

The Politics of Those Who Follow Jesus

(Romans 13:1)

- Introduction:
1. It is a curious thing to me to find Christians who go door to door to promote a politician, but who would never do the same for Jesus; who are more vocal for their political party or candidate than they are for Jesus; and who are more committed to a political platform than they are the doctrine of Christ.
 2. We are in the early stages of another political season in our country, so I thought it would be a good time to share a few reminders with you.
 3. Let's consider what God's word says about government.

I. The Nature of Government

- A. (Romans 13:1-7).
- B. Government is appointed by God (Romans 13:1).
- C. Government is God's minister (Romans 12:4).
- D. Government is designed to restrain and punish evil-doers (Romans 13:3-4).
- E. Government is designed to protect the good (Romans 12:3-4).

II. Obligations We Have Toward Government

- A. We are to pray for them (1 Timothy 2:1-3).
- B. We are to pay them (Romans 13:6-7).
- C. We are to obey them (Romans 13:1-2).

III. What If Our Government Is Evil?

- A. How should a Christian act when mistreated by his government?
- B. (Acts 4:1-31).
 1. Peter and John were wrongly arrested (Acts 4:1-20).
 2. The actions of the government did not dissuade Peter and John from being faithful to their Lord (Acts 4:19).
 3. They prayed, but note that for which they prayed (Acts 4:29).

IV. Remember These Truths

- A. Our citizenship is in Heaven (Philippians 3:17-20).
- B. Obey God over man (Acts 5:29).
- C. Take courage in the truth that the Kingdom of God will never be overthrown (Daniel 2:44).

- Conclusion:
1. May we all conduct ourselves in such a way during this political season, as well as in any season, as to demonstrate our love and loyalty to the King of kings over any earthly ruler and value our heavenly citizenship over any earthly citizenship.