Theological Founda	ition	S
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1. Man is made in the image of God.

"Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness...so God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them."

Genesis 1:26-27

CORECLASSES

# **Theological Foundations**

- 1. Man is made in the image of God.
- 2. Mankind has been tasked as God's representative to rule the earth & subdue it.

"... so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground ... God blessed them and said to them. Be fruitful and increase in number, fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

enesis 1:26,

CORECLASSES

# **Theological Foundations**

- 1. Man is made in the image of God.
- 2. Mankind has been tasked as God's representative to rule the earth & subdue it.
- 3. Given the effects of the fall, government is one of the primary tools used to accomplish this.

Theolo	gical	Found	ations
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"And for your lifeblood I will surely demand an accounting. I will demand an accounting from every animal. And from each human being, too, I will demand an accounting for the life of another human being. "Whoever sheds human blood, by humans shall their blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made mankind. As for you, be fruitful and increase in number; multiply on the earth and increase upon it."

Genesis 9:5-7

CORECLASSES

### 3 Roles of Government

- 1. Protect freedom.
- 2. Root out inequity.
- 3. Not become God.

CORECLASSES

### The Government Conversation

- 1. Spiritual warfare.
- 2. Evil always multiplies itself; it never rests.

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"Do not be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them. But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty-one days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, because I was detained there with the king of Persia. Now I have come to explain to you what will happen to your people in the future, for the vision concerns a time yet to come."

Daniel 10:12-14

CORECLASSES

#### The Government Conversation

- 1. Spiritual warfare.
- 2. Evil always multiplies itself; it never rests.

CORECLASSES

#### The Government Conversation

"When an impure spirit comes out of a person, it goes through arid places seeking rest and does not find it. Then it says, 'I will return to the house I left.' When it arrives, it finds the house unoccupied, swept clean and put in order. Then it goes and takes with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there. And the final condition of that person is worse than the first. That is how it will be with this wicked generation."

Matt 12:43-45

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The Government Conversation	_		
"But the wicked are like the tossing sea, which canno	rest.		
whose waves cast up mire and mud. 'There is no posays my God, 'for the wicked.'"	eace,		
Isaiah 57	20.21		
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The Government Conversation	<u></u>		
1. Spiritual warfare.			
2. Evil always multiplies itself; it never rest	s		
3. Respect authority and pay taxes.			
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The Government Conversation	<u></u>		
This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are servants, who give their full time to governing. Gi	ve to		
everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay tarevenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if I	ionor,		
then honor.			
Rom	13:6-7		

#### The Government Conversation

- 1. Spiritual warfare.
- 2. Evil always multiplies itself; it never rests.
- 3. Respect authority and pay taxes.
- 4. Government is a tool; it is amoral.
- 5. History and politics are dicey.

CORECLASSES

### A Biblical View of Government

1. It "bear(s) the sword"

**CORECLASSES** 

#### A Biblical View of Government

Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. For rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience.

Rom 13:1-5

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- 1. It "bear(s) the sword"
- 2. It is intended as a good to put down evil.

"Every morning I will put to silence all the wicked in the land; I will cut off every evildoer from the city of the Lord."

Psalm 101:8

CORECLASSES

### A Biblical View of Government

- 1. It "bear(s) the sword."
- 2. It is a good to put down evil.
- 3. It punishes evil and praises the righteous.

CORECLASSES

#### A Biblical View of Government

Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right.

1 Pet 2:13-14

	Government

- 1. It "bear(s) the sword."
- 2. It is a good to put down evil.
- 3. It punishes evil and praises the righteous.
- 4. God establishes and removes authorities.

### A Biblical View of Government

It is God who judges: He brings one down, he exalts another.

Psalm 75:7

"Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are his. He changes times and seasons; he deposes kings and raises up others."

Dan 2:20-21

CORECLASSES

#### A Biblical View of Government

- 1. It "bear(s) the sword."
- 2. It is a good to put down evil.
- 3. It punishes evil and praises the righteous.
- 4. God establishes and removes authorities.
- 5. We are instructed to obey man's law except where it violate God's laws.

A Bi	blical V	liew of	Government

For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people. Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves. Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.

1 Pet 2:15-1

Peter and the other apostles replied: "We must obey God rather than human beings!"

Acts 5:29

CORECLASSES

#### Freedom

- 1. Freedom is "the absence of necessity, coercion, or constraint in choice or action" (Merriam-Webster).
- 2. God gives us free will (meaningful choice).

CORECLASSES

#### Freedom

Say to them, "As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign Lord, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, people of Israel?"

Ezek 33:11

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- 1. Freedom is "the absence of necessity, coercion, or constraint in choice or action" (Merriam-Webster).
- 2. God gives us free will (meaningful choice).
- 3. Blessing comes through trust and obedience; chaos come from rebellion.

#### Freedom

See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. For I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you are not obedient, and if you are drawn away to bow down to other gods and worship them, I declare to you this day that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live long in the land you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess...

**CORECLASSES** 

#### Freedom

... This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the Lord is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Deut 30:15-20

Freedom	
	" laws provide against injury from others; but not from ourselves"
	~ Thomas Jefferson
	CORECLASSES

#### Freedom

- 1. Freedom is "the absence of necessity, coercion, or constraint in choice or action" (Merriam-Webster).
- 2. God gives us free will (meaningful choice).
- 3. Blessing comes through trust and obedience; chaos come from rebellion.
- 4. God is painfully in favor of freedom.

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#### Freedom



"The founders and many successive generations believed in natural rights. In that, as the Declaration of Independence makes clear, to establish a government by consent, they gave up only those rights necessary to create a limited government. They then structured that government so that it could not jeopardize the liberty that flowed from these inherent, or natural, rights."

~ Justice Clarence Thomas

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		does not mean we perty in exactly the	-		
	Same way.	~ President Obama			
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Stop coercion and fraud.
 Work hard (2 Thess 3:10).

from someone else.

17:27).

4. Some taxes are good and necessary (Matt 22:21,

5. Government cannot give to anyone without first taking

### Inequity vs. Inequality (cont.)

- 1. Fighting inequality is biblically foolish (Matt 26:11).
- 2. Intent of caring about people gone wrong.
- 3. Christians abdicating role.
- 4. Government makes a terrible god.
- 5. Fighting inequalities creates inequities.

CORECLASSES

What			

1. The Church should shine among men.

CORECLASSES

#### What Do I Do As A Christian?

Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose. Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, "children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation." Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky

Phil 2:12-15

#### What Do I Do As A Christian?

- 1. The Church should shine among men.
- 2. Am I imposing my religion on others?
- 3. Truth always has a secular rationale.
- 4. Aristotle's view of truth.
- 5. Pray for leaders.

CORECLASSES

#### What Do I Do as a Christian?

I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

1 Tim 2:1-4

CORECLASSES

# Maintaining a Kingdom Mindset

- 1. What about changing the world?
- 2. Upside-down nature of the kingdom.
- 3. The kingdom of God vs. kingdoms of men.

But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ  Phil 3:20	
For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom,	
establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this. Isalah 9:6-7	
COREULASSES	
laintaining a Kingdom Mindset	
The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were oud voices in heaven, which said:	
The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our ord and of his Messiah, and he will reign for ever and	
ever."	
Rev.11:15	
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