

## What Does the Bible Have to Say about...Government?

Here is a brief study that will help you prepare for our Fall 2020 series. If you have questions come up that you can't answer, just text the word "Question" to 308-252-3273 and follow the prompts. We'll respond during our Tuesday Q&A.

**Read Deuteronomy 17:14-20**, then respond to the following questions:

- What reason is given for WHY the people will want a king?
- Make a list of the things that God says a king should be, should do, and should not do.
- Why did God tell Moses what was going to happen?
- What is the point behind all of these rules and regulations?

**Read 1 Samuel 8**, then respond to the following questions:

- Why did the people want a king?
- Who were the people REALLY rejecting when they asked for a king? Why?
- Compare/contrast verses 11-17 with Deuteronomy 17:14-20.
- Why would God give in to the people like this?

**Read 1 Samuel 24 and 26**, then respond to the following questions:

- Why did David not kill "the LORD's anointed"?
- What does this tell us about those in authority over us?
- List some examples of authority over you. Do you view them as the "LORD's anointed"? Why or why not?

**Read Matthew 22:15-22**, then respond to the following questions:

- The Pharisees were a group of Jews who were nationalistic and hated the Roman Empire and its rule over Israel. The Herodians were a group of Jews who supported the Roman rule of the Herods. Knowing this, why would the Pharisees and Herodians join forces?
- Why did Jesus respond in the way he did?
- What was Jesus trying to communicate about government in his response?

**Read Acts 4 and 5**, then respond to the following questions:

- According to chapter 4, verse 19, the apostles are not following the governing authority. What is the reason given?
- According to chapter 5, verse 29, the apostles are not following the governing authority. What is the reason given?
- How were the situations in these 2 chapters similar?
- Was it right or wrong for the apostles to do what they did? Why?

**Some additional points to ponder:**

- Were the governing authorities in power then proper and just? Are our governing authorities NOW proper and just? How would we know?
- If ALL authority that exists has been "established by God", shouldn't we always obey it? Why? Why not?