



pastor's thoughts

Romans 13:1-2 Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.

For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.

PRAY FOR THOSE IN AUTHORITY

Romans 13:1—12 and I Peter 2:13—14

1 Peter 2: 13-14 Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, Whether to the king as supreme, or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do good.

ment, church, employment, or home. The higher the authority the greater the accountability to God. Now Paul is not saying that God approves a corrupt government, ungodly officials, unjust legislation or corrupt church leaders but sometimes, in punishment for the sins of a people, or for other reasons unknown to us, God allows evil rulers or ungodly leaders to have authority for a time, as in the Old Testament.

here in these verses, are called to bear with the government wherever possible. Jesus did not call for revolution against Rome, even though it was an oppressive conqueror of Israel, he in fact prayed for them. On the other hand, the apostles refused to obey an order not to preach and teach in Jesus' name. (Acts 5:). If ever the civil government forbids the practice of the things that God has commanded us to do, or tells us to do things God has commanded us not to do, then we are on solid biblical ground in disobeying the government. We are never just to blindly obey government.

In these verses Paul and Peter are urging their readers to fulfill their duties to the state and those that rule in the government regardless if they are godly or not. The authorities that exist are appointed by God. In other words God has ordained government from the beginning. All rightful authority is derived from God for our good; therefore, to submit to authority honors God. Submission is an act of faith, establishing God as the ulti-

Although obedience to earthly authority is the general rule, a clear biblical principle is that we may need to disobey government if they commanded us to sin, for loyalty to God always takes priority over all human authority. Thomas Jefferson said, "that when a government began to be tyrannical, it was the right and even the duty of the citizens to rebel against that government". We as Christians, as Paul and Peter exhorts us to do

I am not saying that all our rulers in government or in leadership are evil, unjust or ungodly, but we can see that our Nation's moral condition is in bad need of restoration. We now have a government that has made the statement " we are not a Christian nation", and that is a wake up call to all of us, that we need to be praying for our government more than ever for; Psalms 9:17 says; The wicked shall be

"Faith is Heaven's Currency"



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turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God. Psalms 50:22 Now consider this, ye that forget God, lest I tear you in pieces, and there be none to deliver.

We really need to pray for all our government leaders and church leaders that they / we would do what is right in the eyes of God in the name of Jesus. Don't just pray for our President and our government or city officials, also be praying for our church leaders for; as go the church go the people, as go the people go the nation. If darkness is getting darker then the light in the church is going out, for my Bible says, the light of God burns brighter and brighter. We in the church must repent first and be restored and refilled again with the Holy Ghost, then take it to the streets and live it.

Please, wherever you are tomorrow on the National Day of Prayer be praying for our nation. Each one of us should be repenting on behalf of our sins and our nation's sins.

Lord, I ask for forgiveness for my sins and the sins of my nation. For-

give us for forgetting that you are our God. I want to thank you for our salvation, and for our freedom and liberty that we have in this country. I ask you Lord to send a refreshing of your Holy Spirit to our churches and the people of our nation, that all may see that you are God in the name of our Lord Jesus. I ask Lord, that you send grain and new wine and oil, send job's and new opportunities to our communities, that we may be refreshed, and don't let our nation be a reproach to the world. Remove the stain of sin from our churches and our nation. Spare your people, O Lord, and don't let our heritage be given away and save us from becoming a reproach. Bless our President and all our government and city officials as well as our church leaders, keep them safe and out of harms way. We inter-cept any plots to bring them harm and any weapon forged against them, that they will come to not.

Bless them with Godly wisdom and divine direction for our nation and please keep your sweet spirit of conviction on all of us that we may not

forget you and your ways. For all your ways are right and you do all things well. You are Holy, oh Lord Jesus, and we praise your name above all other names. Amen and Amen!!

Pastor Jerry

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