

VI. Laws of Divine Establishment and the Royal Family Honor Code: Separation of Church and State/Barton

The Christian cannot become involved in the whitewashing of the Devil's world nor can he become overly concerned about its problems.

Why? Because those problems which cannot be solved by means of establishment truth, the Gospel, or by doctrine are problems which cannot be solved.

The Christian's duty is to separate the leader's character and personality from his authority and office.

The President's character and personality are not the issue because his authority resides in the fact that he is president. Honor the king! 1 Peter 2:17

This same rationale can be stated for any person who is in a duly appointed position of authority. Some examples:

The husband's character and personality are not the issue because his authority resides in the fact that he is husband. Ephesians 5:22, Ephesians 5:23

The same can be said of parents, Ephesians 6:2, Ephesians 6:3 and employers, Colossians 3:22.

Divine sanction of human authorities is revealed in the next sentence of:

Romans 13:1b - For there is no authority except that which has its source of origin from God.

The prepositional phrase "from God" is the preposition:

hupo + the ablative of source from the noun:

hupo + *Theos* - "That which finds its source of origin from God."

This is a negative way of stating that all positions of establishment authority originate from the source of God.

The final statement confirms that those humans who hold those positions of authority are only permitted to do so by divine permission.

Romans 13:1c - that is, those which do exist have been delegated by God.

A principle emerges which indicates that there is no position of human authority which derives its power from the people.

Positions of authority are created by God under the four divine institutions and those who fill them obtain their power from the justice of God.

What God has ordained; the believer must accept. He must honor the king, obey the law, and submit to authority.

God does not sponsor revolution although He permits it when duly appointed authorities abuse their authority and their power.

The believer is never permitted this option. The believer must remain committed to the proposition that Pivot Power far exceeds the reach of Political Power.

Romans 13:1 (corrected translation) - All mankind: keep on subordinating yourselves to governing authorities. For there is no authority except that which has its source of origin from God; that is, those which do exist have been delegated by God.

A question arises: What are the norms and standards, divine viewpoint, and scale of values to which the Christian is to subscribe regarding the separation of church and state?

C. The Separation of Church and State

The first Amendment to our Constitution reads as follows:

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.

The 55 Founding Fathers who attended the Constitutional Convention at Philadelphia in 1787 were operating under great constraints from their respective States.

Although there was an obvious need for the States to unify under a central government, the overriding concern of everyone was that in doing so, too much authority might be given to the national government resulting in a loss of State sovereignty.

There was therefore much care taken to ensure that the rights enjoyed by the States and the People would be maintained under any new national government.

Consequently, it is interesting compare the thinking of these 55 Framers of the Constitution, as well as their contemporaries who ratified it and its Bill of Rights, with the modern interpretations given by the Supreme Court and willingly accepted by our fellow citizens without question.

This historical analysis I am about to present will reveal facts unknown to most of us which, in itself, is a condemnation of our society, for how can these facts be true and so few of us be aware of them? Draw your own conclusions.

I quote from a book written by David Barton, *The Myth of Separation*, and specifically from its second chapter entitled, *“The Way It Was-Building the Constitution and the First Amendment.”*

Barton, David. *The Myth of Separation*. Aledo: WallBuilder Press, 1992, pp. 21-40, passim.

NOTE: L-52 includes excerpts from Barton, pp. 21-30. See L-53 for continuation of Barton’s commentary beginning at p. 31.