

I. Leave Room For The Wrath of God

Summary: We live in a time of grace and mercy. We are to forgive as God has forgiven us. As persecution of Christians rise in this world should we call down fire or give mercy and leave room for the wrath of God?

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1. Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God. Therefore whoever resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves. For rulers are not a cause of fear for good behavior, but for evil. Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do what is good and you will have praise from the same; for it is a minister of God to you for good. But if you do what is evil, be afraid; for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for it is a minister of God, **an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil**. Therefore it is necessary to be in subjection, not only because of wrath, but also for conscience' sake. For because of this you also pay taxes, for rulers are servants of God, devoting themselves to this very thing. Render to all what is due them: tax to whom tax is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor. - Romans 13:1-7 NASU

- Wrath of God can also be seen through the hands of government authorities
- Necessary Subjection?
 - Taxes
 - Customs
 - Fear
 - Honor

2. Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. **Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you**, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you. - Ephesians 4:30-32 NASU

- We are to put away wrath. Wrath belongs to God.

3. If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men. Never take your own revenge, beloved, but **leave room for the wrath of God**, for it is written, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY," says the Lord. "BUT IF YOUR ENEMY IS HUNGRY, FEED HIM, AND IF HE IS THIRSTY, GIVE HIM A DRINK; FOR IN SO DOING YOU WILL HEAP BURNING COALS ON HIS HEAD." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. - Romans 12:18-21 NASU

- Peace is our language
- Leaving room for the wrath of God
 - By quickly forgiving
 - Food
 - Drink
 - By overcoming the offense

4. For they themselves report about us what kind of a reception we had with you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God, and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, that is **Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath to come**. - 1 Thess 1:9-10 NASU

- Turned to God from...

- It is Jesus who rescues us from the wrath to come
5. First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony given at the proper time. For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying) as a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth. Therefore **I want the men in every place to pray, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and dissension.** - 1 Timothy 2:1-8 NASU
- We cannot worship God and be filled with wrath.
 - We cannot worship God and by filled with dissension.