

A Christian's Duty to the Government

A Christian is in the world but is not to be of the world. Jesus in praying to His Father about His disciples said, "I have given them Thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I pray not that Thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that Thou shouldest keep them from the evil." (John 17; 14, 15).

While in the world a Christian is to be subject to the government under which he lives. Consider carefully what the Bible teaches on this subject. "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers, for there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. For this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour." (Rom. 13:1-7).

"Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well. For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men:" (1 Pet. 2:13-15).

"Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work." (Titus 3:1).

This is plain enough for every one to see God commands us to obey the laws of the land. The only exception to this is if and when some law of men forbids us to do what God has commanded or commands us to do what God has forbidden. We see as an example of this in Peter and John being commanded not to preach, "And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard." (Acts 4:18-20). They continued to preach and were again brought before the council, "And when they had brought them, they set them before the council; and the high priest asked them, Saying, did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and; behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us. Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men." (Acts 5:27-29).

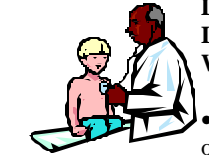
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To practice or to advocate civil disobedience is rebellion against God as well as against civil authority. To dislike a law is not justification for breaking that law. The fact that one may be willing to suffer the punishment decreed by the civil authority does not justify breaking a law. Christians are to be law abiding citizens not trouble makers. Christians are to pray for those in authority (1 Tim. 2:1-4).

Continue to remember in prayer:

Marguerite Charles, Margaret Kratz, Lyn Anderson, Martha Keith, Miriam Majors, Betty Jenkins, WJ Wood, Jonnie Charles, Tim Darr, Jim Dorsett, James Paul, Vernon Daniels, Jim Lane, Heather Ray, Hannah Duke, E.V. Wimmer



• Bob Garby's cataract surgery went well on Thursday and will surgery on the other eye July 9.

- Euline Gilpin, Eddy's mother has been released from the hospital. Her home address is posted on the board.
- Marguerite Charles had outpatient surgery on Monday.
- Sandra Wood is in Lewis-Gale Hospital, Room 533.
- Bill Pugh, friend and neighbor of A.C. and Mickie Janney had the upper half of one lung removed on Thursday and has requested prayer.

Happy Birthday this week to :

Connie Harrah—6/28

Eddy Gilpin—6/29

Linda Maness—6/29



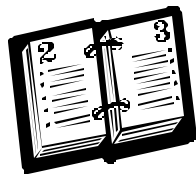
**Happy Anniversary this week to:
Adam & Dee House —6/29**



JUNE ITEMS FOR THE STAFFORDS:

Dentyne Fire Gum (spicy cinnamon) , cool lime Blast gum and vanilla wafers. Give your items to Jeanny and she will ship them over!

All upcoming events for July and August need to be in the office by June 28. Thanks!



Upcoming Events:



Team 2 (Garby) will be having a picnic on Saturday, 6/27 at Madolia's home. Sign up sheet on the board.

July 4th Congregational Picnic 11 AM - 2 PM at the WS Pavilion. Hot dogs, hamburgers, buns, and paper products will be provided. Look for a sign up sheet to bring canned drinks (bring on July 1 to put in the fridge), side items, and desserts and to let us know how many in your family will be attending. Bring your outside games and equipment to enjoy together.



Teens

June Events

Summer Youth Devo—6/29

Tubing Trip—6/30

As you can see Luke has lots of things planned. Make sure you check out the youth bulletin board for events and sign up sheets.

The Youth will be going down the James River again this year. This was a great event last year and anyone who would like to come and spend the day in the water or just join us for a picnic on the river bank see Luke or Jo Ann for the forms!! Forms and money (\$15 for tubing; \$5 for lunch) need to be turned in by TODAY!



WOW

Next WOW meeting will be on Tuesday, July 14 at 10:30.

Weekly Reminders

For Your Information

2009 SUMMER SERIES

Our annual Summer Series will feature Caleb Guard this Wednesday. Make plans to be here to hear all of the speakers that are lined up for this summer.

TUBING TRIP

Anyone interested in joining the youth group for a tubing trip down the James River on June 30 is welcome. The group will be leaving the building at 9:15 AM to go to Buchanan. Cost is \$15 for the tubing. **Or** just join us for lunch on the river bank at 11:30, catered by Jo's Catering—the cost for lunch is \$5. Pick up the form and menu from Luke or Jo Ann and turn them in today with your money.

2009 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Children will go on an adventure through TrueRassic Park learning in each session about God's Word. As the children progress through the park, they will learn the Biblical version of Creation and the truth about dinosaurs.

July 24, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm
July 25, 9:00 am – 12:30 pm

Ages 4 through just completed 5th grade

Volunteer recruitment is underway, volunteer sheets are being given out. If you want to volunteer, please see Jim or Charlotte Harrington.

Registration forms and online registration available starting June 28th.

Prayer list:

Marguerite Charles
Lyn Anderson
Martha Keith
Miriam Majors
Betty Jenkins
WJ Wood
Margaret Kratz
Jonnie Charles
Jim Dorsett
Tim Darr
Lori Whitlow
James Paul
Carolyn Drewry
Bob Garby
Euline Gilpin
Patty Gwaltney
Vernon Daniels
Jim Lane
Heather Ray
Hannah Duke
E.V. Wimmer
Sandra Wood

Activities:

Youth Devo—6/29
Tubing Trip—6/30
Congregational
Picnic—7/4



June 2009

What Foolishness Abounds!

Announcements Fred Altizer
Song Leader (AM) Jeff Durham
Opening Prayer (AM)
6/7 Richard Simms
6/14 Jerry Anderson
6/21 Danny Guard
6/28 Wayne Dixon

Preside at Communion Tom Richardson
Serve Table Adam House David Brown
Tom Rogers Sam Valentine

Closing Prayer
6/7 Roger Mays
6/14 Barry White
6/21 Greg Edwards
6/28 Jim Cooke

Song Leader (PM) Jason Oldham
Opening Prayer (PM)
6/7 Mitch Jearls
6/14 AC Janney
6/21 Glenn Hartman
6/28 George Mellon

Scripture Reader Nathan Pelfrey
Closing Prayer (PM)
6/7 Josh Whitlow
6/14 Don Pettit
6/21 Mike Durham
6/28 Eric Earnhart

Serve Table (PM)
Garrett & Bradford Durham

Song Leader (Wed) Bob Garby
Prayer (Wed)
6/3 Fred Altizer
6/10 Charlie Gwaltney
6/17 Gene Benefield
6/24 Jim Cooke

Open/Close Bldg Greeters Danny Guard
Bush/Gilpin

Nursery Attend Hazel McFalls Lisa Valentine
Ushers Norris Gearhart Curtis Oakes
Handouts Jim Harrington Bob Martin
Cameron Brown Paul Mays

Alternates Lyn Shrader
Prepare communion
Peggy Paxton Mitzi Pettit
Cards & Pencils
Caroline & Jimmy Harrington

Last weeks attendance 6/21&24/09

Bible Class—136 Worship Service—189
Sunday Eve.—102 Wednesday Eve.—109
Contribution—\$4992

On Tuesday, June 16, President Obama was engaged in an interview with CNBC's John Harwood. During the interview a fly continued to harass the president. Eventually, Mr. Obama swatted the fly. The incident made for a brief moment of levity in the interview and became an overnight sensation on the internet. Many of us have shaken our heads in disbelief at how much attention has been given this incident and how much praise has been heaped upon the president for his quick action (as if he is the only one ever to have killed a fly in such fashion).

As silly as the fawning over this matter has been, on Thursday (June 18) came something of even greater stupidity. "People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals" (PETA) sent the president a "Katcha Bug Humane Bug Catcher" (a device that allows for the live capture and subsequent release of insects). Bruce Friedrich, a spokesman for PETA, said, "Swatting a fly on TV indicates he's [Obama's] not perfect, and we're happy to say that we wish he hadn't."

On the day in which President Obama swatted the fly, 3700 babies were legally put to death in this country. On the day in which PETA made its utterly ridiculous statement, 115,000 babies were put to death by abortion throughout the world. Where is the outcry for these murdered humans? Where is the news coverage for the crimes against these unborn people? 42 million babies will be murdered this year and CNBC (and most other news organizations) will say little if anything about it (except, perhaps, to praise the freedom and the right to commit the acts legally). God will not hold a nation blameless who continues to slaughter its most innocent and vulnerable citizens. He hates the shedding of innocent blood (Prov. 6:16, 17). There is no greater abomination, travesty and miscarriage of justice in our land today than the continual killing of the unborn. "Woe unto them that decree unrighteous decrees, and that write grievousness which they have prescribed" (Is. 10:1). Shame on a nation that can condemn the killing of a pesky housefly while at the same time praise the wholesale slaughter of its most helpless citizens!

-Eddy

June 28, 2009

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