

Romans # 23

Romans 13¹⁻⁷

God and government

Lord's day morning: 4 March 2007

Preacher: Geoff Findlay

Children's talk: That sword again

Introduction

In the world but not of the world

1. Origin of civil government

What if the government is evil?

Is democracy Biblical?

2. Obligations of civil government

What is the basis of civil law?

What is the scope of civil law?

What about capital punishment?

Is it Biblical?

Does it work?

What about taxes?

What is reasonable?

What if taxes are used for evil?

3. Obedience to civil government

Two reasons to obey

What if I don't get caught?

What if I can't get caught?

What about laws that can't be enforced?

4. Opposition to civil government

When is it legitimate to oppose the government?

What about the consequences?

Conclusion

Attitude matters



Questions answered



How does the principle "in the world but not of the world" relate to our text?



What is the origin of civil government?

Does this still apply if the government is evil?



Is democracy Biblical?



What are the basic obligations of civil government?



What is the basis of civil law?

What is the scope of civil law?



Is capital punishment Biblical?

Does it work?



Do we have a right or responsibility to withhold our taxes if they are used to fund evil?



What are the reasons the apostle gives us for why we should obey the government?

How does this relate to whether or not we get caught?



Is there any point in having laws which cannot be enforced? Why?



When is it legitimate to oppose or disobey the civil authorities?



What should be our attitude to any punishment that is imposed for such civil disobedience?



In what ways is a Christian different from a non-Christian?



Things to pray about



I exhort that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. (1 Tim 2¹⁻²)



Search the Scriptures



Were Nebuchadnezzar and Darius acting within Biblical principles in the decrees they made for the nations with respect to God (Daniel 3²⁹ and Daniel 6²⁵⁻²⁷)? How does this relate to the scope of civil law today?