



THE HEIGHTS FELLOWSHIP

THIS WEEK AT THF

- ▶ **TUESDAY**
THF College - Worship & Small Groups
7:00pm-9:00pm
- ▶ **WEDNESDAY**
THF Students - Worship & Small Groups
7:00pm-8:30pm ~ Doors open at 6:30pm
- ▶ **THURSDAY**
THF Men - Bible Study & Fellowship
6:30am-7:30am

UPCOMING AT THF

- ▶ **NOVEMBER 15-17**
MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT - Visit our Student Ministry page online to sign up.
- ▶ **NOVEMBER 24**
LORD'S SUPPER
- ▶ **NOVEMBER 28**
OFFICE CLOSED

October 6, 2024

Please continue to check all of our social media outlets and our website for updates to weekly activities and Sunday Services.
www.theheightsfellowship.org

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

September 29, 2024

BUDGET GIVING: \$10,726.25
BUDGET NEEDS: \$18,919.00

YEAR TO DATE

BUDGET GIVING: \$732,503.01
BUDGET NEEDS: \$735,139.00

DECISION

The good influence of godly citizens causes a city to prosper, but the moral decay of the wicked drives it downhill.

Proverbs 11:11 tlb



Romans 13:1-7 and 1 Peter 2:13-17 are HARD truth!

They are **'BIG BOY THEOLOGY'**

If you want to know how mature you are in your discipleship, ask:

"How do I receive and live out these two difficult passages?"

The Teaching Concerning 'CITIZENSHIP' to Earthly kingdoms is CONSISTENT...

Let every person **be in subjection** to the governing authorities... - Paul (Rom 13)

Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether to a king as the one in authority, or to governors... - Peter (1 Peter 2)

Then He said to them, "Then render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's; and to God the things that are God's..." - Jesus (Matt 22)

The Holy Spirit to both Paul (Rom 13) and Peter (1 Peter 2) uses the same word (**hupotasso**) for this act of 'believership' without regard for:

Time or Economy

Style of Government or Geography

- Hupotasso does not make 'man' **GOD**
- Hupotasso simply gives earthly rulers **AUTHORITY** (and **RESPONSIBILITY**) under God
- Hupotasso does not mean Christians **STAY SILENT**

The idea of **hupotasso** is to 'work within' (whatever) the system to:

Maximize the **TESTIMONY** of God

FURTHER the Kingdom of God

Improve the **SOCIAL CLIMATE** so it REFLECTS God

The **FOCUS** is not politics or economics or culture (these are all man-made constructs). The focus is **FAITH-BASED CIVICS!**

Faith-Based Civics Romans 13; 1 Peter 2

① Government is **ESTABLISHED** by God...not man! Rom 13:1

We are to **PRAY** 1 Timothy 2:1-3

We are to **OBEY** 1 Peter 2:13-14

② When we rebel against government, we are rebelling against **GOD**

"Consequently, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted..." v2

③ When we resist God, we swim in **CONDEMNATION**

"...and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves." v2

④ God put government there to **DETER** evil

For rulers are not a cause of 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. v3

⑤ Government is established for the **COMMON GOOD**

...for it is a minister of God to you for good. v4

⑥ Government possesses the **SWORD** for a reason

...for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath upon the one who practices evil. v4

⑦ When you do it God's way, you get a **CLEAR CONSCIENCE**

...it is necessary to be in subjection, not only because of

Is There Ever a Time When It's Okay to Disobey?

→ If a law/policy commands what God **FORBIDS** Daniel 3:9-18; Exodus 1:15-20

→ If a law/policy forbids what God **COMMANDS** Acts 4:13-19; 5:27-29

→ If a law/policy clearly violates **NATURAL MORAL LAW OR CONVICTION**
ABOUT GOD'S WILL Daniel 6:6-10; Romans 1:19-20

THF LIFE Notes

10-6-24

1. Biblical teaching on *submission* is consistent across multiple texts. How does the biblical teaching on *submission* compare and contrast to your personal perspective of *submission*? How does this apply to government? Discuss with your group.
2. “When we rebel against government, we rebel against God.” Discuss this statement with your group. What are the consequences of rebelling against God?
3. Use scriptural examples and discuss the Biblical, prescribed methods of punishment. How have we as a country altered these methods of punishment? How have we kept them the same? What effect has this had on our culture?
4. Discuss with your group the three reasons Mike gave for disobedience being okay. How have we distorted these in the United States?