



# God and Government

## Lesson 4: Being Christian and American

---

### OPENING DEVOTION—PSALM 46

### REVIEW

1. Our mission presentation last Sunday talked about undercover churches, Christian schools, and mission workers in Asia. Isn't all that sinful?
2. Evaluate: Since billions of federal tax dollars have funded abortions, Christians have a right not to pay taxes.
3. Governments have the right to wage war (Luke 3:14; Romans 13:4).
  - a. When might it be a sin for a Christian not to fight in a war?
  - b. When might it be a sin for a Christian to fight in a war?
  - c. If the situation is unclear, the benefit of the doubt goes to...
4. SUMMARY: What is the role(s) God has given to:...

**Government:**

**Church:**

#### God and Government

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?



## **SO WHOSE RESPONSIBILITY IS HEALTHCARE/WELFARE AND EDUCATION?**

**Read James 1:27 and Jeremiah 22:15-16 and Acts 2:42-47.**

5. Why is the hospital in Mankato called "ISJ"?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. In what ways is it good that private companies and the government have taken over healthcare and welfare in the U.S.?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. What moral decisions, however, are involved? What dangers might there be to have healthcare and welfare in the hands of the government?

**Read Ephesians 6:1-4 and Proverbs 9:10.**

8. In God's eyes, what is "education"? Why does God give Christian parents the responsibility to educate their children?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. Evaluate: Because God is not to be mentioned, a public school is a neutral place for children to receive an education.

## **WHEN THE GOVERNMENT STEPS INTO THE CHURCH'S TERRITORY, CAN CHRISTIANS REBEL?**

**Read Romans 13:1-5 and 1 Samuel 24.**

10. Will a Christian ever join an armed rebellion against his government?



11. List biblical examples of believers who resisted government.

## **SO WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A CHRISTIAN AMERICAN?**

**Read 1 Timothy 2:1-4 and Matthew 5:38-45 and 1 Peter 2:11-17.**

12. Describe God's idea of a model U.S. citizen. What attitudes and priorities does he highlight?

13. Evaluate: If I follow live my life as a Christian, I will seem weak in the eyes of others, and it will be easy for them to take advantage of me.

*<sup>13</sup> All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. And they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth. <sup>14</sup> People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. <sup>15</sup> If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup> Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.  
(Hebrews 11:13-16)*

