



Being A Christ-Like Citizen

Pray for Our Elected Officials

1 Tim 2:1 Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, **2** for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. **3** For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, **4** who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

If We Are To Pray Are We To Also Act? What Could I Do To Effect An Election Or Influence My Elected Officials?



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What kind of relationship is a Christian to have with government?

John 19:10 Then Pilate said to Him, "Are You not speaking to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?" **11** Jesus answered, "You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from above. Therefore the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin."

1 Pet 2:13 Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, whether to the king as supreme, **14** or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do good. **15** For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men; **16** as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as bondservants of God. **17** Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.



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Government is God's Minister for good

Rom 13:1 Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. **2** Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. **3** For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. **4** For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil. **5** Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake. **6** For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing. **7** Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.



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Limitations Placed on Rulers

Deut 17:16 "But he shall not multiply horses for himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt to multiply horses, for the LORD has said to you, 'You shall not return that way again.' **17** "Neither shall he multiply wives for himself, lest his heart turn away; nor shall he greatly multiply silver and gold for himself. **18** "Also it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write for himself a copy of this law in a book, from the one before the priests, the Levites. **19** "And it shall be with him, and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God and be careful to observe all the words of this law and these statutes, **20** "that his heart may not be lifted above his brethren, that he may not turn aside from the commandment to the right hand or to the left, and that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he and his children in the midst of Israel.



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Examine God's standards for His highest offices

1 Tim 3:1 This is a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work. **2** A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach; **3** not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous; **4** one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence **5** (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?); **6** not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil. **7** Moreover he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil. **8** Likewise deacons must be reverent, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy for money, **9** holding the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience. **10** But let these also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons, being found blameless. **11** Likewise their wives must be reverent, not slanderers, temperate, faithful in all things. **12** Let deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.



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There Must be some standard that should be applied to determine if a candidate is worthy of my support and or vote. What is it?

- 1. View on crime and punishment / death penalty**
- 2. View on protecting innocent life / Abortion**
- 3. View on taxes and deficit spending**
- 4. View on separation of church and state**
- 5. View on morality issues**
- 6. Integrity of personal / family life**
- 7. View on God and the bible**
- 8. View on give away programs-foreign and domestic**



Being A Christ-Like Citizen

As Good Stewards of the freedom we have been given, Christians have a duty to exercise their responsibility as citizens.

The book of Acts shows that it was the Christians who were the best citizens in the empire.

What kind of story will history tell of us?

Mat 5:13 "You are the salt of the earth; ... ***14*** "You are the light of the world.
... ***16*** "Let your light so shine before men, ...