

Finding God's Best



Finding God's Best

- Offer your ordinary life to God
- Accurately understand yourself
- Don't fake love
- Get the best of evil by doing good
- Be a responsible citizen
- Keep track of time
- Tend to your own stomach



**Be A
Responsible
Citizen**



1. Government is Ordained By God - 13:1-2

- “The most High is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and gives them to anyone he wishes and sets over them the lowliest of men” (Dan 4:17)



“To be sure, men will abuse and misuse the institution of the State just as man because of sin has abused and misused every other institution in history including the Church of Jesus Christ, but this does not mean that the institution is bad or that it should be forsaken. It simply means that men are sinners and rebels in God’s world, and this is the way they behave with good institutions.

As a matter of fact, it is because of this very sin that there must be human government to maintain order in history until the final and ultimate rule of Jesus Christ is established. Human government is better than anarchy, and the Christian must recognize the “divine right” of the State.”

–Richard Halverson

2. Government is Ordained by God to Promote Good and Restrain Evil - 13:3-5

- Do we have a moral obligation to resist tyranny, even to the point of revolution?
- Whatever government does, God will work through it to bring about the ultimate honour for is people



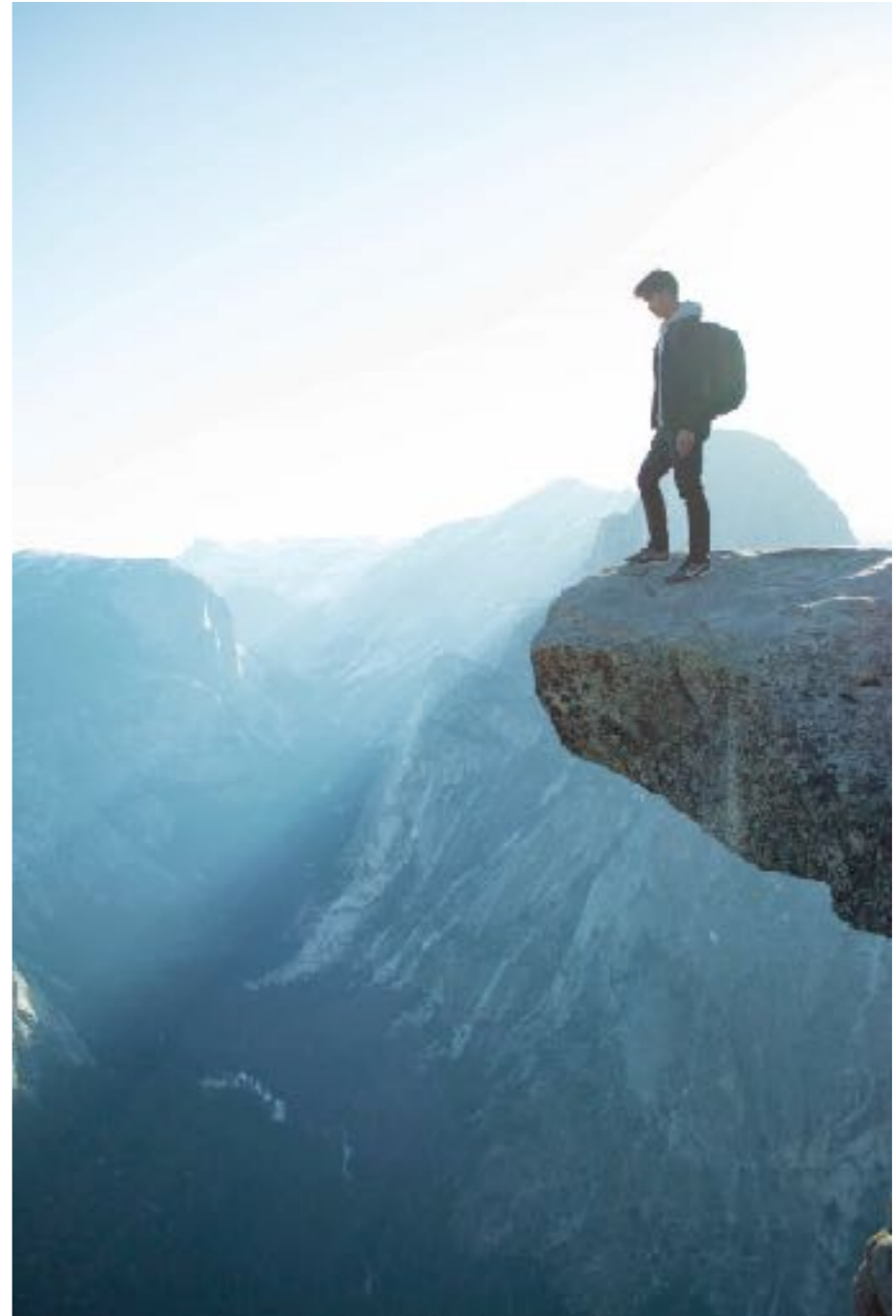
3. Government is Ordained By Good to Provide Benefits Through Taxes - 13:6-7

- Public servants are to be supported and paid from the tax revenue
- Honour and respect



Are There Exceptions?

- “Judge for yourselves whether it is right in God’s sight to obey you rather than God. For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.” (Acts 4:19-20)



The Exception?

- To submit to the state does not mean one has to obey every mandate of the state
- If we are told to do something that goes against our allegiance to God, we must obey God



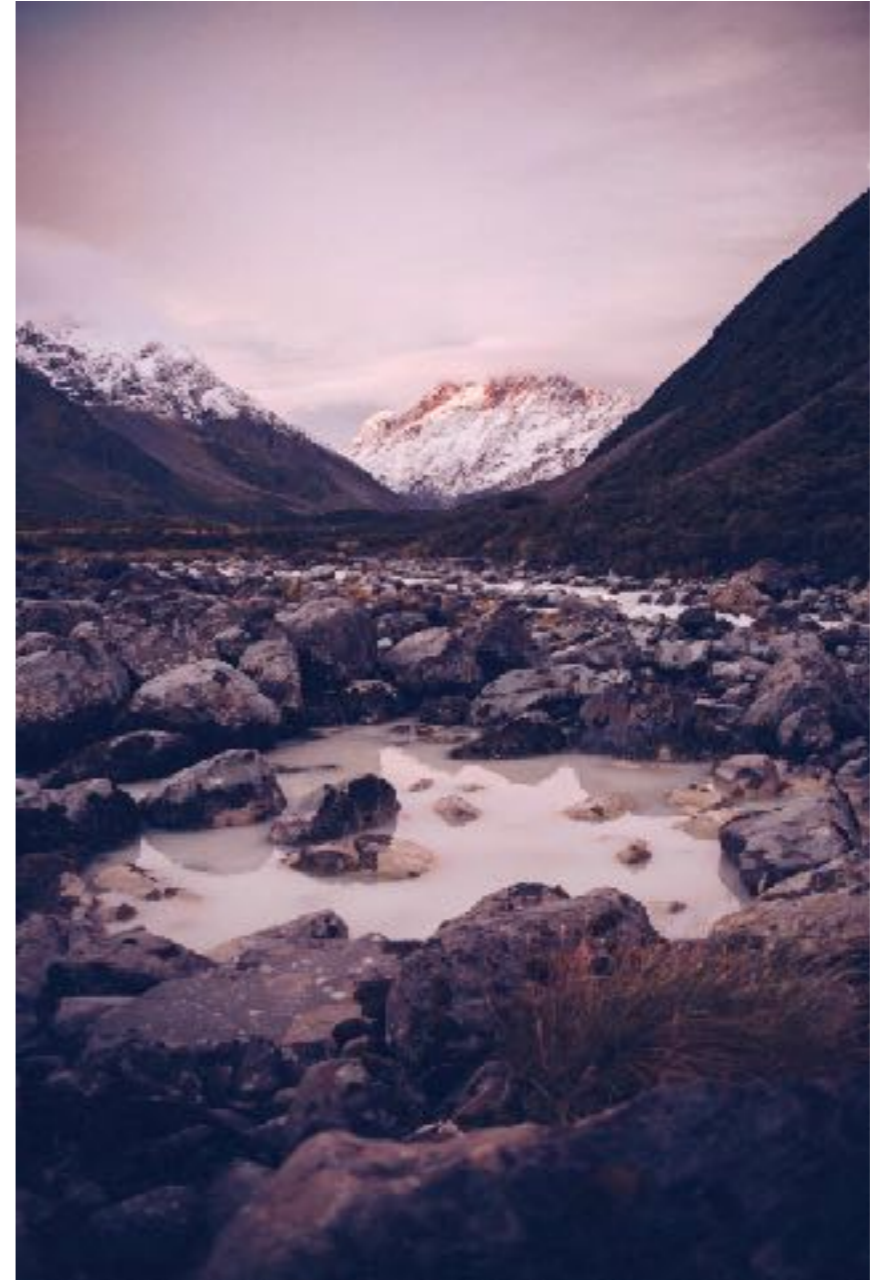
Submit?

- Recognizing one's subordinate place in a hierarchy established by God
- God is the head of the relationship and ultimate submission is to be to him



Forcing vs Allowing

- If an immoral action is commanded, it is to be resisted in all possible ways
- If an immoral action is allowed but not commanded, resistance is to be voiced



“If there is no final place for civil disobedience, then the government has been made autonomous, and as such, it has been put in the place of the living God”

–Francis Schaeffer

