

Sermon Study Guide – June 21st, 2020

Today's Focus: "A Government for God's People"

1) Introductory thoughts to today's message...

- ◆ How did you think our government handled the situation with the Coronavirus? Do you agree with their decisions, perhaps especially as it related to our not gathering in church?
- ◆ What has God tasked our government to do? At what point do we *not* honor and/or obey our government?

2) Today's Message: Romans 13:1-7

13 Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. ² Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. ³ For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. ⁴ For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. ⁵ Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience. ⁶ This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. ⁷ Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.

3) What does God want you to know today?

Throughout the sermon, consider...

How does today's sermon show you your sin? (i.e. What's the law?)

How does today's sermon show your Savior? (i.e. What's the gospel?)

Law:

Gospel:

Answer the following questions to help you follow the sermon...

1. Fill in the blanks as we work through our sermon text:

⇒ The governing authorities that exist come from _____.

⇒ The governing authorities exist to _____.

⇒ Our government truly acts as God's servant when they are _____,

⇒ We owe our authorities _____.

2. When is the only time you can/should rebel against government?

3. How did Jesus keep this commandment in our place? Yet, what did he receive from the authorities for his perfect obedience?

4. Why did Jesus give us the 4th commandment? What are some ways that purpose may have been fulfilled through our obedience?

5. What do we/don't we mean when we say "we have a government for God's people"?

4) Taking it Home:

Read these sections of the Bible to reinforce this week's truths:

Monday: read/review 2 Kings 5:1-19

Thursday: 1 Peter 4:12-5:11

Tuesday: read/review Matthew 22:15-23:4

Friday: Acts 5

Wednesday: 1 Peter 2:11-25

Saturday: review Romans 13:1-7