

“BIBLICALLY, WHEN CAN YOU DISOBEY YOUR GOVERNMENT?” (Part 2)

VII. GOD’S RIGHTEOUSNESS REVEALED THRU THE CHURCH (12:1-16:23)

A. The Christian’s Responsibility to Obey Governing Authorities (13:1-7)

1. Civil governments have been invested by God with the _____ to rule the state, and as Christians, we are to _____. (Rom. 13:1-7; 1 Peter 2:11-17)
2. As believers we are to always obey human government, _____ when government over-reaches, and _____ us to do what God commands or even _____ us to do what God forbids.

B. You are to obey God rather than man when you are asked to eat or drink something that would either defile you or potentially ruin your public testimony. (Daniel 1:8-21)

1. Daniel and his fellow Judeans did allow their _____ to advance in Babylonian studies (vv. 3-4), and their _____ to be changed (vv. 6-7) because it did not violate the Mosaic Law.
2. When it came to eating food that was non-kosher and most likely offered to pagan gods, this would violate the Law (Lev. 11); and Daniel made a determined _____ to not _____ his principles and faithfulness to God. (1:8a)
3. The way Daniel handled this difficult situation reveals not only a godly _____ in wanting to do what was right, but also sound _____ and common sense that impressed those in authority. (1:8b)
4. God was working in the situation (vv. 9, 17), but Daniel was also very _____ in offering an _____ to those in authority (vv. 10-14) and it worked (vv. 15-21).

C. You are to obey God rather than man when you are asked to worship anyone or anything other than the Lord your God. (Daniel 3:1-30)

1. The king of the land had made a huge golden statue (most likely of himself), and demanded that all “*peoples, nations, and languages*” _____ the image. (vv. 1-5) or be _____ alive (vv. 6-7).
2. There were no creative alternatives to offer (like back in chapter 1), it was either compromise and _____, or stand on the revealed will of God, and most _____ !

* Does a trial like that have a way of revealing what is really important to you?

3. All three of these young men unanimously, courageously agreed to _____ together against the ordinance and _____ together in order to obey the Lord their God. (vv. 8-13)
4. They told the enraged king that they fully _____ that their God was capable of delivering them if He so chose, but even if He chose not to, they would _____ bow the knee to that idol. (vv. 14-18)
5. After their public _____ miraculously _____ (vv. 19-27), the king proclaimed a decree that no one could say anything negative about the God of the Jews (vv. 28-30).

* If and when you find yourself in a position where it would be much easier to compromise, and be more concerned about self-preservation, are you going to obey the Lord Jesus?