**Government**

**A government is the system by which a country, state, city or community is controlled. In the Commonwealth of Nations, the word government is also used more narrowly to refer to the collective group of people that exercises executive authority in a state. We all may have different thoughts about how effective, intrusive or even necessary it is. It is the means in which a society lays out its rules, economy (taxes) and in some cases beliefs. It is this last piece where we struggle. Sometimes those beliefs run contradictory to our beliefs. However God wants us to be good citizens. Let’s see what the bible says about Government:**

[Romans 13:1](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+13%3A1&version=ESV) **- Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.**

[Romans 13:1-7](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+13%3A1-7&version=ESV) **- Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore, whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. Therefore, one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ...**

[Acts 5:29](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+5%3A29&version=ESV) **- But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men.**

[1 Peter 2:13-17](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Peter+2%3A13-17&version=ESV) **- Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.**

[Titus 3:1](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Titus+3%3A1&version=ESV) **- Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work,**

[1 Timothy 2:1-3](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+2%3A1-3&version=ESV) **- First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior,**

[Daniel 2:20-21](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Daniel+2%3A20-21&version=ESV) **- Daniel answered and said: “Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, to whom belong wisdom and might. He changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings; he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding;**

[Psalm 22:28](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+22%3A28&version=ESV) **- For kingship belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations.**

[Daniel 2:44](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Daniel+2%3A44&version=ESV) **- And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, nor shall the kingdom be left to another people. It shall break in pieces all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand forever,**

[Revelation 1:5-6](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+1%3A5-6&version=ESV) **- And from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.**

[1 Timothy 6:15-16](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+6%3A15-16&version=ESV) **- Which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.**

[Deuteronomy 16:18-20](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Deuteronomy+16%3A18-20&version=ESV) **- “You shall appoint judges and officers in all your towns that the Lord your God is giving you, according to your tribes, and they shall judge the people with righteous judgment. You shall not pervert justice. You shall not show partiality, and you shall not accept a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and subverts the cause of the righteous. Justice, and only justice, you shall follow, that you may live and inherit the land that the Lord your God is giving you.**

[Romans 13:7](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+13%3A7&version=ESV) **- Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.**

[Luke 20:25](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+20%3A25&version=ESV) **- He said to them, “Then render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.”**

[Mark 3:24](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+3%3A24&version=ESV) **- If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand**