

“RETURN TO GOD’S WORD, WILL AND WAY IN THE GOVERNMENT”

GENESIS 9:1-6; ROMANS 13:1-7; 1 PETER 2:13,14

INTRO: Last week we studied the significance of the FIRST INSTITUTION of God, the FAMILY, **RETURNING BACK TO HIM**. Today, we will study the significance of God’s SECOND INSTITUTION, the CIVIL GOVERNMENT, **RETURNING BACK TO HIM**. And may it be noted, as in the FAMILY, if GOVERNMENT is to turn back to God, **it will only begin when GOD’S PEOPLE ORDER CIVIL GOVERNMENT TO ADHERE TO BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES IN UNDERSTANDING AND PRACTICE ACCORDING TO HIS WILL**. Today, let’s consider God’s Institution of **CIVIL GOVERNMENT** as taught in the WORD OF GOD.

NOTE: In America, we are blessed with the reality that **OUR GOVERNMENT WAS ESTABLISHED ON BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES BY PEOPLE WHO HAD A RESPECT FOR GOD AND HIS WORD!** **THE PROBLEM TODAY IS** that so many in recent generations of Americans, **have chosen to neglect the biblical foundation of our American government and are taking it down a road of ANTI-GOD SECULARISM**. (The Democrat Party removing God from its platform).

GOD’S THREE INSTITUTIONS

- 1) THE HOME: **GOD’S FOUNDATIONAL INSTITUTION FOR THE FUNCTION AND STRENGTH OF SOCIETY – GENESIS 1:26; 2:16-25; EPHESIANS 5:22-6:1**
- 2) THE CIVIL GOVERNMENT: **GOD’S FOUNDATIONAL INSTITUTION FOR CIVIL AUTHORITY – GENESIS 9:1-6; ROMANS 13:1-7; 1 PETER 2:13,14**
- 3) THE CHURCH: **GOD’S FOUNDATIONAL INSTITUTION FOR WISDOM AND TRUTH FOR SOCIETY – EPHESIANS 3:1-21; 1 TIMOTHY 3:15**

AN OBSERVATION

WHEN GOD’S INSTITUTIONS RETURN TO HIM AND FUNCTION BIBLICALLY, SOCIETY WILL RESPOND IN A BENEFICIAL WAY.

I. GOVERNMENT AND THE WORD OF GOD - GENESIS 9:6; ROMANS 13:1

NOTE: **GOD’S WORD, NOT SECULAR CULTURE, LAYS THE FOUNDATION FOR CIVIL GOVERNMENT.**

A. The Definition of Civil Government

CIVIL GOVERNMENT IS THE INSTITUTION OF GOD DESIGNED TO ADMINISTER HIS JUSTICE BY PROMOTING GOOD AND PUNISHING EVIL WITH THE GOAL OF SECURING PEACE AMONG HUMANITY THROUGH BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE.

B. The Duty of Civil Government

1. According to Genesis 9:6 – God gave Noah, the Governor of the world at that time, the highest exercise of Civil Government, **CAPITAL PUNISHMENT**, to deter the highest act of human evil one to another – **MURDER**.

2. According to Romans 13:1-3 – God established and ordered Civil Government to maintain **BIBLICAL TRUTH** on earth by **PUNISHING EVIL and PRAISING GOOD**.

II. GOVERNMENT AND THE WILL OF GOD – ROMANS 13:3,4

NOTE: **GOD’S WILL IS THAT CIVIL GOVERNMENT BE LED BY HUMAN MINISTERS.** The word for “MINISTER” in verse 4 is “DIAKONEO” from which we get the word “DEACON.” The word means: **“TO BE AN ATTENDANT, TO WAIT UPON OTHERS, TO SERVE.”** **GOD PUTS PEOPLE IN GOVERNMENT TO SERVE HIM BY SERVING SOCIETY IN PROMOTING GOOD AND PUNISHING EVIL.**

A. The People of Government from God’s Perspective

1. The Established Citizens – Preamble of the U. S. Constitution emphasizes **“WE THE PEOPLE.”**
2. The Elected Citizens – From the highest to the lowest level.

B. The Practice of Government from God’s Perspective

1. For every piece of legislation in Government to reflect **BIBLICAL TRUTH**.
2. For every person in Government to know **BIBLICAL TRUTH**.

HOW IS THIS TO BE DONE?

- By raising up godly people to serve in Government
- By communicating Biblical Truth to those in Government
- By encouraging Biblical Truth to be practiced in Government
- By participating on a personal level in Government

III. GOVERNMENT AND THE WAY OF GOD – ROMANS 13:6

NOTE: **GOD ORDAINED CIVIL GOVERNMENT TO DO HIS WORK, HIS WAY, IN CIVIL AUTHORITY.** The word for “MINISTERS” in verse 6 is “LEIT-OUR-GOS” from which we get the word “LITURGY.” The word means: **“TO FUNCTION AS A SERVANT IN THE TEMPLE OR THE GOSPEL IN LEADING WORSHIP.”**

QUESTION: **HOW DOES THIS APPLY TO THE FUNCTION OF GOVERNMENT?**

ANSWER: **AS SERVANTS OF GOD, THOSE IN GOVERNMENT ARE TO ENACT AND PRACTICE POLICIES THAT REFLECT AND HONOR GOD IN PRINCIPAL AND ORDER.**

A. People in Government must know **BIBLICAL TRUTH.**

B. People in Government must advance **BIBLICAL TRUTH.**

A MAJOR PROBLEM: **MANY IN GOVERNMENT REJECT GOD RATHER THAN RESPECT GOD!**

THE SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM LIES ON THE SHOULDERS OF CHRISTIANS:

- 1) Christians must communicate biblical truth to Government Officials
- 2) Christians must promote biblical truth on Every Issue
- 3) Christians must pray for those in Government on a Regular Basis
- 4) Christians must get involved in Government to Represent God’s Purposes

LESSON/APPLICATION

To turn CIVIL GOVERNMENT BACK TO GOD, Christians **MUST** get involved in the GOD’S PROGRAM OF GOVERNMENT. **NEGLECTING GOVERNMENT IS NEGLECTING GOD’S PLAN AND NEGLECTING GOD’S WILL...THAT IS SIN!**