

P—Freedom Teams—Churches—DID YOU KNOW (5)

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God has given those of us who are of the Body of Christ a great opportunity.

He has given us the responsibility to oversee our government.

Unfortunately, many of us have not realized this.

Without oversight, many in our government have turned from righteousness.

To protect and provide for our families, it is best if we monitor our law-makers.

We support and vote for law-makers who will create laws that bring life.

#	L	CHURCHES: DID YOU KNOW... (Scripture quotes are from NASB20)
1	2	<p>DID YOU KNOW...Jesus said to Pilate that his authority came from above. John 19:11 <i>Jesus answered him, "You would have no authority over Me at all, if it had not been given to you from above; for this reason the one who handed Me over to you has the greater sin."</i></p>
2	2	<p>DID YOU KNOW...Paul wrote in Romans 13:1 that all authority is from God and is established by God. Romans 13:1 <i>Every person is to be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God.</i></p>
3	2	<p>DID YOU KNOW...The Declaration of Independence gives we the people the authority to oversee our government. www.archives.gov/founding-docs/declaration-transcript Paragraph 2—"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.—That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed." It seems God Our Father has given us, His People, the authority to oversee our government, presumably at all levels: federal, state, town, and local boards.</p>
4	2	<p>DID YOU KNOW...In the time of Jesus, the governance for the community was the sects of the day; Jesus, engaged with the politics of His day, was affected by, and often in conflict with, these sects, which ultimately facilitated His Crucifixion. www.smp.org : Search for "Political and Religious Structure in Jesus' Time." (To find this article, you need to include capitalizations and quotation marks.) "...In this article we look at topics of the structure of the Jewish sects,...In Jesus' time...three groups were particularly influential...the Sadducees, the Pharisees, and the Essenes....In ancient Judaism there was not sharp distinction between religion and politics. All three groups were concerned not only with religious behavior but also with the political issues of their day."</p>
5	2	<p>DID YOU KNOW...The governing authorities gave the apostles strict orders to not continue to teach in Jesus' Name; Peter answered, "We must obey God rather than men..." Of note, the angel said, in verse 20, to speak the whole message of this Life. Acts 5: 17-32 <i>But the high priest stood up, along with all his associates (that is the sect of the Sadducees), and they were filled with jealousy. They laid hands on the apostles and put them in a public prison.</i> <i>But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the gates of the prison, and leading them out, he said, "Go, stand and speak to the people in the temple area the whole message of this Life." Upon hearing this, they entered the temple area about daybreak and began to teach.</i></p>

#	L	CHURCHES: DID YOU KNOW... (Scripture quotes are from NASB20)
		<p><i>Now when the high priest and his associates came, they called the Council together, that is, all the Senate of the sons of Israel, and sent orders to the prison for them to be brought. But the officers who came did not find them in the prison; and they returned and reported, saying, “We found the prison locked quite securely and the guards standing at the doors; but when we opened them, we found no one inside.”</i></p> <p><i>Now when the captain of the temple guard and the chief priests heard these words, they were greatly perplexed about them as to what would come of this. But someone came and reported to them, “The men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple area and teaching the people!” Then the captain went along with the officers and proceeded to bring them back without violence (for they were afraid of the people, that they might be stoned).</i></p> <p><i>When they had brought them, they had them stand before the Council. The high priest interrogated them, saying, “We gave you strict orders not to continue teaching in this name, and yet, you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and intend to bring this Man’s blood upon us.”</i></p> <p><i>But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom you put to death by hanging Him on a cross. He is the One whom God exalted to His right hand as a Prince and Savior, to grant repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses of these things; and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey Him.”</i></p>
6	2	<p>DID YOU KNOW...The phrase, “separation of church and state” was not to keep the church out of the government, but to keep the government out of the church.</p> <p>www.Wikipedia.org :</p> <p>Search for “Separation of church and state.” Scroll down to “Jefferson and the Bill of Rights.” Jefferson used the phrase in a letter in 1802 which includes, “..that their legislature should ‘make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof;’ thus building a wall of separation between Church and State.”</p>
7	2	<p>DID YOU KNOW...The Johnson Amendment to the Tax Code, which prohibits all non-profit organizations from endorsing or opposing political candidates, may have inadvertently closed down our policy discussions.</p> <p>www.uscode.house.gov, In Title: 26; in Section 501(c)(3).</p> <p>The Johnson Amendment is the last few lines of 501(c)(3), reading: “...and which does not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for public office.”</p> <p>Has this addition to the Tax Code unintentionally become “hush money” for churches?</p>
8	2	<p>DID YOU KNOW...The inability to handle conflicts within our fellowships could be part of the reason we do not openly and comfortably discuss policies.</p> <p>James 4:1-2—<i>What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is the source not your pleasures that wage war in your body’s parts? You lust and do not have, so you commit murder. And you are envious and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask. (NASB20)</i></p>
9	2	<p>DID YOU KNOW...We have found a fact-based, Centrist approach to be helpful in navigating policies, dispelling the competition of opinion, and emotions, and allowing a more peaceful exchange of information.</p> <p>These pages are an example.</p>
10	2	<p>DID YOU KNOW...Hosea wrote that God’s people are destroyed for lack of knowledge, and rejecting knowledge has consequences.</p> <p>Hosea 4:6</p> <p><i>My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Since you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being My priest. Since you have forgotten the Law of you God, I also will forget your children.</i></p>