

Pleasant Valley Weekly

I will worship toward Your holy temple, And praise Your name For Your loving kindness and Your truth; For You have magnified Your word above all Your name. (Psalm 138 : 2)

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The Role of Government and Our Role in it

Over the past few years more and more people have begun the process of obtaining a Concealed Carry Permit (License). Since this growth began, I have fielded countless questions from Christians concerning the Role that Government plays in our lives, and the Role we play in Government.

In the past two years, I have had numerous discussions with Brethren who want to know these answers. What about wars? What about joining the military or the police force? Can I “serve my country” and still SERVE my God?

Although the Bible is clear what the answer is, I am afraid that many of our Brethren do not consider how serious these questions are and how serious their commitment truly is. To serve in the military or on a police force is a very respectful thing. However, one day it may put you in a situation to take another person’s life. Can you? What does God say?

In the Old Testament God does instruct the Israelites to utterly destroy the inhabitants of Canaan. But where has God instructed us today to utterly destroy a nation? Instead of taking our cue from the conquest of Canaan, let us consider what we find in the New Testament. What Role can we play, if any, and what Role truly does our Government have in our lives?

The Role of Government and Our Role in it

* I Peter 2 : 13—17

Submit to every institution—Why?

They have the right to punish evildoers and praise those who do good.

* Romans 13 : 1—7

Submit to governing authorities—Why?

They bear the sword of judgment for God to execute wrath on him who practices evil.

* What is the Government’s Role in Our lives?

Protect Innocent through

a police force, national guard, military defense, etc.

Punish Wrong Doers through

Judicial System—Judges, Juries, Jails, Prisons, etc.

* Questions

Do Governments today have the obligation to punish evil doers? - Yes

Do Governments today have the obligation to protect its citizens from evil? - Yes.

Can we as citizens help our government in the task of protecting and punishing? - Yes.

* The real question is

Can YOU (personally) fulfill these roles?