

AUTHORITY, SUBMISSION, AND REBELLION

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1. Accepting Authority

- A. Authorities should be obeyed (Rom 13:1-7).
- B. Paying the two drachma tax (Matt 17:24-27).
- C. Give to Caesar what is Caesar's (Mat 22:21; Mark 12:17; Luke 20:25).
- D. Commands to pray for leaders (1 Tim; Rom 13).
- E. Church leadership (1 Pet 2:13-17; Heb 13:17).

2. *Note: types of authority in ancient Israel

- A. Primary:
 - (1). Prophetic
 - (2). Royal/military/political
 - (3). Priestly
- B. Secondary:
 - (1). Judges could come from any of these categories or be other societal leaders.

3. Authority is Not Beyond Scrutiny

- A. Corrupt/evil kings, lower level leaders, priests, and (false) prophets (cf. Micah 3; 6; Isaiah 1; much of Jeremiah; Ezekiel; Amos 7; 1 Sam 15; many instances in Kings & Chronicles).
- B. John the Baptist to Herod (Matt 14:1-12; Mark 6:14-29; Luke 3:18-19).
- C. Church leaders (1 Tim 5:19-22; Rev 2:22-24; Gal 2).

4. Using the Legal System

- A. Paul and his Roman citizenship, multiple times (Acts 16:37; 21:39; 22:25-29; 25:11; 28:19).
- B. People calling for justice (Ps 122:5; 1 Kgs 3:16-28).
- C. Woman getting her land back (2 Kgs 8:1-6).
- D. Ruth, Boaz, Naomi, property, the unnamed relative (Ruth).
- E. Genealogies—protected people's land rights and jobs (cf. 1 Chr 1-9; Ezra 2; 10).
- F. Jesus used an evil judge as an illustration about prayer (Luke 18:1-8).
- G. Calling upon God for justice (many Psalms; Luke 18:8; James 5:4; Rev 6:9-11).

5. Unauthorized Rebellion

- A. Korah's rebellion (Num 16).
- B. Absalom's coup (2 Sam 15-19).
- C. Zedekiah rebelling against Nebuchadnezzar, breaking treaty (Jer).
- D. Sheba's rebellion (2 Sam 20:1-22).

6. Authorized Rebellion Against Leadership

- A. Hebrew Midwives rescue babies, give misinformation to Pharaoh (Exod 1:15-21).
- B. Samuel anoints David as king while Saul is still king (1 Sam 16:1-13).
- C. David did not carry out a coup against Saul, but still operated in rebellion to him (1 Sam 22). He even worked with the Philistines for a while (1 Sam 27).
- D. The prophet Ahijah anointed Jeroboam as king of the Northern Kingdom (Israel) while Solomon was still king; Solomon tried to kill Jeroboam (1 Kgs 11:26-40).
- E. Elisha instigates a successful military coup against Ahab's family (2 Kgs 9-10).

- F. Jeremiah implies King Jehoiakim should be killed (Jer 22:18-19).
- G. John the Baptist criticizes Herod for incest and other acts of wickedness, loses his life (Matt 14:1-12; Mark 6:14-29; Luke 3:18-19).
- H. Apostles preach Jesus, even though ordered not to do so (Acts 4:1-31; 5:17-42;).
- I. Christians said Jesus is "Kurios" (Lord), not Caesar (1 Cor 8:6; Eph 4:5).
- J. Judges fought against foreign invaders who had taken power: Othniel, Ehud, Gideon, Samson (Judges).
- K. Joab: census when David was doing evil (2 Sam; 1 Chr).
- L. David lying to his Philistine suzerain (1 Sam).
- M. Hezekiah rebelled against Assyrian authority (2 Kgs 18:7).
- N. Hezekiah telling his men not to answer Rab Shekah, the Assyrian commander (2 Kgs; Isa).