

## Schedule

- Watch 3 minute video
- Bible Study (1 Samuel 26:9-11)
- Presentation
- Discussion

## Video

Quotes from Luther:

God has ordained the two governments: the spiritual, which by the Holy Spirit under Christ makes Christians and pious people; and the secular, which restrains the unchristian and wicked so that they are obliged to keep the peace outwardly...The laws of worldly government extend no farther than to life and property and what is external upon earth. For over the soul God can and will let no one rule but himself. Therefore, where temporal power presumes to prescribe laws for the soul, it encroaches upon God's government and only misleads and destroys souls. We desire to make this so clear that everyone shall grasp it, and that the princes and bishops may see what fools they are when they seek to coerce the people with their laws and commandments into believing one thing or another.

Luther forbade Christians from allowing temporal rulers to meddle with their hearts in matters of belief, declaring that "if you give into him and let him take away your faith and books, you have truly denied God". However, in all temporal matters, subjects must obey and welcome true Christian suffering:

We are to be subject to governmental power and do what it bids, as long as it does not bind our conscience but legislates only concerning outward matters...But if it invades the spiritual domain and constrains the conscience, over which God only must preside and rule, we should not obey it at all but rather lose our necks. Temporal authority and government extend no further than to matters which are external and corporeal.

## Bible Study

1 Samuel 26:9-11

<sup>9</sup> But David said to Abishai, "Do not destroy him, for who can put out his hand against the LORD's anointed and be guiltless?" <sup>10</sup> And David said, "As the LORD lives, the LORD will strike him, or his day will come to die, or he will go down into battle and perish. <sup>11</sup> The LORD forbid that I should put out my hand against the LORD's anointed. But take now the spear that is at his head and the jar of water, and let us go."

### Discussion questions

- How did God use David in the left-hand kingdom?
- How did God use David in the right-hand kingdom?
- What connection is there between God's purpose in establishing earthly governments and His church's mission to save souls?
- Does it even matter to God whether a nation is Christian or not?
- Does a nation have to be Christian to fulfill His purposes for it?

## Presentation Notes

1. Luther asks: "What would be the result of an attempt to rule the world by the Gospel and the abolition of earthly law and force?"

He answers:

- "It would be loosing savage beasts from their chains. The wicked, under cover of the Christian name, would make unjust use of their Gospel freedom."
- "To try to rule a country, or the world, by the Gospel would be like putting wolves, lions, eagles, and sheep all together in the fold and saying to them: 'Now graze, and live a godly and peaceful life together. The door is open, and there is pasture enough, and no watchdog you need to fear.' The sheep would keep the peace, sure enough, but they would not live long."

2. Genesis 2:16-17:

- a. <sup>16</sup> And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, <sup>17</sup> but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat<sup>a</sup> of it you shall surely die."

3. Luther writes about Genesis 2:16-17

- a. Here we have the establishment of the church before there was any government of the home and of the state, for Eve was not yet created. Moreover, the church is established without walls and without any pomp, in a very spacious and very delightful place. After the church has been established, the household government is also set up, when Eve is added to Adam as his companion. Thus the temple is earlier than the home, and it is also more important. Moreover, there was no government of the state before sin, for there was no need of it. Civil government is a remedy required by your corrupted nature.

4. Review CTC Handout

When we continue..... "We are the light / We are the salt."

## All Resources

Brown, Gregory. "10. Submission to Authorities (1 Peter 2:13–25) | Bible.org." Bible.org, 30 July 2014, bible.org/seriespage/10-submission-authorities-1-peter-213-25.

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"We the People: Citizens of Two Kingdoms," n.d. <https://www.lhm.org/studies/studyvideofull.asp?ID=15579>

Yann Picand, D. D. (n.d.). *Doctrine of the Two kingdoms*. Doctrine of the two kingdoms : definition of Doctrine of the two kingdoms and synonyms of Doctrine of the two kingdoms (English). <http://dictionary.sensagent.com/Doctrine%20of%20the%20two%20kingdoms/en-en/#References>