



Berean Family Worship Center
One Church In Two Cities
www.bereanfamilyworshipcenter.org

Wednesday, March 09, 2022 - Group Study
Lesson Series: Dwelling Together In Unity

Lesson Series Text: (*Psa. 133:1-3*)

Lesson 2: God Ordained Government

Lesson 2 Text: (*Rom. 13:1-8*)

All Scriptures are KJV; unless otherwise noted.

Prepared By Dr. Walter Henderson III

- I. Government is one of the most controversial and divisive subjects in families, churches, and civil government.
 - A. Everyone recognizes that some form of government is needed, but what form the government should take is a point of much contention.
 - B. Without some form of government we have chaos.
- II. Jesus stated, "...*Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand*". (*Mat. 12:25*)
 - A. The church, for years, have been divided as to what form of government to use.
 - B. This is one reason why the church hasn't been able to withstand Satan and his kingdom consistently.
- III. Satan attacks all forms of government that is ordained of God; because his nature is one of lawlessness. He wants to bring about a lawless society, age, and world.
 - A. In every aspect; Satan wants to usurp God's Government and establish his own.
 - B. Satan led an angelic revolt against God's Government in the past. (*Isa. 14:12-14*)
 - C. Satan also spearheaded the revolt of man against God's Government. (*Gen. 3*)
 - D. Those who do not submit themselves to God ordained authority; set themselves up as "the authority"; which self-governs without God.
- IV. Definition of Government.
 - A. The exercise of authority over an organization, institution, state, nation, etc.
 - B. A system of ruling or controlling political bodies by which a nation is governed.
 - C. Government involves territory, people, and leadership.
- V. Government is God-Ordained. (*Rom. 13:1-7*)
 - A. The civil powers that be are ordained of God.
 - B. God has ordained that law and order be preserved by appointed authorities.
 - C. God has set governments in the church for steering and directing. (*1 Cor. 12:28*)
 - D. God has set government in the home. (*Pro. 4:1; Eph. 5:23; Eph. 6:1-4*)
 - E. God has set government in the universe. (*Eph. 1:21-22*)
 - F. God has set up government in Heaven.
 - a. God is the Head of Christ. (*1 Cor. 11:3*)
 - b. Christ is the Head of the Church. (*Col. 1:18*)
 - c. Christ is the Head of every believer. (*1 Cor. 11:3*)
- VI. Throughout history, there have been four major forms of government in governing people. Each of these may be displayed in various forms.



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- A. Theocracy – Government by God through appointed authorities.
 - B. Monarchy – Government by one person.
 - C. Oligarchy – Government by an elite few.
 - D. Democracy – Government by a large portion of the people, usually through some forms of representation.
 - E. Each one of these forms of government has worked well in a given setting; providing that those in charge were moral and good people.
 - F. Many times the local church will set up the church government in the form of the ruling civic government.
- VII. The Government of God in the Old Testament.
- A. Divine or Sovereign Government.
 - B. Human Government.
 - a. Under the Noahic Covenant, God introduced human government; government of men by men; to deal with murder and the taking of human life. (*Gen. 9:5-6*)
 - C. Theocracy
 - a. In Israel we see divine rule through man; Moses, Elijah, the judges; etc.
- VIII. Government of God in the New Testament is Headship of Christ.
- A. Every government has a head.
 - B. Headship is government and headship is authority.
 - C. Headship co-ordinates all the members of the body.
 - D. Christ is The Head of the church and is sovereign.
 - E. God the Father has given Christ to be Head over all things to the church, which is His body. (*Eph. 1:22*)
 - F. The government is upon His shoulders. (*Isa. 9:6-7*)
- IX. First the Natural, then the Spiritual.
- A. The head in the natural body is the seat of the mind: control, direction, wisdom, knowledge, etc.
 - B. The head governs and directs every member of the natural body.
 - C. The head in the natural body is responsible for all food and nourishment being supplied to every member.
 - D. The head holds the center of the nervous system which connects the whole body.
 - E. The head is incomplete without the body, and the body is incomplete without the head.
 - F. Christ, as the head of the church, is infallible; He is the all-fullness of God. He is able to govern the Church both locally and universally.
 - G. No other man can make these claims; therefore no other man can be the universal head of the Church; doing so usurps the Headship and Place of Christ.
 - H. God's Authority is invested in Christ; which is head of the church universally.
 - I. Government in the church can only exercise headship as they are submitted to and governed themselves by Christ's Headship.