



Power From on High

Series: Power From On High.
Title: Holding our Civil Leaders
Accountable
Lesson: 87

Text: Acts 16:35-40
Date: October 27, 2024

Acts 16:35 Now when day came, the chief magistrates sent their policemen, saying, “Release those men.”

“policemen”

What changed their mind?

36 And the jailer reported these words to Paul, saying, “The chief magistrates have sent to release you. Therefore come out now and go in peace.”

37 But Paul said to them, “They have beaten us in public without trial, men who are Romans, and have thrown us into prison; and now are they sending us away secretly? No indeed! But let them come themselves and bring us out.”

“men who are Romans”

**It is right to defend ourselves by using the
_____ system that God has
provided.**

**_____ our authorities for
misconduct does not mean we are being unsubmission
or dishonoring.**

“sending us away secretly.”

37b No indeed! But let them come themselves and bring us out.”

38 The policemen reported these words to the chief magistrates. They were afraid when they heard that they were Romans,

39 and they came and appealed to them, and when they had brought them out, they kept begging them to leave the city.

40 They went out of the prison and entered the house of Lydia, and when they saw the brethren, they encouraged them and departed.

“encouraged”

“they” not “we”

Implications

1. They wanted to establish a respectable

_____.

Proverbs 22:1 A good name is to be more desired than great wealth, Favor is better than silver and gold.

Acts 16:1–2 Paul came also to Derbe and to Lystra. And a disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his father was a Greek, 2 and he was well spoken of by the brethren who were in Lystra and Iconium.

2. They wanted to _____ the church.

How to vote according to God's will.

1. Vote for the most pro-_____ candidate.

Proverbs 6:16–17 There are six things which the Lord hates, Yes, seven which are an abomination to Him: 17 Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, And hands that shed innocent blood,

2. Vote for the most pro-_____ candidate.

Genesis 12:3 And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.”

3. Vote for the most pro-_____ candidate.

Proverbs 22:7 The rich rules over the poor, And the borrower becomes the lender's slave.

US Federal debt - \$35,000,000,000,000

Hourly increase - \$268,000,000

Individual debt - \$105,965

Taxpayer debt - \$271,577

4. Vote for the most pro-_____ candidate.

2 Thessalonians 3:10 For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either.

5. Vote for the most pro-_____ candidate.

Genesis 2:24 For this reason a **man** shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his **wife**; and they shall become one flesh.

6. Vote for the most pro-_____ candidate.

Psalms 139:14–15 I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Wonderful are Your works, And my soul knows it very well. 15 My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth;

Deuteronomy 22:5 “A woman shall not wear man’s clothing, nor shall a man put on a woman’s clothing; for whoever does these things is an abomination to the Lord your God.

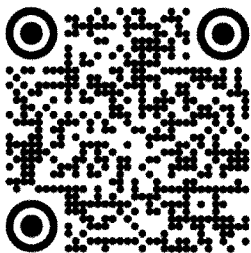
Leviticus 20:13 ‘If there is a man who lies with a male as those who lie with a woman, both of them have committed a detestable act; they shall surely be put to death. Their bloodguiltiness is upon them.

7. Vote for the most pro-_____ candidate.

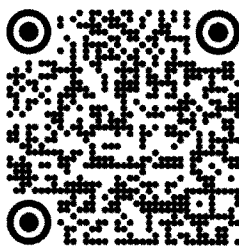
Romans 13:3–4 For rulers are not a cause of fear for good behavior, but for evil. Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do what is good and you will have praise from the same; 4 for it is a minister of God to you for good. But if you do what is evil, be afraid; for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil.

Discussion Guide

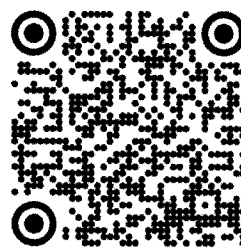
1. Do you believe our system of justice is legal or crooked? What do you believe is the reason?
2. Is the idea of connecting our legal system with God new for you? Why is it important to see the two working together?
3. What is the number one reason so many Christians choose not to vote? Do you believe they should? Why or why not?
4. Is there anyone you can give the “How to vote according to God’s will” section?
5. Review the story from the beginning and note the elements of God’s permissive will.



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*Weekly
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ANSWERS: legal, Confronting, reputation, protect, life, Israel, debt reduction, work, marriage, gender, justice