

The Christian, Government and Politics

February 2, 2020

Chris Cuomo, CNN, January 31, 2020

"You should be mad as hell and send message you're not going to take it anymore."

The Christian Refuses To Be Drawn Into Strife

James 3:13-18 ESV

13 Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness (mildness, gentleness) of wisdom. *[true wisdom never has to flaunt itself and prove that it's right]*

14 But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth.
[bitter jealousy and selfish ambition comes through the rivalry of proving you are right and they are wrong]

15 This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic.

16 For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice.

17 But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. *[godly wisdom is peaceable, gentle, impartial and open to reason because it seeks Truth instead of seeking to be right]*

18 And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

- *If what is being sown is not being sown in peace, there will be no righteousness in the results.*
- *As Christians, we must never speak, act or live from a heart or motive of strife.*
- *We must contend for the truth without being contentious.*
- *To speak the truth in strife, ambitious rivalry or anger displeases God and grieves His Spirit.*
- *When speaking for truth and justice, there can be strife that results; make sure the contention is for the truth and not because of an angry or contentious spirit.*

Psalms 34:14 ESV

14 Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

Hebrews 12:14 ESV

14 Strive for peace with everyone...

Romans 12:18 ESV

18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

Ephesians 4:15 ESV

15 ...speaking the truth in love...

2 Timothy 2:24-25 ESV

24 And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil,

25 correcting his opponents with gentleness.

The Christian Is Cautious About Passing Judgment

Proverbs 18:13 ESV

13 If one gives an answer before he hears, it is his folly and shame.

Proverbs 18:17 ESV

17 The one who states his case first seems right, until the other comes and examines him.

James 1:19-20 ESV

19 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger;

20 for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

Isaiah 11:1-4 ESV

1 There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

2 And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

3 And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear,

4 but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Human Government, No Matter How Good, Is Always Corrupt

1 Samuel 8:6-7 ESV

6 But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to judge us." And Samuel prayed to the LORD.

7 And the LORD said to Samuel, "Obey the voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them."

1 Samuel 8:10-20 ESV

10 So Samuel told all the words of the LORD to the people who were asking for a king from him.

11 He said, "These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will TAKE your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen and to run before his chariots.

12 And he will appoint for himself commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and some to plow his ground and to reap his harvest, and to make his implements of war and the equipment of his chariots.

13 He will TAKE your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers.

14 He will TAKE the best of your fields and vineyards and olive orchards and give them to his servants.

15 He will TAKE the tenth of your grain and of your vineyards and give it to his officers and to his servants.

16 He will TAKE your male servants and female servants and the best of your young men and your donkeys, and put them to his work.

17 He will TAKE the tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his slaves.

18 And in that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves, but the LORD will not answer you in that day."

19 But the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel. And they said, "No! But there shall be a king over us,"

20 that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles."

Isaiah 11:1-9 ESV

1 There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

2 And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

3 And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear,

4 but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

5 Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

6 The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them.

7 The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

8 The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

9 They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

Christians Obey The Government, Until They Cannot

Romans 13:1-7 ESV

1 Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

2 Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment.

3 For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval,

4 for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer.

5 Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience.

6 For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing.

7 Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

- Secular governments, as ordained by God, serve the same purpose as the Law of Moses (*613 commandments*) - to restrain the sinfulness of man and maintain a semblance of order instead of anarchy.

Acts 5:27-29 ESV

27 And when they [the captain of the temple] had brought them, they set them before the council [Sanhedrin]. And the high priest questioned them,

28 saying, "We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us."

29 But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men."

Daniel 3:16-18 ESV

16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered and said to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter.

17 If this be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of your hand, O king.

18 But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up."

Daniel 6:10 ESV

10 When Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he went to his house where he had windows in his upper chamber open toward Jerusalem. He got down on his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as he had done previously.

Absolute Surrender To God Alone, Never To Man

Matthew 16:21-25 ESV

21 From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.

22 And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you."

23 But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

24 Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.

25 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.