

San Juan church of Christ

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What Does God's Word Say About . . . Should Christians Protest - Part 3

What is the best method for a Christian to “protest” our governing authorities or wickedness in social matters? We need to use the examples that we have in scripture to answer this question. Jesus told the disciples that they were to “stand before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them” (Mark 13:9). The apostle Paul spoke to a Roman governor named Felix about “a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked” (Acts 24:3, 15). But as Paul “was discussing righteousness, self-control and the judgment to come, Felix became frightened and said, ‘Go away for the present, and when I find time I will summon you’” (Acts 24:25). Paul also spoke with Roman governor Festus and King Agrippa and said, “I utter words of sober truth. He asked King Agrippa, ‘do you believe the prophets? I know that you do.’ Agrippa replied to Paul, ‘In a short time you will persuade me to become a Christian.’ And Paul said, ‘I would wish to God that, whether in a short or long time, not only you, but also all who hear me this day, might become such as I am’” (Acts 26:24-29).

John the Baptist had a message against societal ills of his day. To tax collectors he said, “Collect no more than what you have been ordered to” (Luke 3:12-13). To the Roman soldiers he said, “Do not take money from anyone by force, or accuse anyone falsely, and be content with your wages” (Luke 3:14). To King Herod he said, “It is not lawful [scripturally] for you to have your brother’s wife” (Mark 6:17-19). Jesus said, “among those born of woman there is no one greater than John” (Luke 7:28).

“Righteousness exalts a nation but sin is a reproach [disgrace] to any people” (Prov. 13:24). Christians who are baptized into Christ (Gal. 3:27) reign with Christ today (Romans 5:17; 1 Cor. 4:8; Rev. 5:10, 20:6, 22:5). We are “A chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, so that you may proclaim [preach the good news to the wicked] the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light” (1 Pet. 2:9).

Christians are to be the “salt and light” of the world (Matt. 5:13-16). The way Christians reign with Christ is to proclaim the gospel to a wicked world one soul at a time and this is the only way, according to scriptural example, we are to heal societal ills.

Send comments, questions, or requests for a Bible study to:

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