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Um, obviously you've got the book. Um, looking at Dr. Phil Kaiser's book, *The Divine Ride of resistance*. Um you can open that page that book to page one. It's after a little preface as big bold letters as the why of Christian resistance. And, The the obviously the main question that Dr.

Kaiser is trying to answer. Here is, is the big, the first one there all caps. Nice and nice and bold for you can a Christian resist. Tyrants and Obey, Romans 13. Romans 13 is very clearly where Dr. Kaiser plants his flag. He thinks the answer. The answer is, is in this, this text.

So we'll be in this a good amount especially this. Um, first first chapter here, Um, I may, I I don't believe I'll finish the first chapter. I may have to leave. Just the tail end for next week, but I'm pretty sure I'll be able to keep it within the three week.

Boundary. So with that being the question, we didn't know what Romans 13 says. So I'm going to read it. I do have KJV, not NK. So, Slight differences. But that does kind of get to the point actually. So These are God's words. Library Soul. Be subject unto the higher Powers for.

There is no power but of God, the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore, resisteth the power resisteth. The ordinance of God And they that resist, the shall receive to themselves damnation. For rulers are not a terror to good works but to the but to the evil.

Will thou then not be afraid of the power. Do that, which is good. And thou shalt have praise of the same. For, he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that, which is evil be afraid. For he, beareth not the sword in vain.

For. He is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath. Upon him that doeth evil. Wherefore, ye must be, excuse me. Wherefore ye must needs be subject. Not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. Before this cause pay, you tribute also? For they are God's ministers. Attending continually upon this very thing.

Render. Therefore to all their dues tribute to whom tribute is due custom Doom, custom fear to whom fear. Honor to whom honor. Um, so the short answer Um, Here. And the question is can a Christian resist? Tyrants and Obey Romans 13. As yes. That's the if that helps at all.

That's absolutely true. What that looks like obviously is kind of what we're really looking at. Kaiser attempts to outline. Three common interpretations of Romans 13. 1-7 Uh, it makes a case for one, in particular being the the one he prefers. The one he believes is the correct one. He does have these kind of definitions.

Um, I'm not sure when he wrote this book but I I do have my own kind of terms for them. I think something more Universal could help. So um I what I call secular pacifism Uh, Kaiser calls this the submit with some exceptions View and I hate that title, so I changed it.

Uh, so it's not easy to remember to me submit with some exceptions view. In this view, would essentially take the Romans 13, passage to mean that there's nothing we can say or do about what arula does. The rulers. The state is out there entirely separate from what a Christian does.

We can't touch or affect anything on the other side of that wall. Um, that's that's the secular portion of it. There's this other section that's neutral, um, and Kaija's comments, again, he calls the submit with some exceptions for you. His comments are scriptures, God condone examples of resistance, including Christ's own example.

Go far beyond the typical exceptions Allowed by this Viewpoint. And second Point here, the absolute universal language found in Romans 13 leaves, no room for any exceptions, including commands to sin. So that's kind of his early critique here. And I'm going to continue on with all three views and then we'll, we'll go more systematically through the book.

Um, what I call Rex, Lex or the king is law, he called The Divine, right of Kings, which all are completely valid. The divine right of Kings is more of a historical term. Um Kazi defines is the king's law is as God's law. And the king's Authority is as binding as God's Authority, making any Disobedience to the king or his offers king, or his officers automatically Disobedience to God.

Um, and the review that Kaiser represents. Uh, it's called Lex Rex uh, or he calls it. The regular principle. Um, I'm all about regulating principles but that term is aptly applied to the worship of God in my mind. So, um, The lexrax title seems to be easier to me to remember in this particular topic.

Although it is a principle and is regulative. Kaiser says the king can command and enforce no law other than the law of God contained in the scriptures. Christ is the king and only law Giver demands that civil magistrates. Now their ad to nor subtract from his statutes and be subject themselves to all his statutes not turning aside from the Commandment, to the right, or to the left.

Okay? Those are all the working definitions of the three views. He's going to Almost every page bring up. Um, so if I can get into a few of these, the question is not the entire nature of the state but rather tyranny. So this first talk, um, will probably not address how or even when we address tyranny, or how we go about resisting tyranny.

But rather it's it's a setting setting the framework. I like the point that he made him in page one right beneath the question. He says there are not new challenges beginning of a third fourth uh paragraph there. They're not new challenges. Not to God or the church goddess filled, his scriptures with principles.

That answer these questions as well as hundreds of examples of ordinary men. And women living out those principles in situations a lot, like and a lot worse than ours. And the fact that he uses the word principles I think is very important and helpful. Um so we're actually going to go straight to the Westminster Confession of faith on which we uh confess And look at exactly why we believe principles are the Point here.

I'll see if I can get the right page, Westminster Confession of Faith, 19. Um, And 19 is on the, the law of God, four is To them. Also as a body politic he gave sundry judicial laws which expired together with the state of that people.

I think it's important to maintain doctrinal. Standards when looking at things like this, and I appreciate Kaiser for immediately saying principles and these are the things we must apply.

Um, not the law in a wooden fashion. Uh, for not many kings are multiplying horses, nowadays, Uh, does, and the second question here on question two, excuse me on page two.

Gets into does Romans 13. Keep us from imitating biblical Heroes again. The short answer is the obvious one. No, it does not. Um, I will read that first little paragraph, here. If our theology is producing a different kind of Christian than we see God prays in the Bible, it's worth taking another.

Look, I agree. Uh, the authority to act within a god-authorized sphere is a right delegated by God and bounded by God's law. Um, this is where he kind of gets into his critique of secular pacifism, as he calls it. The submit with some exceptions. Most modern interpretations of Romans 13.

1-7 this is Kaiser. Sorry, say that God gives the state absolute Authority and sylla matters. In there were to be subject to all civil laws except those that command us to renounce sin, or Uh it just excuse me to just we should obey those ones uh command us to sin or announce Christ.

The submit with some exceptions. View fails in two things. Um, these are the ones I read previously, it's worth reading again. Scriptures. God, condone examples of resistance, including Christ, including Christ Stone's example. Go far beyond the typical, uh, exceptions Allowed by this Viewpoint, and the absolute Universal language found in Romans 13.

Let every Soul be subject. There's no Authority, except from God, Etc. Exceptions. So, he sees this this view is fundamentally. Unsound not correct. Uh, at which point he continues to find, Rex, Lex and Lex, Rex. Uh those are sorry I didn't explain that. My apologies Rex, Lex is two Latin words meaning the law and King.

So um you've got the question would be is the King law. Or as the law King. And that would, of course, be the historical question that different men. Commented on Sam, I would come into you wholeheartedly Samuel Rutherford's Lex Rex Um, All right. So now we get into Romans 13 proper.

And we're gonna walk through this um, page four and he pretty much Most of the rest of this chapter is walking through verse, by verse Um, Let's get this. Let's get the most important book open again. Yes, sir. Yes, sir. Like, Rex was a very intellectual document. Absolutely was.

Yes, the law is King. Sammy, Rutherford is a Scottish Divine. Who wrote um Lex Rex and many other wonderful things but here at lexrax and critiquing the idea he wasn't the first praise God but he was definitely, it definitely was a good. Sharpening. The point of the argument for sure.

Alex Rex And Rex, Lex, of course, was the previous argument. Is that the king is law. Um for instance, when the English tried to persecute their own King, they had to develop all this political philosophy to understand how on Earth you can. Person you're preaching me not not persecute prosecute, uh, their own King under their own law because they understood it at the time as the king being law.

Now, how do you Do that. So obviously. Yes, he was an important figure in developing that Um, So he's going to go verse by verse. I'm going to kind of hit the highlights or at least what I saw is the highlights. Matter relatively quickly, uh, Let Every Soul be subject.

Um, Kaiser says our interpretation of Romans 13, must be able to reconcile all such examples with the command that every Soul must be subject. The regular principle. Lex Rex. View says that every Soul must be subject to the civil government, as it exercises. The authority, God has granted it within the passage.

Excuse me, within the pages of biblical law. And that to disobey that rightful Authority is indeed to disobey God. This verse commands submission to lawful Authority and forbids Revolution. That's why we had War for Independence and not a revolution. Um, for uh, verse, excuse me, verse 1B Romans 13 verse 1B and this is For there is no Authority.

Except from God. And he says, here the divine right of kings Theory would insist that all authority exercised by pilot Caesare have pharaoh and other civil magistrates was truly god-given Authority. If so, why would God have authorized resistance to them? Would that not be authorizing resistance to himself? See, I think there are some errors here, because we can absolutely say that any Authority given to Pilot Caesar Ahab or Pharaoh was absolutely god-given.

That does not mean by any means, there was no sin in it. Nor that there was So, we would understand that to be the chastisement of God. And the purposes of God asking this question. If so, why would God have authority authorize resistance to them is a bit like asking, why do bad things happen to good people?

It's it has that same kind of smack to it of emptiness of well because it's God and God is Sovereign over. Over his his appointments to Authority. Um, So the Lex for X position. The regular principal interpretation interprets, this passage To mean that there is no legitimate Authority, except the authority delegated from God.

In the pages of scripture. That is to say. When a Command something sinful. He is not acting like a king. He's not acting within the authority of the God gave him. So he has no right to give the command that would be the Lex Rex position. But our topic is about tyranny and I've not touched that topic yet, so hang tight.

Um, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God and that's verse one still. Um, Quickly here, the divine, right of Kings view takes you to refer. Um, To all individuals who are in office. And I think his point here is that, um, All authority. He he's trying to separate all from meaning.

The person and rather being the office that the office is, what's given the authority, not the person, and the divine, right of Kings would potentially apply to the person himself, has the authority. Kaiser's View and argumentation is that it would apply to the office of King, not King Charles, the first Um, specifically.

Um, Just got hurt. Yes. Um God explicitly rejected, Saul as king. Saw the first king of the nation state of Israel. That's all and therefore the people should have impeached him as unqualified office. Kill the people impeached Saul, or until Saul was, providentially removed by death. David felt that he could not resist any of Saul's.

Lawful orders. David honored, the office. But did not have blind submission. To the person. Um I think it's this is this is a fair point to make. I think David had a really good understanding of tyranny. Let's say that I think David had a really good understanding of obeying God over the king and sometimes obeying God over the king in David's experience looked like not harming the king in, you know, potentially even overthrowing an unrighteous man who would you know you could list if I were David.

I could make a very comprehensive list that would sound very theological and good political philosophy as to why I should have killed the king at that moment. Well I could have stopped is the nation of Israel from sinning. I could have, you know, he could have made all these points as to why that would have been the right thing to do.

But David would not move against uh the hand of God and his anointed even though David himself was the anointed sir. Take the game. Disobeyed the king Saul. Yeah. Where would he? You've jumped ahead of me David. Um, That's what I told you. I'm not touching tyranny yet. No, I just, I think the line of when we ought to resist tyranny is a really important line.

And I, uh, of course, I'll answer that. But, um, I think, I think when he dodged the spear, Uh or one of the many Spears is that not some kind of disobeying the king, the will of the king was that David should die and he said, I don't want to die today.

So we dodged the spear and ran away. Sir. Even, in addition to dodging this year, he actually didn't show up for dinner. Oh, Commandments right? Yes to reinforce. Your point been in the cave, he had men with him and they said, Yahweh has delivered him into your hands, right?

Okay. So he had all the Russian album in the world. Oh, yeah. To say this man is a tyrant, his authorities illegitimate. I've already been anointed in this place. The office actually belongs to me, right? He's got all of that reason. What happens to him in the cave there, by the race of the Holy spirit is the opposite of what happens to him on the balcony.

When Basheed is taking the bath, Because as soon. Yeah, as soon as he even cuts the Rope, the corner of the Rope off his heart, smites him, and know that his heart would have smoked him with heat, saw saw the woman dating You need to have the Theological certainty.

That even though the man is evil, even though you're commanding evil that I cannot obey because it does not belong to his office to do that. I still must recognize him in his office. And not usurp Authority or position. That God has put him into which I think gives you another category.

Uh, yes. I know foul he would describe what I just said belonging to the um with some acceptance views. Sure. But there is genuinely Authority, and honor and fear, uh, that belongs to the office even within emo manage. Yes. And amen. But uh, One of the reasons you all need to get good near theological lines.

I've been teaching man. That if you were in David's position and everybody else in the church was saying, this is the day, Yale has made. Let us feel solidly glad in it. You would be able to, you wouldn't take his head. I went out with my finger against, Yes, these are.

I don't think it takes a lot of imagination to see where that opportunity. May come to us or our children. Uh, in in this country, around the West. And it would be a bad idea to do it. Unjustly, sir. I have a hypothetical question that is open for answers.

You want to answer? That I was thinking as you were talking about how this partner ripped cutting out the Is that important moment? In that, it's the Holy Spirit had not. Um carried through with the killing of Saul and then writings in that moment or it was, is it a, is it specifically and only a physiological principle that he held to or is it a listening to and expressing of the Holy Spirit?

Um, to help in an area. That is kind of gray in the in the context of first Samuel, it's a demonstration that the holy spirit of God was with David in a redeeming way in which he was not meant Saul. And so you have uh the the king that was like what the people would have chosen Evans and shoulders above everybody else.

Um, and then you have the king because after God's own heart and his opposite when he would have chosen the last among your brothers who had been selected. So theologically there's a lot going on there and the distinction in the cave. There's, there's one is there to

murder and there's one who by the grace of the Holy Spirit, working on him will not even Fuel towards murder.

And then for us, then there is the necessity of saying Uh my king, Jesus is great, David's greater son and he does everything in accordance with this Spirit. If I am not soft-hearted towards God, Than I am of the spirit of Saul who got that from the fall and condition of his first father, Adam and him.

The son of Disobedience, 12, graft under under the devil and so, yes, there's a lot there in terms of our need to heed the spirits use of the truth of God in convicting us to identify one or the other. So that's what's going on there, I sorry. No sir.

Wonderful, thank you. Yeah, I think David is fantastic, obviously Uh, as Phil said in the beginning, um, Examples of ordinary men, you know, carried Along by the spirit who've done. Um, Uh, well sir. Just to respond to that. I would say David in my mind, it's the principle of offensive versus defensive.

Other words say it wasn't being attacked. You know you look at our they're defensive, you know, all the wars we fight defensive Wars It, I would view it as he was to be an on. The offensive is that Yes, it would have been yes would have been murdered? So let's continue on uh going to highlight this, this.

So he is pulling from Wilson, which is the name. I hadn't even heard Wilson two L's. Uh, as I believe it's a, he's an old dead guy. I'm not entirely sure when he died or lived. What? Yes, sir. Yeah, yeah. It's one of those that, yeah, probably good for Kindle for a buck or for free.

Um, so, uh, this is a quote from Will's son. Uh, God has willed the existence of a National Organization and polity and in so doing has fixed its ends, which it must observe. Has given a supreme law which it must observe has bound it by limits, which it may not pass over in short.

God has ordained or ordered Civil government as Christ has ordained, the ministry of reconciliation. Not by merely willing, its existence, but by prescribing its duties. Its functions its ends and I think most importantly its limitations No other meaning can be affix to the language of the Apostle consistently with due, reverence for him, who is the Holy One?

And the just the rightful beneficent Moral Governor move on to the next verse here. Therefore Whoever exists Authority, resists, the ordinance of God. Another something I I noted was Acts 5, 29 with the Apostle saying, how should we obey? How should we obey you and not obey? God like, how we we need to obey God over men obviously?

So that was their kind of argument against very legitimate authorities. These are men who absolutely had every authority over them and the apostles did everything they could to obey everything, they could to honor. But there was a line at which, uh, I call it the killer die line, I will kill or die here.

This is, this is it? I I can't move any uh, you know, uh Martin Luther said it was I I stand here here, I stand, this is it? I can't do anything else. This is what I must do. Uh, and the apostles reached that line at a certain point with those men.

Said, well we must obey you and what did they do? I will point out very quickly as I get to tyranny. What did they do? They gladly took the flogging That they unjustly they did not deserve. They didn't take up arms, they didn't fight. They actually said, this is a Providence from God, knowing that he is indeed in control.

So, moving along from there. Um, Verse 2 and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. Bill Kaiser says, this verse is describing those who resist, God's Authority. Not those who resist demonic Authority. Or any other Authority, right? Um, he makes a very strong argument that any Authority. It's not Gods is demonic.

Um, I'm not going to follow that. That train you can certainly read the book and get that Um, for uh rulers are not a terror to good works but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what's good? And you will have praise for them for the same for, he is God's Minister to you for good.

Now that the Divine and this is his point um, against the other two views. Remember, he's for the Lex Rex view. The Divine Right Theory. Nor the submit with exceptions Theory can satisfy the absolute statements being made. In this verse God is either describing all rulers or only those for whom.

These statements are actually true. Rulers who rule in accordance with God's word as they rule in accordance. With God's word. Um, Verse 4 here. But if you do evil be afraid for he does not bear the sword in vain because God's minister and Avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil.

Um, Dr. Kaiser says I believe Romans 13 is describing what has been historically held as the regulative principle of government? Lex Rex. And he puts this in bold himself so I highlighted it so it's highlighted and bolded. Now this is this is a big one for him that that the state has no powers except the power is given specifically by God and is only divinely authorized to command and enforce what God specifically allows them to command and enforce.

Limes jurisdictions and powers of the magistrate. When Kings transgressed the limits of their Authority, they stand in sin. I put a yes butt there in pencil. Yes but because I think that that there's a there's a particular kind, there's a particular um um mindset. That's going to get you straight to, let's overthrow them.

And and that's what we don't want to. That's it is. I mean, you know, you that's if that's your de facto, then you need to cool and and think through it again because this is not a, I'm not teaching Christian state, nor um, political philosophy, I'm teaching tyranny. So this is the foundation.

We're not getting to tyranny quite yet, but we need to remember, they stand in sin is not Saw students in that, this is not Warrant. To sin. This is not warrant to sin against The Godly authorities, the authorities, placed over you by God. We must remember that there is a further line to come.

Um, Civil officers. And by the way, that whole point is wonderful, I think it's, I think it's true, and I think it's right civil officers have zero Authority. To command anything of their citizens that the law of God is not authorized them to command. Yes, and amen. So, Uh, Dr.

Kaiser gets into this. That's the end of his treatment of Romans 13. Um,

I'm going to finish up this Romans 13 section see where we're at. Was it 45? I need to enter 35. 45, yes, sir. Um, he he goes on to Psalm 94 thinks that's a helpful one, so we'll read that here in 94. 20. Shall the throne of iniquity, which devises Evil by law have fellowship with you.

I rejoice in that we sang, that months ago now. First time those words had hit me. Quite like that knowing that our government in many ways and we can act like it started cobit, but it started many hundreds of years ago. That has done that in many ways. So I was what morning

and also rejoicing in God that he knows well, Um, that we don't live under under a government that confesses Christ.

Um, rulers. Who institutionalize Injustice through their statutes are wicked and they do not have his approval. Put simply Romans in this is his his statement on Romans 13. He wants to sum it up, put simply Romans 13 does not forbid Civil Disobedience. It cannot on the contrary it lays the groundwork for why resistance is sometimes necessary and that's that sometimes necessary is exactly what this the three talks.

I'm giving are about, that's that's sometimes necessary. And when that is when that line is crossed, is what we'll get to Is necessary. It's not just instruction for us on how to respond to our magistrates. It's also instruction for how the magistrates for the mattress themselves. It's the Divine definition of the role of a ruler and gives us the absolute standard.

We are to hold our magistrates too, so we can determine when a magistrate needs to be instructed. Rebuked resisted. Or replaced. Um, In any given Wednesday, you wouldn't find me called the Democrat. Um, probably, but I I would appeal to the wonderful institution of being able to vote out particular men.

And it's funny to me how he lists these four things. I think it's pretty great that quite a few of these are actually well within our power in our current system. So I think we can praise God that we can indeed rebuke a ruler of some kind or replace him.

So uh through relatively easy means David The governor said, you shall not meet? Yeah. What our response would be to that. Versus. You can beat, but you've got to sit 10 feet apart and you all have to wear a mask. Well, with the two, the two different things mean, Won't be the response.

Yeah. What would be The Godly response there? You find just what you're talking about. Yeah I would I would give the I would give them what the Apostles gave him in five in Acts 5 29, how should we obey? Not God if we can't meet. So although I respect your office, Governor president, whatever.

You know, Chinese appointed, Health officials. All right. No, thank you. For the worship, right? Right. Exactly for the worship. Yeah. Now, the other Where he said you've got to sit ten six, ten feet apart, yeah square, a Max. Those are the stringent rules. Dave, we know much more now.

I think it's six feet actually and We know so much more now. This isn't been required. Would it be required? Or are there times when we can say? He doesn't have the alarm for 40 but yeah. I think I think Kaiser addresses this really well actually and he he pushed outside of my law.

My uh, um Comfort zone. Um, you also wouldn't catch me any given Wednesday being called a libertarian because I'm not but it sir it poked my uh libertarian. Um Fancies. Uh, so Kaiser. I will just merely quote what he says. Um, A very he cites that imagine his responsibilities.

I do have a very limited role in ensuring sanitation and a very limited role. Um in uh he has a run here somewhere. Yes. Um, Those laws at least. Punish people who deliberately spread diseases? Um, connected to that is there? Possible imposition of limited quarantine to protect the healthy from virulent life-threatening diseases.

So I think covet is one that might need to be looked at in more detail than I'm able to write now. But I would say that government by principle does have the ability to do something like that covid. Being called a life-threatening disease. Might, you know, might be a bit heavy-handed but, uh, that is not something I'm going to terribly address in in depth.

I will, quote, is from Calvin. A man who, uh, is Much smarter and has spent much more time with Jesus than I especially now, uh, we will quote from Calvin, John Calvin's institutes. He had this wonderful thing at the end of chapter, at least I've got a chapter 16, I was translated a bunch of times.

But, um, After reading this, when a magistrate needs to be instructed, rebuked through resistor replaced, I just immediately went to this in my head and had to grab this book. Next, we must be subject to those who have sovereignty over us, but only in him, which I think is wonderful pastors actually outlined in parenting a lot in.

We obey our parents in in the Lord. Should they happen to order anything? Contrary to him their command must be dismissed as worthless. With no thought given to their Superior Authority, that Authority. We in no way infringe when it fully defers to God's power. For his is the only real power when compared with the rest.

I well know how perilous is the kind of steadfastness, which I ask for you, ask for you. Excuse me, which I asked for here for Kings cannot bear to be humbled. Their anger is, as Solomon, says, a message of death. But since this edict was uttered by the Heavenly Herald, Peter we ought to obey, God, rather than men.

The first I've cited previously, 529 acts 25 29, that is We should comfort ourselves with the thought that we truly give God The Obedience he demands. When we endure everything rather than depart from his holy word, further, To stop us losing heart. Paul Pricks us with another goad. We have been bought by Christ, a very great cost.

So that we should not become slaves to men's evil, passions. Much less to godlessness and I think there's a wonderful end quote, by the way. I think there's a wonderful concept in here not to become slaves of godlessness and that would mean our own as well as Any Given tyrants.

We can we can become a slave, our own passions by saying raising our fists and and shaking our fists at the magists which God has placed over us. Um possibly in judgment on our nation, possibly in legitimate Judgment upon our nation um and we can become slaves to our own passion in wanting this kind of um About like childish, Freedom.

No, I will not obey. Um, no, I, you know, this kind of thing, but then also we can become slaves of of Godless men's passions. The the matches were placed over who were tyrannical. Either way, as we all know, the goal is to obey God and the we can disobey God following our own passions are following other men's passions.

This is why this this particular topic is rather difficult because there's a tyrant in each one of our hearts that wants us to to Various and Sundry ways wants us to disobey wants us to wants to have its own way. I know the coven, it was a very heated moment and for good reason, there was all kinds of tyranny happening.

Um but it certainly is interesting to see the principle which I thought was not a principle. The principle that actually a nation might have Potentially it by principle does have the responsibility and right to protect people, from virulent disease. And the question of course would then be was it a virulent disease which I'll leave that to the pundits.

Uh so um, See, he has this wonderful part moving along in the book that is I think Kaiser has a really great Point here. And why your Magistrates excuse me? Why your magistrate is your business? Um, I think I have time to read through it quickly. Too many people.

Take a passive approach to Civics. Guilty. Uh, as if it were a one-way relationship, magist decree and we obey they tax and we pay Masters, run, we vote or don't Um, just as magistrates should praise and support upright citizens. Citizens. Should support and submit to Godly magistrates. Our relationship with our magistrate is not despite what secular views of government say, a secular contract.

So, in my mind, I think I might have by default taken that and said, just swarm them off entirely and said, Rousseau France, I don't want a piece of it, I'm just going to not vote, I vote, but I'm just not getting to participate. I think that's a, that's a sinful thing on my part and I think a lot of people are prone to that kind of um Kind of mindset Magists and citizens alike are bound to duties to one another under God, by the same Covenant by this same Covenant.

They each have responsibilities to hold each other to To that obedience of God. No civil magistrate. Had absolute power to expect obedience just as no, father, a priest had absolute power to expect obedience, Obedience required was always in the Lord. Which again, point that Pastor James had made many times which I found helpful over the past few years, is obeying in the Lord.

And that would mean really what we're talking about here. Obeying in the Lord. We obey the magistrate in the Lord. Um, so here's this wonderful I don't have nearly enough time to go through Matt, the magistrate's responsibilities to you which I think are very interesting and interesting points to make, certainly Probably not going to address it in detail because it's a bit too dense to go piece by piece through that.

I do think that the has three principles that on page 16 that are very helpful limits on King's military power. Um, limits on their political alliances by marriage and limits on the size of their financial War chests, all should be still in place by principle. Uh, that we should not let King's multiply military power unto themselves.

These kinds of things. So I think by principle, all those are very valid and ought to be worked out by each of us fearfully. Um, So, The state was responsible for God and uh, he's kind of following up something here. So I said is responsible for God to protect and to power.

Its citizens by protecting good and punishing evil. Staying in its Lane and staying manageable in size. Those are those three bullet points on page 16? You'll see there. Um submission uh submission to excuse me, your responsibilities to the magistrate again another very helpful portion to even think that we have responsibilities to the magistrate which I'm I regret to inform you as a mildly new idea, in my mind, I was Terribly, observant or particular about this thing.

But it was, it was quite quite helpful for me. This section with uh points, one through ten here. Um, I'm going to read. From our confession here, uh, one last time and then Uh, pray and close. And I'm sure lots of things want to be said, but we are out of time.

And I will be teaching again next week. So we're building Um, Seeing as we confess this as a church. In a domination, all of our officers confess that they believe this all the way. I think this is a helpful Plumb line for us. Scripture obviously is the ultimate Plumb line, but praise God for A lesser Plumb lines that follow scripture.

So we're going to read. I'm bad at Roman numerals. So that there are 23 4 I did it. Uh, Westminster Confession of Faith. 23 4. Is. It is the duty of people to pray for magistrates to honor their persons. To pay them tribute and other dues to obey their lawful commands and to be subject to their Authority for conscience sake.

Infidelity. Or difference in religion, doth not make void the magistrates, just and legal Authority. Nor free the people from their due obedience to him. From which ecclesiastical persons are not Exempted. Much less hath, the bishop, I won't call him the Pope, the bishop of Rome any power or jurisdiction over them.

In their dominions. Or over any of their people. And least of all to deprive them of their dominions or lives. If he shall judge them to be Heretics or any other pretense whatsoever. So a little bit of historic theology in there as far as the papists but all completely applicable to us.

We could easily put in the president of the United States or some other leader. Neither does he have right to deprive them of their life or Other Liberties for disagreeing. I'm going to pray. And uh, if you, if I would ask you, I would ask you read the book, save questions.

For next week because I would much rather go to work one time. Uh let's pray. Oh my God, uh we thank you for your Lord's today. We thank you for um men who are Thinking about this soberly and seriously not men who abandon the topic and throw their hands up.

Say there's nothing to be known, there's nothing to be done. And also not men who shake their fists and rage, um, at every small. Um, inconvenience or even small tyranny that happens by the state which as we know every single one of us know, happens every day in our world, Small tyranny is our normal part of life in America.

God would you give us to be long-suffering Loving, do you give us to go about interacting with the state and our local tyrants as well as our Regional tyrants? In a Godly way. Lord. Would you help us to understand what that even means? God, there are passions here, we admit There are hours and hours of thinking.

Late at night after paying a tax. So we don't believe ought to be paid. After sitting in our houses after covid, there are lots of passions Lord. There are lots of feelings. God would would we submit all of those to you in your rule? I know that you've given us this word to pour over to chew on to to work hard through to take with fear and trembling.

To pour through it, to know what it is that you have to say on the topic to correct us rebuke us Lord, as we need correcting and rebuking. By the end of these three weeks, God, would you help us to understand? Understand how what you require of us. Well, God, as we go to worship you, let us remember that.

This is the most wonderful thing in the week in the world. This is what we were made for that. The governments of this world are mere Shadows Are nothing. In comparison to you our King Jesus that you indeed Reign now, And will forever. And you are not merely our King, but you are a priest God bringing us.

Priests to God, bring us near. And Christ is not merely our priest, but he is our Prophet. Telling us all the ordinances of God all the wonderful laws. God would we worship? Full-Hearted today. Loud voices. Listening years. Faith-Filled Hearts, hearing your word Lord, in Jesus name. Amen.