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# ession 1



God & Government

*Dual Citizenship*

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## Scriptures on Governments Role

### ➤ New Testament

#### Romans 13

- 1 Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God.
- 2 Therefore whoever resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves.
- 3 For rulers are not a cause of fear for good behavior, but for evil. Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do what is good and you will have praise from the same;
- 4 for it is a minister of God to you for good. But if you do what is evil, be afraid; for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil.
- 5 Therefore it is necessary to be in subjection, not only because of wrath, but also for conscience' sake.
- 6 For because of this you also pay taxes, for *rulers* are servants of God, devoting themselves to this very thing.
- 7 Render to all what is due them: tax to whom tax *is due*; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor.

#### 1 Peter 2

- 13 Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether to a king as the one in authority,
- 14 or to governors as sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and the praise of those who do right.
- 15 For such is the will of God that by doing right you may silence the ignorance of foolish men.
- 16 *Act* as free men, and do not use your freedom as a covering for evil, but *use it* as bondslaves of God.
- 17 Honor all people, love the brotherhood, fear God, honor the king.

### ➤ Old Testament

#### Psalm 82

- 1 God takes His stand in His own congregation; He judges in the midst of the rulers.
- 2 How long will you judge unjustly And show partiality to the wicked?
- 3 Vindicate the weak and fatherless; Do justice to the afflicted and destitute.
- 4 Rescue the weak and needy; Deliver *them* out of the hand of the wicked.

#### Isaiah 10

- 1 Woe to those who enact evil statutes And to those who constantly record unjust decisions,
- 2 So as to deprive the needy of justice And rob the poor of My people of *their* rights, So that widows may be their spoil And that they may plunder the orphans.

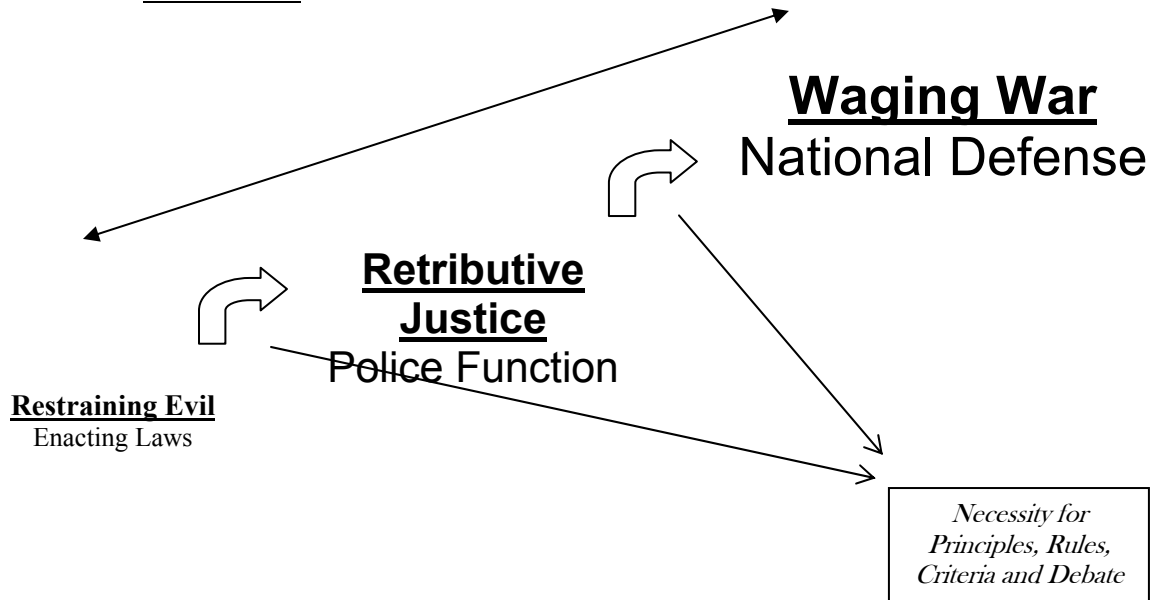
#### Lev 9

- 15 You shall do no injustice in judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor nor defer to the great, but you are to judge your neighbor fairly.



## Degrees of Restraining Evil

### ➤ Extension



### ➤ Escalation

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## Christian Responses to Governments Role



Absolute  
Pacifism

Conscientious  
Objection

Just War  
Criteria

Theocratic  
Warfare