



# WE THE PEOPLE

## God and Caesar

Mark 12:13-17



# These Four Weeks

1. How should we think about government?
2. Politics and my own heart
3. Politics and loving my neighbor
4. Current Issues



# Goals for this series

1. Faith
2. Humility
3. Bible



# Five Key Passages

- Mark 12:13-17
- 1 Timothy 2:1-4
- Romans 13:1-7
- Titus 3:1-7
- 1 Peter 2:13-17



# Three Types of People

1. The Insurgent
2. The Theocrat
3. The Indifferent



# The Insurgent

“Government is the enemy.”



# Responding to the Insurgent

- Authority is rooted in the person of God and at its essence is good
- The main command we are given related to government is to be subject to it



**Romans 13:1** Let every person be subject to the governing authorities

**1 Peter 2:13** Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution ...

**Titus 3:1** Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities ...



# Responding to the Insurgent

- Authority is rooted in the person of God and at its essence is good
- The main command we are given related to government is to be subject to it
- God's sovereignty is strongly emphasized when speaking of government

**Romans 13:1b** For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.



# The Theocrat

“Government is the answer.”



# Responding to the Theocrat

- Our citizenship is heaven

**Philippians 3:20** But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ



# Responding to the Theocrat

- Our citizenship is heaven
- Faith in Christ, rather than corporate righteousness, is the means of salvation

**Galatians 3:3** Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?



# Responding to the Theocrat

- Our citizenship is heaven
- Faith in Christ, rather than corporate righteousness, is the means of salvation
- False gospels create false enemies



# The Indifferent

“Government is a distraction.”



# Responding to the Indifferent

- Civil order has a significant effect on spiritual sensitivity

**1 Timothy 2:2-4** [Pray] for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.



# Responding to the Indifferent

- Civil order has a significant effect on spiritual sensitivity
- Legalism comes in many forms



# Russel Moore

“... an attempt at wholesale withdrawal might exempt us from some of the hucksterism and moralism of some figures in our parents’ and grandparents’ generations, but it will take us back to the opposite errors of some in our great-grand-parents’ generation, back to divorcing the gospel from the kingdom, the love of God from the love of neighbor.”



# Russel Moore

“We could shrug off our social witness altogether, as a defense against legalism. But we would be wrong, and would, ironically, fall into a pharisaism of the other side, building hedges around a temptation to avoid falling into it. More than that, we would be abandoning a post to which we were assigned and from which we have no permission for leave. The test will be if we can engage the culture without losing the gospel.”



# Responding to the Indifferent

- Civil order has a significant effect on spiritual sensitivity
- Legalism comes in many forms
- Good works must accompany the gospel

