

San Juan church of Christ

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What Does God's Word Say About...

Serving God and Government

As citizens of the United States we have the privilege and freedom to vote for the men or women who rule over us. In America, we as Christians, are still able to influence our government with Biblical values and priorities. The Christian's role in the nation in which he is a citizen should be "let your light so shine before men that they might see your good works and glorify God who is in heaven" (Matthew 5:16). If any government is to survive it will be because "righteousness exalts a nation" (Proverbs 14:34). When a Christian stays silent by not voting for a candidate who agrees with the principle values of God's word, they are allowing evil rulers to bring God's condemnation on that nation. "But sin is a disgrace to any people," (Proverbs 14:34).

God knew that men would not adhere to His moral laws so He gave governments authority to rule over them, "For rulers are not a fear for good behavior, but for evil. Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do what is good and you will have praise from the same; for it [ordained government] is a minister of God to you for good. But if you do what is evil, be afraid; for it [ordained government] does not bear the sword [instrument of death] for nothing; for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil," (Romans 13:3-4). God is in control of every government and the affairs of all mankind. "At one moment I might speak concerning a nation or concerning a kingdom to uproot, pull down, or to destroy it; if that nation against which I have spoken turns from its evil, I will relent concerning the calamity I plan to bring on it or at another moment I might speak concerning a nation or concerning a kingdom to build up or to plant it; if it does evil in My sight by not obeying My voice, then I will think better of the good with which I had promised to bless it," (Jeremiah 18:7-10).

Christians should participate in our government with the freedom we have to vote for the candidates who stand closest to the principle values of God's word. In making our choices, will we accept man's perverted concepts of right or wrong, or adhere to the Lord's will? As Christians we should not lose heart and feel defeated by any corruption or injustice that we see in our nation. Remember, our hope is not in government, but in heaven. We should be busy following the Lord's command to reach all lost souls, including government officials (Mark 16:15).

Please send any comments, questions, or requests for a Bible study to:
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