

Politics & Presidents

Election Day Truth for Troubled Christ-Followers

Lesson One • Mark 12:13-17

Worshiping God Before Election Day

Election Day Truth for Troubled Christ-Followers

No matter what you're troubled by, we can REST in the certainty of God's Word before, on, and after the election.

2,000 Year Old Question

Should Christ-followers OBEY the government?

*"Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."
~Jesus, Mark 12:17*

Jesus On Government and God

1. The Trap Is SET for Jesus!

*Then they sent to Him some of the Pharisees and the Herodians, to catch Him in His words.
Mark 12:13*

The Attempted Trap

- Jesus' opponents used truthful FLATTERY to entice Him.

*When they had come, they said to Him, "Teacher, we know that You are true, and care about no one; for You do not regard the person of men, but teach the way of God in truth."
Mark 12:14*

- Jesus' opponents used a deceptive QUESTION to entrap Him.

*Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not? Shall we pay, or shall we not pay?"
Mark 12:14-15*

2. The Trap Is EXPOSED by Jesus!

But He knowing their hypocrisy, said to them, "Why do you test Me?" Mark 13:15

*"Bring Me a denarius that I may see it." So they brought it. And He said to them, "Whose image and inscription is this?" And they said to Him, "Caesar's." Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." And they marveled at Him.
Mark 12:15-17*



The Astonishing Escape

- Jesus resisted political SIMPLICITY with His question.
- Jesus refused political SUPREMACY with His answer.

Jesus' Election Day Truth for Troubled Christ-Followers

OBEY the government as long as you can and WORSHIP God as long as you live.

Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience. This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor. Romans 13:1-7 NIV

*But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men."
Acts 5:29 ESV*

*For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be glory forever. Amen.
Romans 11:36 ESV*

Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. 1Peter 2:13-14 NIV