



Letters to the Editor

Christians Shouldn't Abstain

"Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves." Roman 13:1-2 (NKJV)

For years I have heard good, solid, well-meaning United States Christians and Christian leaders quote the above verse as justification to refrain from involvement in the affairs of our federal government. These Christians hold the belief that God ordains who will be our political leaders, good and bad, and that we must endure whatever policies these leaders choose to enact, all the while limiting our involvement to prayer for these leaders and their decisions.

If we lived in almost any nation other than the United States of America, I might agree with them. But we don't! What's the difference you might ask? Simple. In all other forms of government, the people receive their "rights" from the government. But under the U.S. Constitution, the government receives its "rights" from the people. "We the people" created the federal government to serve our interests. "We the people" were not created to serve the interests of our federal government. We are not "subjects" of our government. Our government is "subject" to us. We as citizens have the responsibility to obey each and every law enacted by our legislative branch of government. But we also have the God-given inalienable right and responsibility to work to ensure that those laws reflect our values.

Let's not be confused by the scriptural mandate to "be subject to governing authorities." Let's be reminded that in the United States of America, "we the people" *are* the God-ordained political authority, and that our government is under the authority of "we the people," not the other way around. Under our constitutional government, there is no other authority between "we the people" and God himself.

Unlike any other government in human history, God has given "we the people" the incredible opportunity to shape our own future instead of being dependent upon some elite political leader to shape it for us. If we as Christians really believe that the message of Christianity holds the answers that the world needs, then we should be at the forefront of shaping our political future, not sitting on the sidelines letting others take the lead.

Mark Wattier
Sent via e-mail

They're Not Funding Government

I enjoyed R. Cort Kirkwood's article "Illegal Aliens: Economic Consequences" (November 22, 2010 issue).

I would like to add something that I almost never see written about. Before I retired in 2006, I was privy to all the paperwork filled out by all new hires at our company. We would work someone as a temp for eight weeks, and if they were a good fit, we would hire permanently. Forty-four percent of our workforce was Hispanic. We were allowed to hire 18-year-olds with minimal restrictions for a factory setting. In the 12 years I was with the company, I hired a little over 470 Hispanics. Every Hispanic, but one, always claimed six dependents. This meant they had close to nothing taken out of their checks



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each week, so they were *not* paying into the system, as many people claim. To add insult to injury, they also took the child deductions at the end of the year and got very nice checks from the American taxpayer. This is a cost I never hear about.

Giovanni Faga

Sent via e-mail

The Doctors Did Well

Thank you for the articles from the doctors regarding the detrimental impact of socialized medicine. Most of us know that it doesn't work, but it's good to have specific stories from actual doctors who have direct experience with how it doesn't work. We get conflicting reports on socialized medicine in Canada and Great Britain, but the point about Tulsa having more MRIs than all of Canada was a good one to point out to those who think ObamaCare is the way to go.

Dick Wood

Prospect, Kentucky



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