

How Should We Then Vote?

Series

Lesson #15

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Dean Bible Ministries

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How Should We Then Vote?

**Divine Institution #4:
Government – Part 2**

The Foundations of Social Order

The Divine Institutions

Psa. 11:3, “If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?”

The Divine Institutions

1. Individual responsibility

2. Marriage **PRE-FALL**

3. Family **Designed to promote productivity
and advance civilization**

4. Government, judicial **POST-FALL**

5. Nations **Designed to restrain evil**

6. Israel **BLESSING FOR ALL MANKIND**

What is a Divine Institution?

Absolute social structures instituted by God for the entire human race—believers and unbelievers alike.

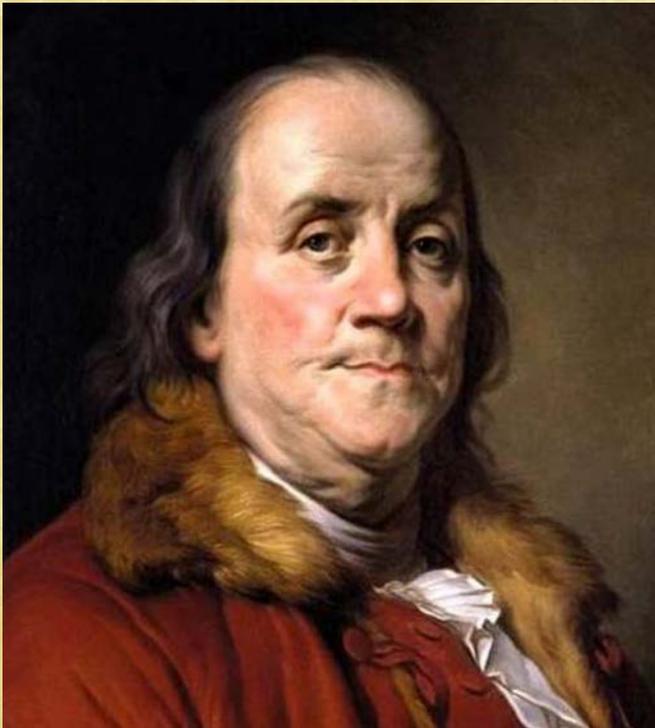
Designed by God for the “perpetuation, preservation, protection, and prosperity of the human race.”

“the protection, conservation, fostering, and improvement of human life.” ~Martin Luther

A Divine Institution is not a social construct.

**“Man will ultimately be governed
by God or by tyrants.”**

~Benjamin Franklin



**GOVERNMENT,
THE FOURTH DIVINE INSTITUTION**

The problem is sin, not human systems of education, social structure, poverty, but human sin.

Psa. 14:2, “The LORD looks down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there are any who understand, who seek God.

Psa. 14:3, “They have all turned aside, they have together become corrupt; There is none who does good, no, not one. [These two verses are repeated in Psa. 53:2–3]

Rom. 3:23, “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,”

Government's role is to protect the citizens from destructive sins of criminality.

Gen. 9:5, “Surely for your lifeblood I will demand a reckoning; from the hand of every beast I will require it, and from the hand of man. From the hand of every man's brother I will require the life of man.

Gen. 9:6, “Whoever sheds man's blood, by man his blood shall be shed; For in the image of God He made man.”

Deut. 4:5, “Surely I have taught you statutes and judgments, just as the LORD my God commanded me, that you should act according to them in the land which you go to possess.

Deut. 4:6, “Therefore be careful to observe them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples who will hear all these statutes, and say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’ ”

**Prov. 14:34, “Righteousness exalts a nation,
But sin is a reproach to any people.**

**Prov. 16:12, “It is an abomination for kings to
commit wickedness,
For a throne is established by
righteousness.”**

The problem of too little government:

Judg. 17:6, “In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.”

Judg. 21:25, “In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.”

Rom. 13:1, “Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.

Rom. 13:2, “Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.

Rom. 13:3, “For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same.

Rom. 13:4, “For he is God’s minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God’s minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil.

Rom. 13:5, “Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience’ sake.

Rom. 13:6, “For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God’s ministers attending continually to this very thing.

Rom. 13:7, “Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.”

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Dan. 3:5, “that at the time you hear the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, and psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, you shall fall down and worship the gold image that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up;

Dan. 3:6, “and whoever does not fall down and worship shall be cast immediately into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.”

Dan. 3:12, “There are certain Jews whom you have set over the affairs of the province of Babylon: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego; these men, O king, have not paid due regard to you. They do not serve your gods or worship the gold image which you have set up.”

Dan. 3:13, “Then Nebuchadnezzar, in rage and fury, gave the command to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. So they brought these men before the king.”

Dan. 3:16, “Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego answered and said to the king, ‘O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter.

Dan. 3:17, “ ‘If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king.

Dan. 3:18, “ ‘But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up.’ ”

Ex. 20:3, “You shall have no other gods before Me.

Ex. 20:4, “You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth;

Ex. 20:5, “you shall not bow down to them nor serve them.”

Acts 4:17, “ ‘But so that it spreads no further among the people, let us severely threaten them, that from now on they speak to no man in this name.’

Acts 4:18, “So they called them and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus.”

Acts 4:19, “But Peter and John answered and said to them, ‘Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge.

Acts 4:20, “ ‘For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.’ ”

Acts 5:17, “Then the high priest rose up, and all those who were with him (which is the sect of the Sadducees), and they were filled with indignation,

Acts 5:18, “and laid their hands on the apostles and put them in the common prison.”

Acts 5:19, “But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said,

Acts 5:20, “ ‘Go, stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this life.’ ”

Acts 5:28, “saying, ‘Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name? And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this Man’s blood on us!’

Acts 5:29, “But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: ‘We ought to obey God rather than men.’ ”

1 Pet. 2:13, “Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord’s sake, whether to the king as supreme,

1 Pet. 2:14, “or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do good.”

1 Pet. 2:15, “For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men—

1 Pet. 2:16, “as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as bondservants of God.

1 Pet. 2:17, “Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.”

Rom. 13:1, “Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.

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Mark 12:13, “Then they sent to Him some of the Pharisees and the Herodians, to catch Him in His words.”

Mark 12:14, “When they had come, they said to Him, ‘Teacher, we know that You are true, and care about no one; for You do not regard the person of men, but teach the way of God in truth. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?’ ”

Mark 12:15, “ ‘Shall we pay, or shall we not pay?’ But He, knowing their hypocrisy, said to them, ‘Why do you test Me? Bring Me a denarius that I may see it.’ ”

Mark 12:16, “So they brought it. And He said to them, ‘Whose image and inscription is this?’ They said to Him, ‘Caesar’s.’

Mark 12:17, “And Jesus answered and said to them, ‘Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.’ And they marveled at Him.”

Rom. 13:4, “For he is God’s minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God’s minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil.”

The Responsibility of Kings Before God

Deut. 17:18, “Also it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write for himself a copy of this law in a book, from the one before the priests, the Levites.

Deut. 17:19, “And it shall be with him, and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God and be careful to observe all the words of this law and these statutes,”

The problem of too much government:

1 Sam. 8:11, “And he said, ‘This will be the behavior of the king who will reign over you: He will take your sons and appoint them for his own chariots and to be his horsemen, and some will run before his chariots.

1 Sam. 8:12, “ ‘He will appoint captains over his thousands and captains over his fifties, will set some to plow his ground and reap his harvest, and some to make his weapons of war and equipment for his chariots.

1 Sam. 8:13, “ ‘He will take your daughters to be perfumers, cooks, and bakers.’ ”

1 Sam. 8:14, “And he will take the best of your fields, your vineyards, and your olive groves, and give them to his servants.

1 Sam. 8:15, “He will take a tenth of your grain and your vintage, and give it to his officers and servants.

1 Sam. 8:16, “And he will take your male servants, your female servants, your finest young men, and your donkeys, and put them to his work.”

1 Sam. 8:17, “He will take a tenth of your sheep. And you will be his servants.

1 Sam. 8:18, “And you will cry out in that day because of your king whom you have chosen for yourselves, and the LORD will not hear you in that day.”

Eph. 4:28, “Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.”

2 Thess. 3:10, “For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat.

2 Thess. 3:11, “For we hear that there are some who walk among you in a disorderly manner, not working at all, but are busybodies.

2 Thess. 3:12, “Now those who are such we command and exhort through our Lord Jesus Christ that they work in quietness and eat their own bread.”