

Notes and questions for God and Government #2 - God versus Government

There has always been a gap between what the church and the gospel advocate, and what civil government is prone to enact.

It is impossible to insure that the thoughts of government officials will always line up with biblical mandates and principles.

So what do we do when the government we are to be 'subject to' takes actions with which we disagree?

What do we do when we are asked, or ordered to do something we believe to be contrary to God's laws?

What about areas of policy that don't seem to have a spiritual principle or mandate?

Use the following questions to explore this topic:

1. Share stories of conflicts with civil government actions or regulations.
2. Was there a time when you felt compelled to 'defy' a government 'law' because of your faith?
3. How do you reconcile your action with Rom 13:1–2?
4. What is the role of conscience in our decisions in this area?
5. What steps would you take to strengthen and inform your 'conscience.'?
6. If you find yourself in opposition to government, what are some right ways, and wrong ways to take action?
7. Read I Peter 2:13-17 - identify the 'verbs' that indicate our actions in a proper relationship with government.