

Get Ready to Vote!

Getting Started

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this week's message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening or troubling? Explain.

Ready To Vote!

Election Sermon

Sunday November 4, 2018

“He said to them, “Then render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.””

Luke 20:25 ESV

The Creator Instituted Government

“Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.”

Romans 13:1 ESV

Officials Operate under God’s Authority

“He changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings; he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding;”

Daniel 2:21 ESV

The Purpose of Government is Force

“Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment.”

Romans 13:2 ESV

Three Uses of Force

1. Protect the People from Evil & Preserve /Maintain Life

“For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God’s wrath on the wrongdoer.” Romans 13:3–4 ESV

2. Protect Human Property

3. Protect People from Fraud

How Do I Relate to Government?

Two World Views:

1. Biblical

“Be subject for the Lord’s sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people.”
1 Peter 2:13–15 ESV

2. Secular

“For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.”
Romans 1:18 ESV

“Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.”
Romans 1:24–25 ESV

I Am Called to Civil Obedience

“as it is written: “None is righteous, no, not one; ...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,”
Romans 3:10, 23 ESV

“Be subject for the Lord’s sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme,”
1 Peter 2:13 ESV

I Am Called to Pray for Governing Officials

“First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.”
1 Timothy 2:1–2 ESV

I Am Called to Pay My Taxes

“Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.”
Romans 13:7 ESV

I Am Called to Participate in Government

Vote for Candidates Most Consistent with Biblical Values

“The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach,”
1 Timothy 3:1–2 ESV

Vote for Legislation Most Consistent with Biblical Values

“Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.”
Romans 12:9 ESV

“He said to them, “Then render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.””
Luke 20:25 ESV