

Civil disobedience 2

is it ever ok to disobey?

Revisit this issue because address some concerns about what I said- clarify a misunderstanding – or to verify that that was indeed what I said/meant

Quick review of 3 main points from last time

- What is Governments place, purpose and power? (Rom. 13)
 - o our responsibility to authority - honor, respect, taxes, prayer, seek peace/prosperity
 - What about bad government...unjust government? Our responsibility to bad government
 - If we are compelled to disobey, do we have to pay?
 - o If not submit to law, then do we have to submit to punishment?
 - o Noted biblical examples of civil disobedience
1. Are the police ministers of God? Rom. 13:1-4
 - a. Same word for “deacon” servant/minister
 - i. office in society like an office in the church officer in different realm
 - ii. I wonder if things would look different if that was common knowledge?
 2. God established all authority in society - 5th commandment
 - a. parents, teacher, boss, police, mayor, president
 3. Authorities are established by God and will answer to God for how they used their authority
 - a. Obama and Trump are polar opposites and very polarizing leaders – both placed there by God and both will answer to God what they have done
 - b. Daniel Webster was asked what was the most sobering thought that ever entered your mind? He quickly answered, “My personal accountability to God”.
 - c. Every minister (police or pastor) will answer to God for how they wielded the sword.
 - i. Heb. 13:17
 4. Our responsibility is to honor the authorities that God has placed over us
 - a. Authority in home - honor father and mother (must be taught from young age!)
 - i. authority in society – honor and respect them
 - b. Jesus advocated for the death penalty for those who would speak evil of parents
 - c. Much dishonor going on today
 - d. Swindol example of 2nd grade teacher goes back to work after 20 years - “good morning Mrs. Smith” to “shut up bitch” What happened in 20 yrs?
 - e. The child is insolent to the old (Isaiah 3) no honor for those in authority
 - f. Children running out in front of police car to pop fireworks - taunting authority
 - g. there is a generation who curses their fathers...Prov. 30:11-14
 - h. do not speak evil of the authority of your people Acts 23:2-5
 5. Go the extra mile in situations of police harassment
 - a. That is Jesus’ teaching about police harassment or uncomfortable government intrusion

Covid shutdown - member sent me a note about Rom. 13 and our duty to obey

\$1500 fine for meeting " what do we do if the police show up? - invite them in

Now - months later - California has decreed is against the law to sing in church

Drs and nurses being required to perform abortions or prescribe for gender dysphoria...thank the Lord that that rule was just altered

Obey God rather than men Acts 5:29 sometimes it is our duty to disobey

Title 7 SCOTUS ruling redefining "sex" from "male or female" to sexual orientation. Saying you cannot discriminate against transgender/LGBTQ in hiring and firing practices.

Our church will be in violation of title 7 in discriminating against immorality - gender rejection

If it is our conviction that it is my duty to disobey the government then I also must take the punishment. God has given them the power of the sword. We don't fight the authority

If I cannot submit to their laws then I must submit to their punishment

Jesus is the supreme example - He acknowledged Divine derived authority, submitted, not open mouth

Paul used his Roman citizenship to his advantage and to the advancement of the gospel

We have many privileges as American citizens. We have the right to peacefully assemble and to petition the government for redress of grievances (part of first amendment)

1. Peaceful assemblies to point out government abuses is NOT civil disobedience
 - a. That right is enshrined in our constitution and is lawful
2. Riots, looting, burning businesses, destruction of property is NOT civil disobedience
 - a. That is not civil. That is mayhem, anarchy, lawless and godless
3. Disobeying, arguing, resisting or fighting a police officer is NOT civil disobedience
 - a. That is not civil. It is: contempt, rebellion, insolence, brazen disrespect and abuse
4. Civil disobedience is a polite way to disobey unjust laws in favor of obeying a higher law
 - a. It must be civil
 - b. Respectfully disobey and then humbly and politely receive the punishment
 - c. 1 Peter 2:17-23 commend ourselves to God who judges justly
 - d. Blessed if punished for righteousness sake great reward rejoice
 - i. Matt. 5:10-12