



God and Government

Lesson 3: Does God Really Say *That*?

LESSONS 1 & 2 REVIEW

1. Why is this statement from the First Amendment of the Constitution a blessing to Christians in America: "*Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof...*"
2. What is God's goal for government, and how is it different from his goal for his Church?
3. How did Jesus model for us the obedience Christians will show to their governments?

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Lesson 1: Is America a Christian Nation?

Lesson 2: Do We Really Need Government?

Lesson 3: Does God Really Say the Government Can Do *That*?

Lesson 4: What Does It Mean to Be a Christian American?

Lesson 5: One Hot-Button Issue: What about Immigration?

Lesson 6: How Do I Decide Whom to Vote For?

DOES GOD REALLY SAY THE GOVERNMENT CAN ... TAX US?

Read Matthew 22:15-22

4. What very reasonable excuses could Jesus have given to NOT pay taxes to Caesar?



Read Romans 13:6-7

5. List two reasons why we happily pay taxes.
6. If the government unjustly begins to demand taxes from religious organizations like our church, we will...

DOES GOD REALLY SAY THE GOVERNMENT CAN ... EXECUTE PEOPLE?

Read Romans 13:4 and Genesis 9:6

7. Agree or Disagree: God wants governments to punish people.
8. Why do many Americans—including Christians—condemn the death penalty? Are their reasons valid?
9. Who was Anders Breivik? Use his example to explain why God *does* give the government the right to execute people.

DOES GOD REALLY SAY THE GOVERNMENT CAN ... FIGHT WARS?

Read Luke 3:12-14 and Luke 7:1-10 or Acts 10:1-8 (and following)

10. What encouragements would these passages give to a Christian soldier?



11. Based on what we've studied about government, why does it make sense that governments would have the right to fight wars.

12. When might it be a sin for a Christian not to fight in a war? When might it be a sin for a Christian to fight in a war? How do you decide?

DOES GOD REALLY SAY THE GOVERNMENT CAN ... OPERATE WELFARE?

Read James 1:27 and Jeremiah 22:15-16

13. Agree or Disagree: God is pleased when governments provide food and healthcare for those who can't afford it.

14. What moral decisions might a government be tempted to make when it enters into the realm of healthcare?

DOES GOD REALLY SAY THE GOVERNMENT CAN ... EDUCATE CHILDREN?

Read Ephesians 6:1-4

15. Why does God give Christian parents the responsibility to educate their children?

16. Evaluate: "Because there is no religion, a public school is a neutral place for children to receive an education."



17. Why isn't prayer in public schools the answer to the problem of secular education?

SUMMARY: GOD REALLY SAYS THE GOVERNMENT CAN...

