Bumby Bible Questions 7

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INTRODUCTION

- And it's simply should Christians stand up to politically effect change.

1 Our Citizenship Is in Heaven

John 18:36; Philippians 3:20; Hebrews 11:13–16

- We are most importantly a part of a spiritual kingdom that transcends any kingdom or any government that we might live under today.
- My kingdom is not of this world. And so as Christians, we must first and foremost have that mindset.
- Never forget that your citizenship is in heaven. That puts everything else we're going to talk about in its context.
- They were living for that city whose builder and maker is God.

2 Use Our Citizenship to Advance the Cause of Christ

Acts 22; Acts 25

- How we use our time for God is not just when we're at a building or when we're saying a prayer or when we're reading our Bibles or doing Bible lessons. It should be all the time.
- Our entire reason for living is to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ.
- If we can use our citizenship to advance the cause of Christ, I think Paul shows us in numerous places, not even just what's here. We can and should.
- You're a citizen of a government, whatever government it is, your citizenship in that government is going to be affected by your Christianity.

3 Pray for Kings and All in Authority

1 Timothy 2:1–4

- Therefore I exhort, first of all, that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men.
- Here's one way that you can affect political change is prayer.
- We pray that this kingdom that we live in might be affected such that we might be able to keep glorifying our God in the most open and productive way that we can.

4 Act in a Godly and Dignified Way

1 Timothy 2:2–4; Luke 9:23

- Insofar as our politics in this country's rights and freedoms and liberties and even suppressions of rights and liberties and freedoms affects the work of Christ, we should not only care about that, but do something.

- Every way that we live is to be godly and dignified.
- If somebody followed you for a week, which citizenship would they say you value more?
- So what type of political causes should we be acting on? Those that impact the body of Christ, but they're always to be done how, verse two, in a godly and dignified way.
- We don't fight ungodliness with further ungodliness.

5 Various Forms of Church Discipline

1 Corinthians 5:5–6; Romans 16:17–18; Matthew 18:15–17

- In the scriptures in the New Testament, there are various forms of discipline.
- Two motives were given to save the soul of the individual and the moral purity of the congregation.
- Every specific tool the church has been given on behalf of God is for the salvation of souls.
- Step one was privately go to that person. Step two, if that doesn't work, take two or three more.
- The reason is love. The reason is concern for souls. It's not anger, frustration, retaliation.

6 Answering Objections to Church Discipline

Hebrews 12; 2 Thessalonians 3:14–15

- What could be more loving than 1 Corinthians 5, verse 5, helping somebody have their spirit saved in the day of the Lord?
- This really demands and implies that there was fellowship to begin with.
- Yet do not count him as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.
- We don't write them off. We still contact them. We still encourage them. We plead with them.

THE CHALLENGE

So we need to be concerned for our souls and the souls of everyone with that loving spirit and those guiding principles.

MY NOTES