

1 Peter Series

Lesson #067

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Dean Bible Ministries

[www.deanbibleministries.org](http://www.deanbibleministries.org)

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**OF CABBAGES, KINGS,  
AND NATIONS**

**1 PETER 2:13–17**



**1<sup>ST</sup> PETER**

**LIVING IN LIGHT  
OF ETERNITY**



## **The Believer's Responsibility**

**1 Pet. 2:13, “Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord’s sake, whether to the king as supreme,”**



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ὑποτάσσω *hupotassō*  
pres mid impera 3  
sing  
“to subject; to  
submit”



**Rom. 13:1, “Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and these authorities [literally, “those”] that exist are appointed by God.”**

**ὑποτάσσω *hupotassō***

**pres mid impera 3**

**sing**

**“to subject; to submit”**

**ἐξουσία *exousia***

**Noun nom fem sing**

**“authority, power; tribunate”**



**Rom. 13:1, “Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and these *authorities* that exist are appointed by God.”**

**ὑπερέχω**  
***hyperechō***

**pres act part fem  
plur dat**

**“to excel, exceed,  
be better than;  
used for ‘higher’  
or ‘superior’  
authorities.”**

**ὑποτάσσω *hypotassō***  
**pres mid impera 3**

**sing**

**“to subject; to  
submit”**

**ἐξουσία *exousia***

**Noun nom fem sing**

**“authority, power;  
tribunate”**



# The Believer's Responsibility

1 Pet. 2:13, “Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, whether to the king as supreme,”

κτίσις *ktisis*  
dat fem sing  
“creation,  
creaturely  
institution or  
ordinance”

ὑποτάσσω *hupotassō*  
pres mid impera 3  
sing  
“to subject; to  
submit”



**Rom. 13:2, “Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.”**

**διαταγή *diatagē*  
dat fem sing  
“decree, ordinance”**

**ἀνθίστημι  
*anthistēmi*  
perf act indic 3  
sing  
“to resist,  
oppose, to stand  
against”**



**1 Pet. 2:14, “or to governors, as to those who are sent by him [the governor] for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do good.”**

**πέμπω *pempō*  
pres mid part  
masc plur dat  
“to send”**



## Fallacy of the excluded middle:

### Option 1

Divine right of kings

“Christians are required to submit blindly to every law and policy of the government.”

### Option 2

God is for government not anarchy (or tyranny)

God established the institutions of government, but does not approve of every government. God opposes anarchy. Therefore, opposition to tyranny while holding to government is permissible.



**“Therefore, a crucial determination in the colonists’ Biblical exegesis was whether opposition to authority was simply to resist the general institution of government (an institution ordained by God Himself), or whether it was instead to resist tyrannical leaders who had themselves rebelled against God.”**

**~David Barton, summary statement in “The American Revolution: Was it an Act of Biblical Rebellion?”**



**“The Scriptural model for this position was repeatedly validated when God Himself raised up leaders such as Gideon, Ehud, Jephthah, Samson, and Deborah to throw off tyrannical governments (leaders subsequently praised in Hebrews 11:32 for those acts of faith.) That the Founders held the view that the institution of government is not to be opposed but that tyranny is, is a position clearly evident in their writings.”**

**~David Barton, summary statement in “The American Revolution: Was it an Act of Biblical Rebellion?”**

This summarizes the theological viewpoint of Bishop John Poynter, *A Short Treatise of Politic Power*, 1551; and Philippe Duplessis-Mornet, *A Defense of Liberty Against Tyrants*, 1579.



**Q 1: The framers of the Declaration of Independence did not mention rebellion. What about their arguments against the infringements of rights?**

1. 21 of the 27 reasons listed relate to allegations of tyranny. The biblical issue is how do these infringements of rights relate to the principles of Scripture we have studied?
2. 6 of the 27 reasons relate to self-defense which is a biblically sound rationale.



**Q 2: What about the Constitutional provision of the 10<sup>th</sup> amendment? Should the believer obey State law or Federal law when they conflict?**

1. This means the States need to fight. But if the representatives and leaders and judges do not, then this will lead to a collapse and the 10th amendment becomes nullified through disuse.
2. Unless the laws involved are forcing a believer to do something God forbids; or prohibiting a believer from doing what God commands, then physical rebellion is not authorized.



**Q 2: What about the Constitutional provision of the 10<sup>th</sup> amendment? Should the believer obey State law or Federal law when they conflict?**

3. Believers might chose to resist in order to provide a legal case to challenge the constitutionality of the law, but they must be willing like Azariah, Mishael, and Hannaniah, to take the legal, criminal, or financial consequences.
4. By all means every legal means necessary must be followed but once the system becomes perverted by the law, there is no biblical basis for rebellion. In fact, the judgment that comes as a result of that overturning of freedom in the nation, might be God's judgment.



**Q 2: What about the Constitutional provision of the 10<sup>th</sup> amendment? Should the believer obey State law or Federal law when they conflict?**

5. This nation is demonstrating that the majority in this culture, even among evangelicals, no longer truly honor and obey the Word of God and are thus ripe for divine judgment.



**Q 3: When are believers biblically allowed to resist government in a situation where a leader gains that position through illegal means, changes laws once in power in order to become a dictator, grossly abuses power, etc.?**

**The specific example I asked was “Were the German military officers right to plan and attempt to assassinate Hitler during WWII?”**

**Options:**

- 1. Leave**
- 2. Openly rebel and be quashed and killed or sent to a concentration camp**



**Q 3: When are believers biblically allowed to resist government in a situation where a leader gains that position through illegal means, changes laws once in power in order to become a dictator, grossly abuses power, etc.?**

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**Options:**

- 3. Quietly live your life and secretly obey God and protect the Jews and others. This is the midwife option. Lie about it, which is the Rahab option, and if caught, be willing to take the consequences, and that is the option of Azariah, Mishael, Hannaniah, and Daniel.**
- 4. Take a stand against the rulers and obey God rather than man and take what comes.**



**Acts 4:19, “But Peter and John answered and said to them, ‘Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge.**

**Acts 4:20, “ ‘For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.’ ”**



**Acts 5:18, “and laid their hands on the apostles and put them in the common prison.**

**Acts 5:19, “But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, [a divine mandate]**

**Acts 5:20, “ ‘Go, stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this life.’ ”**



**Acts 5:27, “And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest asked them,**

**Acts 5:28, “saying, ‘Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name? And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this Man’s blood on us!’”**

**Acts 5:29, “But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: ‘We ought to obey God rather than men.’ ”**



**Acts 5:33, “When they heard this, they were furious and plotted to kill them.”**

**Acts 5:40, “And they agreed with him, and when they had called for the apostles and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.”**

**Acts 5:42, “And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.”**



# The Divine Institutions

1. Individual responsibility: authority = God

**PRE-FALL**

2. Marriage: authority = husband

3. Family: authority = parents

**Designed to promote productivity, and advance civilization**

4. Government, judicial: authority is determined by form of government

**POST-FALL**

5. Nations: authority = God, Acts 17

**Designed to restrain evil**



**Gen. 9:5, “Surely for your lifeblood I will demand a reckoning; from the hand of every beast I will require it, and from the hand of man. From the hand of every man’s brother I will require the life of man.**

**Gen. 9:6, “Whoever sheds man’s blood, by man his blood shall be shed; For in the image of God He made man.”**



**Gen. 11:1, “Now the whole earth had one language and one speech.”**

**Gen. 11:8, “So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city.**

**Gen. 11:9, “Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.”**



**Acts 17:26, “And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings,”**



**Deut. 14:21, “You shall not eat anything that dies of itself; you may give it to the alien who is within your gates, that he may eat it, or you may sell it to a foreigner; for you are a holy people to the LORD your God. ‘You shall not boil a young goat in its mother’s milk.’ ”**

**Deut. 23:20, “To a foreigner you may charge interest, but to your brother you shall not charge interest, that the LORD your God may bless you in all to which you set your hand in the land which you are entering to possess.”**