

The Ordination of the Civil Magistrates (LBCF 24.1)

Michael Woody | Romans 13:1–6

SURVEY OF SCRIPTURE

1. God, the supreme Lord and King of all the world, hath ordained civil magistrates to be under him, over the people (Ps. 82:1; Luke 12:48; Rom. 13:1-6; 1 Peter 2:13-14)
2. or his own glory and the public good (Gen. 6:11-13; 9:5-6; Ps. 58:1-2; 72:14; 82:1-4; Prov. 21:15; 24:11-12; 29:14,26; 31:5; Ezek. 7:23; 45:9; Dan. 4:27; Matt. 22:21; Rom. 13:3-4; 1 Tim. 2:2; 1 Peter 2:14)
3. to this end hath armed them with the power of the sword, for defence and encouragement of them that do good and for the punishment of evil doers. (Gen. 9:6; Prov. 16:14; 19:12; 20:2; 21:15; 28:17; Acts 25:11; Rom. 13:4; 1 Peter 2:14)

WHAT DOES THIS TEACH US?

THE ORDAINED _____ OF CIVIL MAGISTRATES

1. This first statement strikes at the _____ of government and our _____ towards that government.
2. Sam Waldron states, The first and central point asserted in this paragraph is that civil magistrates are _____. They derive their authority from God.
3. Waldron concludes, We obey because ____ wills it, not because we have voluntarily committed ourselves to certain men to whom ____ have given authority.
4. Specific statements supporting this truth:
 - a. The Confession states this is as being ‘ _____ him [God] and _____ the people’.

- b. Scripture supports this in Romans 13:2, 4, 6, this position of authority is described variously as 'the _____ of God', 'the _____ of God' and 'God's _____'. These descriptions epitomize the statement of the Confession.
- c. God has given _____ all the authority they possess and they will be _____ by God (Luke 12:48).

THE ORDAINED _____ OF CIVIL MAGISTRATES

- 1. There are _____ instances where this is in the Confession:
 - a. 'For his _____ glory and the _____ good'.
 - b. "For _____ and _____ of them that do good and for the _____ of evil doers'.
 - c. Paragraph 2, 'to maintain _____ and _____'.
- 2. The teaching of such passages is that the task of civil government is to:
 - a. Maintain _____ social _____ and _____ civil _____ justice _____ and _____ peace by _____ and _____, and
 - b. _____ and _____ those who socially and civilly do what is good.

THE ORDAINED _____ OF CIVIL MAGISTRATES

- 1. The Confession states 'And to this end [God] hath armed them with the _____ of the sword.'
- 2. The Bible teaches that God has armed this office with _____.