. Paying back is NOT giving _____% to the church but giving _____% to God. We do this by g_____ Him (Is 24:15; Jn 15:8; 17:4)

- a. First we all must look at our own h_____ (Matt 6:19-21) to find out where our real treasure is!
 - b. Phil 4:19 - God promises to supply our n_____ so we glorify God by using what he has given us for physical needs FIRST (yourself, family, then others – see Jms 2:15,16)
 - c. Matt 6:33 – Our priority must be God’s kingdom w_____ (church ministries, missions, discipleship, fellowship, corporate worship)
 - d. I Tim 6:17-19 – Anything we spend on ourselves, we must be ready and eager to s_____ with others (your prized possessions – cars, tools, toys, etc)
- How do we pay back the government what belongs to it?
1. By paying t_____
 2. We can work to reduce a_____
 3. We must let God hold our government a_____ for its wrongs.

Conclusion:

There are things more certain than death besides taxes!

1. God’s p_____
2. Glorifying God is our greatest n_____
 - a. Are you doing this in your taxes?
 - b. Are you doing this in your giving?
 - c. Are you doing this in your living?