

THE DOCTRINES OF OUR FAITH!

XVII. OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT

We believe that civil government is of divine appointment, for the interests and good order of human society, that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed; except only in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ; who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the coming Prince of the kings of the earth.

We believe that civil government is of divine appointment, II Samuel 23:3; "The God of Israel said, the rock of Israel spake to me, He that ruleth over men must be just ruling in the fear of God." Acts 23:5; "Then said Paul, I wist not brethren, that he was the high priest: for it is written, Thou shalt not speak evil of the ruler of thy people." Matthew 22:21; "They say unto Him, Caesar's. Then said He unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's."

For the interests and good order of human society; Exodus 18:21-22; "Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens: And let them judge the people at all seasons: and it shall be, that every great matter they shall bring unto thee, but every small matter they shall judge: so shall it be easier for thyself, and they shall bear the burden with thee." (So said Jethro to Moses) II Chronicles 19:4-10;

that magistrates are to be prayed for, I Timothy 2:1-2; "I exhort therefore, that first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty."

conscientiously honored and obeyed; Titus 3:1 "Put in mind to be subject to principalities (those who rule over a large area) and powers (those in authority), to obey magistrates (those empowered to administer the law), to be ready to every good work." Romans 13:7; "Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom: fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor." I Peter 2:13-15a; "Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well. For so is the will of God," I Peter 2:17; "Honor all men, Love the brotherhood, Fear God, Honor the king."

except only in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ; Acts 4:19-20; "But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to harken unto you more then unto God, judge ye. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard." Daniel 3:17-18; Matthew 10:28; "And fear not them

which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear Him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the coming Prince of the kings of the earth.

Matthew 23:10; "Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, even Christ."

Philippians 2:10-11; "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Psalm 72:11; "Yea, all kings shall fall down before Him: all nations shall serve Him."

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