

# A Christian Perspective on Politics

Romans 13:1-7

## Introduction

### I The Biblical Perspective

- A. The **falling** of mankind
  - 1. Man's probationary test: **God** as King - Gen 2:4-25
  - 2. Man's probationary failure: **Man** as king - Gen 3:1-24
- B. The **scattering** of the nations - Gen 11:1-9
- C. The establishing/**stumbling** of Theocratic Israel - Gen 12:1-3
  - 1. Israel's probationary witness: God as King
  - 2. Israel's probationary failure: Man as king - 1 Sam 8:1-22
- D. The rebelling of the nations - Ps 2:2; Rev 16:14
- E. The **coming** of the King of kings - Ps 72:8-11; Rev 17:14

### II The Practical Perspective

- A. **Acknowledge** political authority - Romans 13:1-7
- B. Beware of political **idolatry** - Dan 3:1-30; Josh 5:13-14
  - 1. Beware of national idolatry - Dan 3:1-30
  - 2. Beware of political idolatry - Josh 5:13-14
- C. Commit to political activity:
  - 1. **Educate** yourself and vote your values
  - 2. **Participate** in the process and run for office
- D. Demonstrate political **sensitivity** - Rom 14:1-22
- E. Fulfill political **responsibility**:
  - 1. Through submission - Rom 13:1-5; 1 Pet 2:13-15
  - 2. Through **taxes** and revenue - Rom 13:6-7
  - 3. Through **respect** and honor - 1 Pt 2:17; Tit 3:1-2
  - 4. Through **prayer** - 1 Tim 2:1-4; 2 Cor 10:3-5

### III The Eternal Perspective

- A. Renew your trust in God's **sovereignty**
  - 1. He sets up kings and deposes them - Dan 2:21
    - a. He gives them to anyone he wishes - Dan 4:17b
    - b. He sets over them the lowliest of men - Jn 19:11
  - 2. He is sovereign over the kingdoms of men - Dan 4:17a
  - 3. He does as he pleases: - Dan 4:34-35

- a. With the powers of heaven
- b. With the peoples of the earth
- 4. He has given His full authority to Jesus Christ - Mt 28:18
  - a. Who is head over all things - Eph 1:20-22; 1Pe 3:22
  - b. Who is the King of kings, Lord of lords - 1Ti 6:15
  - c. Who is the ruler over the kings of the earth - Re 1:5
- 5. He will accomplish His purposes - Ps 33:10-11
- B. Remember your true **citizenship**:
  - 1. Pilgrims in this earthly kingdom - 1 Pet 1:1; 2:11
  - 2. Citizens of God's heavenly kingdom - Eph 2:19; Phil 3:20
- C. Reconfirm your primary **mission**:
  - 1. To seek first His **kingdom** and righteousness - Mt 6:33
  - 2. To proclaim the praises of God - 1 Pt 2:9
  - 3. To make **disciples** of all nations - Mt 28:19-20

## PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

- 1. Who has most influenced your political views/affiliation?
- 2. How does the origin of nations and governments ["The Biblical Perspective"] impact your understanding of politics?
- 3. How would you rate (scale of 1-10) the history of man's attempt at self-rule? Why did God allow ever allow this to occur?
- 4. Of the 5 points under "The Practical Perspective", which is the easiest/hardest for you to exercise and why? Which are you most moved to respond to in obedience to God's Word?
- 4. How do you generally feel toward those who share a different political point of view than you? Can you still be friends? Can you love them? Can you share the Gospel with them?
- 5. Does your political attitude/behavior reflect an "Eternal Perspective"? If not, take some time today to ask the Holy Spirit to 1) Renew your trust in God's sovereignty, 2) Remember your true citizenship/kingdom and 3) Reconfirm your primary mission – seeking His Kingdom and making disciples (new heavenly citizens) of all nations!

**BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE**

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