

## *The Message Notes*

**Series:** Human History - Biblical Perspective

**Message:** *Godly Authority II*

**Text:** Romans 13:1-2

Pastor Keith (December 12, 2021)



**Command:** Everyone **must submit** to governing authorities.

**Why:** For **all authority** comes from God, and those in **positions of authority** have been **placed** there by God. So, anyone who **rebels** against **authority** is **rebellng** against what God has **instituted** and they will be **punished**.

**Objective:** to understand how we honor God's authority by submitting to imperfect authorities led by fallen humanity.

**PT2.** Establishing nations, civil laws, and governments

a) **Nations** are instituted by God

God **instituted** nations and created various **ethnic groups** when He **divided up** humanity by **languages** and assigned land for their **habitation**, Matthew 25:31-46, Genesis 11:7-8, Deuteronomy 32:8

b) **Civil laws** were instituted by God

God authorized men to **institute civil laws** after the flood to **protect** the **lawful** and **punish** the **unlawful**, Genesis 9:6.

c) **Governments** are instituted by men

"God instituted **nations** and men make **governments**."

"Government is the **third dispensation** of human history after **innocence** and **conscience**."

"Government is the **system of social control** under which the **right to make laws**, and the **right to enforce** them, is **invested** in an individual or a group of people (political parties)."

- **God – Right** (authority) is **Might** (power)
- **Man – Might** (power) is **Right** (authority)

**God places individuals in authority:** God places individuals in positions of authority **directly** or allows individuals to be placed **indirectly** in the positions of authority by the people.

**v1b.** For **all authority** comes from God, and those in **positions of authority** have been placed there by God, 1 Samuel 8:7-9, 11-21

## **America – Government and Politics**

### **American Government:**

1. **Declaration** of Independence established the **nation**
2. **Constitution** established the **government**

“The **Declaration of Independence**, which comes from God, is the **source of authority** for the **birth** of our **nation**: We hold these truths to be **self-evident**, **God** created all men **equal** and **endowed** them with the **inalienable** rights of **life**, **liberty**, and the pursuit of **happiness**.”

**Source of authority:** Our **government’s** authority comes from the **constitution**. The authority of our constitution comes from the **nation**. The authority of the nation comes from the **Declaration of Independence**. The authority of the Declaration of Independence comes from **God**.

### **American Politics**

1. **Possessing** power and **staying** in power is the **goal** of political parties, not **good** government.

2. **Political** power - a political party’s ability to **influence** the **beliefs**, **actions**, and **conducts** of people, so they can gain their support to obtain the **power** to govern.

3. One world government - all governments will eventually come under **one leader**, **one system**, and **one commerce**, Revelation 13:16, 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4, 9-12.

4. Christ followers’ involvement in politics

a) Purpose

- Not in it to win it (political party)
- In it to influence it (for Christ)

b) Choice of a political leader – Exodus 18:21

- Capable
- Honest
- Fear God
- Hate bribes

c) Vote by **policy** and **priorities** - Romans 14