

God's Word on Governing

A Study
Through Discussion

Part VII: Other Governments

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VII. OTHER GOVERNMENTS

- Does God use all kinds of people to remove various hindrances to my living righteously?
- To what other governors (besides civil governors) does God commit governing authority?
- What powers do these other “governments” have? For example, what judicial powers do they possess or what sanctions may they exercise? What is the extent of their jurisdiction?

1. Parents

- a) What instruction is the basic command to fathers concerning their children? Eph.6:4

What limitation is expressed on the exercise of parental authority? Eph. 6:4; Col. 3:21

- b) Is physical discipline appropriate? Prov.13:24, 22:15; Heb.12:6,9

- c) What command to children confirms the ordination of parental governing authority? Eph.6:1; Prov.6:20

2. Masters

- a) Masters of servants are commissioned to do what? Col.4:1

What implicit warning accompanies the commission?

- b) What command to servants confirms the legitimacy of proprietary governing authority? 1 Peter 2:18; Eph. 6:5; Col. 3:22

- c) What appears to be the view of Jesus on the permissibility of physical discipline of servants? Luke 12:47-48

Peter’s view? 1 Peter 2:20; c.f. Prov.29:19.

3. Elders

- a) Read I Peter 5:2-3

Elders of congregations of believers are commissioned to do what? According to what criteria?

- b) I Cor. 5:12-6:2; Math. 18:17-18

What special function is included, for those within the church? (I Co. 5:12) What is the ultimate sanction within the church body? (I Cor. 5:13; Math. 18:17)

- c) What command to believers confirms the ordination of elder governing authority? (1 Thess. 5:12; Heb. 13:17)

4. Self

- a) What is the first level of judicial jurisdiction? (1 Cor. 11:31)

For believers, what is the next court, if proper "judgment" does not proceed from this first one? (v.32)

What is the difference in the aims of "chastening" or "disciplining" as opposed to punishment?

- b) Give an example of a decision and judgment you have given ("executed") upon yourself.

Are supplementary proceedings necessary?