

## Wisdom's Toolbox interacting with Earthly governments

ACTS 16:35-40

	Aike Fabarez • Focal Point Radio Ministries • October 29 & 30, 2022 • Acts, week  Understand	82 • Msg. 22-33	Acts 16:35 But when it was day, the magistrates sent the police, saying, "Let those men go." 36 And the jailer reported these
	Insist	(vv.35-36) _ (vv.37-39)	words to Paul, saying, "The magistrates have sent to let you go. Therefore come out now and go in peace."  37 But Paul said to them, "They have beaten us publicly, uncondemned, men who are Roman citizens, and have thrown us into prison; and do they now throw us out secretly? No! Let them come themselves and take us out."  38 The police reported these words to the magistrates, and they were afraid when they heard that they were Roman citizens.  39 So they came and apologized to them. And they took them out and asked them to leave the city. 40 So they went out of the prison and visited Lydia. And when they had seen the brothers, they encouraged them and departed. (ESV)
3.	Determine	(v.	40)

## **Application Questions**

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

- 1. Read **2 Kings 13:1-6** and **James 3:16-17**. While these two passages have their immediate application in Israel and the church respectively, what observations can we make regarding their application to modern governments?
- 2. Read **Proverbs 14:34** and **1 Timothy 2:1-4**. How does your consideration of the impact of a country's leadership decisions motivate your praying for political leaders? How will you remind yourself to pray for this?
- 3. Read **Ecclesiastes 7:19**. Why are your spiritual health, the spiritual health of your family, and the vibrant health of your church of supreme importance? How did Acts 16:35-40 illustrate this?
- 4. Read **1 Peter 2:13-17**; **Romans 13:1-7** and **Proverbs 24:21**. How can these passages keep you from falling to the temptation of extreme, hostile, and unbiblical reactions to earthly governments while being faithful to God?
- 5. Read **Philippians 2:9-10** and **Daniel 4:34-37**. What hope do you derive from these passages, even if their realities are postponed?

The following related sermons are also available for downloading or streaming on the Focal Point Website and App (FPR.org).

Msg. 20-43 - The Fear of God & Our Government

Msg. 20-07 - Resolved to Keep Speaking

Msg. 18-06 - Living as Christ's Expatriates

Msg. 11-21 - Elections, Activism, & Civil Disobedience

Msg. 11-20 - Obedience, Honor, & April 15th

Msg. 18-04 - Submitting to Christ's Sovereign Authority

Msg. 11-18 - Human Laws & Christian Conduct

## Daily Bible Reading Schedule

Oct. 30 <sup>th</sup>	Jer.27-28 & 2Tim.4
Oct. 31st	Jer.29-30 & Titus 1
Nov. 1 <sup>st</sup>	Jer.31-32 & Titus 2
Nov. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Jer.33-35 & Titus 3
Nov. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Jer.36-37 & Phile.
Nov. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Jer.38-39 & Heb.1
Nov. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Jer.40-42 & Heb.2
Nov. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Jer.43-45 & Heb.3

Here are some books which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

Beckwith, Francis J. Politics for Christians: Statecraft as Soulcraft. IVP Academic, 2010.

Boice, James Montgomery. Two Cities, Two Loves: Christian Responsibility in a Crumbling Culture. IVP, 1996.

Clouse, Robert G. Two Kingdoms: The Church and Culture through the Ages. Moody Press, 1993.

Culver, Robert Duncan. Toward a Biblical View of Civil Government. Moody Press, 1974.

Feinberg, John & Paul Feinberg. "The Christian & the Secular State" in Ethics for a Brave New World. Crossway, 2010.

Geisler, Norman. "Civil Disobedience" in Christian Ethics: Contemporary Issues & Options. Baker Books, 2010.

Grudem, Wayne. Politics According to the Bible: Modern Political Issues in Light of Scripture. Zondervan, 2010.

Hall, David W. Calvin in the Public Square: Liberal Democracies, Rights and Civil Liberties.

Köstenberger, Andreas and Peter O'Brien. Salvation to the Ends of the Earth. Intervarsity, 2001.

Lutzer, Erwin. When a Nation Forgets God: Seven Lessons We Must Learn from Nazi Germany. Moody, 2010.

Shelley, Bruce L. The Gospel and the American Dream. Multnomah Press, 1989.

Thomas, Cal & Ed Dobson. Blinded by Might: Why the Religious Right Can't Save America (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.). Zondervan, 2000.

VanDrunen, David. Living in God's Two Kingdoms: A Biblical Vision for Christianity & Culture. Crossway, 2010.