

Sermon Notes

"Submitting to God through Civil Disobedience"

Various Texts

August 30, 2020

6. Study the civil disobedience in Daniel 6, and consider the related biblical examples/principles mentioned (Psalm 55:16-17; 2 Chronicles, 6:24-25, 36-39) and relevant commands (Exodus 20:3-5). How do you view this example? Is this something that everyone should universally have responded in the same way, or do you view this as an individual decision based on personal convictions/conscience? Why do you say that?

Let's Pray:

Growth Group Homework

For the week of 08-30-20

Questions adapted from Karen Lee-Thorp, ed., Life Change Series: Romans, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1987, p. 173-178; James Galvin, ed., et al., New Testament Lesson Maker, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1992, pp. 235-36.

Getting Started:

1. What was the most fearful experience with government authorities you've ever had?

Digging Deeper:

2. John Piper writes "It is right to resist what God has appointed in order to obey what God has commanded." How do the following examples illustrate the principle of resisting government when it commands what God forbids or forbids what God commands?

Acts 4:18-21; 5:27-29

Daniel 3:9-30

3. What clear commands of Scripture come to your mind as being contradicted by governmental laws today (either within or outside the U.S.)?

4. Who in our culture might be considered the vulnerable, the oppressed, or those without a voice who you believe are subject to unjust laws or judgements? Why did you select who you did?

5. Some would suggest that since all the prior examples (except the first) were from the Old Testament, that perhaps a new code of conduct was implemented and we are to be compliant with all governing authorities now. Yet the following scenes from the life of Jesus would all have been considered civil disobedience at the time. What do you observe from these examples from the life of Jesus?

Sabbath Day activities (Matthew 12:1-14; Mark 2:23-3:6; Luke 6:1-11)

Two cleansings of the temple (Matthew 21:12-13; Mark 11:15-18; John 2:13-22)

Ceremonial hand washing controversy (Matthew 15:1-20; Mark 7:1-23)