

WEDNESDAY SERMON

Willow, Alaska

Date: October 16, 2019

Scripture Reading: Romans 13:1-7

Text: Multiple

Subject: CONFESSION OF FAITH SERIES – Civil

Government: Ordained of God – No. 49 & 50

49. Civil Government: Ordained of God*

All civil government is ordained of God. It is set up by Him for the punishment of evil doers and for the praise of them that do well. In all lawful things commanded by them, we ought to be subject, not only for wrath, but for conscience sake. We are to make supplications and prayers for kings and all that are in authority, that under them we may live a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

Gen 9:4-6; Ro.13:1-7; 1Pe.2:13, 14; 1Ti.2:1-3.

*Formerly Article 48, 50 of 1644 COF

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Genesis 9:4-6 (KJV) *But flesh with the life thereof, which is the blood thereof, shall ye not eat. 5 And surely your blood of your lives will I require; at the hand of every beast will I require it, and at the hand of man; at the hand of every man's brother will I require the life of man. 6 Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.*

This scripture is not presently indicated in our COF, however, I believe it is the basic statement of the Lord God for establishment of civil government. The phrase "Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed:" demands civil government of some kind. We are not told what type of government we must have, but there must some form of government. It could be a king, a prince, a governor, a democracy, or a republic – but some kind of government.

Romans 13:1-7 (KJV) *Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. 2 Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. 3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: 4 For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. 5 Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. 6 For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. 7 Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.*

1 Peter 2:13-17 (KJV) *Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; 14 Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well. 15 For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men: 16 As free, and not using your liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God. 17 Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.*

- **We are to make supplications and prayers for kings and all that are in authority, that under them we may live a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.**

1 Timothy 2:1-3 (KJV) *I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; 2 For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. 3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;*

50. Civil Government: Ordained of God*

If civil government does not favor us in the practice of our faith we must continue in obedience to Christ. We are to witness to the truth of the Old and New Testaments unto the death, if necessity require, in the midst of all trials and afflictions, as His saints of old have done. In so doing we count not our goods, lands, wives, children, fathers, mothers, brethren, sisters, and our own lives dear unto us, so finishing our course with joy. *Ac.2.23, 24, 4:19, 5:28, 29, Phl.1:28, 29; Dan.3:16, 17, 6:7, 10, 22, 23; 2Ti.4:6-8.*

**Formerly Article 49, 51 of 1644 COF*

Our Baptist forefathers, those who framed the 1644 and 1646 London Baptist Confessions wrote this pertaining to this article:

“XLIX. But in case we find not the magistrate [or governing authority] to favor us herein; yet we dare not suspend our practice, because we believe we ought to go in obedience to

Christ, in professing the faith which was once delivered to the saints, which faith is declared in the holy Scriptures, and this our confession of faith a part of them, and that we are to witness to the truth of the Old and New Testaments unto the death, if necessity require, in the midst of all trials and afflictions, as His saints of old have done; not accounting our goods, lands, wives, children, fathers, mothers, brethren, sisters; yea and our own lives dear unto us, so we may finish our course with joy; remembering always, that we ought to obey God rather than men, who will when we have finished our course, and kept the faith, give us the crown of righteousness; to whom we must give an account of all our actions, and no man being able to discharge us of the same.”
(1646 London Baptist Confession)

Acts 4:19 (KJV) *But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye.*

Acts 5:28-29 (KJV) *Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us. 29 Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.*

Philippians 1:28-29 (KJV) *And in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God. 29 For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;*

Daniel 3:16-19 (KJV) *Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer*

thee in this matter. **17** If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. **18** But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up. **19** Then was Nebuchadnezzar full of fury, and the form of his visage was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego: therefore he spake, and commanded that they should heat the furnace one seven times more than it was wont to be heated.

- **Part of our judgment will be for how we submitted to the powers that be. Remember, "For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. 2 Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation."**

Daniel 7:10 (KJV) A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.

Daniel 7:21-23 (KJV) I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; **22** Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom. **23** Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces.

2 Timothy 4:6-8 (KJV) For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. **7** I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: **8** Henceforth there is laid up for me a

crowns of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.