THE BIBLE AND VOTING

Part 16



Dr. Andy Woods

Introductory Remarks

- A stewardship issue (1 Cor. 4:2)
- A biblical issue (2 Tim. 3:16)
- Biblical principles rather than partisanship

The Bible and Voting

1. Economic issues
2. Social issues
3. Foreign affairs



The Bible and Voting

1. **Economic issues**
2. Social issues
3. Foreign affairs



Economic Issues

1. Ownership of private property? (Deut. 19:15)
2. Pursuit of economic self interest? (Gen. 8:21)
3. Proper definition of compassion? (2 Thess. 3:10)
4. Who provides charity? (1 Tim. 5:3-8)
5. Family is the building block of society? (Deut. 6:6-7)
6. Wealth retained within the family? (Prov. 13:22)
7. The earth experiences cyclical patterns? (Gen. 8:22)
8. Environmental stewardship rather than earth worship? (Rom. 1:22-23)
9. Opposition to runaway debt? (Prov. 22:7)
10. Limitations upon the government? (Acts 5:29)

The Bible and Voting

1. Economic issues
2. **Social issues**
3. Foreign affairs



Social Issues

1. Legal protection for the unborn? (Gen. 25:23)
2. Legal protection for the elderly? (Lev. 19:32)
3. Hetero-sexual monogamous marriage as the standard for society? (Gen. 2:18-25)
4. Advocacy capital punishment? (Gen. 9:6)
5. The right to restrict alcohol, pornography, & gambling? (Lev. 10:9; Matt. 5:27-28; Prov. 13:11)
6. Parental authority over children? (Eph. 6:4)
7. Public expressions of Christianity? (Mark 16:15)
8. Right to keep and bear arms? (Luke 22:36)

The Bible and Voting

1. Economic issues
2. Social issues
3. **Foreign affairs**



Foreign Affairs

1. Favor national sovereignty above global governance? (Gen. 11:1-9)

2. Favor the reality and enforceability of our national borders? (Acts 17:26)

3. Support for the nation of Israel? (Gen. 12:3)

4. Pursuit of peace though strength? (Jer. 17:9)

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Overview



I. Terrorism's false causes
II. Terrorism's true causes
III. Ineffective deterrents of terrorism
IV. Effective deterrents to terrorism
V. Going too far in deterring terrorism
VI. Legitimate methods in deterring terrorism

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I. Terrorism's False Causes

A. Poverty

B. Lack of education

C. American imperialism



Overview



I. Terrorism's false causes

II. <u>Terrorism's true causes</u>

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II. Terrorism's True Causes

A. Depravity (Mark 7:20-23)

B. Radical ideology



Mark 7:20-23

"And He was saying, "That which **proceeds out of the man**, that is what defiles the man. [21] For **from within, out of the heart of men**, proceed the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, ***murders***, adulteries, [22] deeds of coveting *and* wickedness, *as well as* deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride *and* foolishness. [23] All these evil things **proceed from within** and defile the man."



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III. Terrorism's Ineffective Deterrents

A. Military reduction
B. Appeasement
C. Dialogue
D. Treaties
E. Subsidies
F. Apology tours



Ecclesiastes 8:11

“Because the sentence against an evil deed is not executed quickly, therefore the hearts of the sons of men among them are given fully to do evil.”



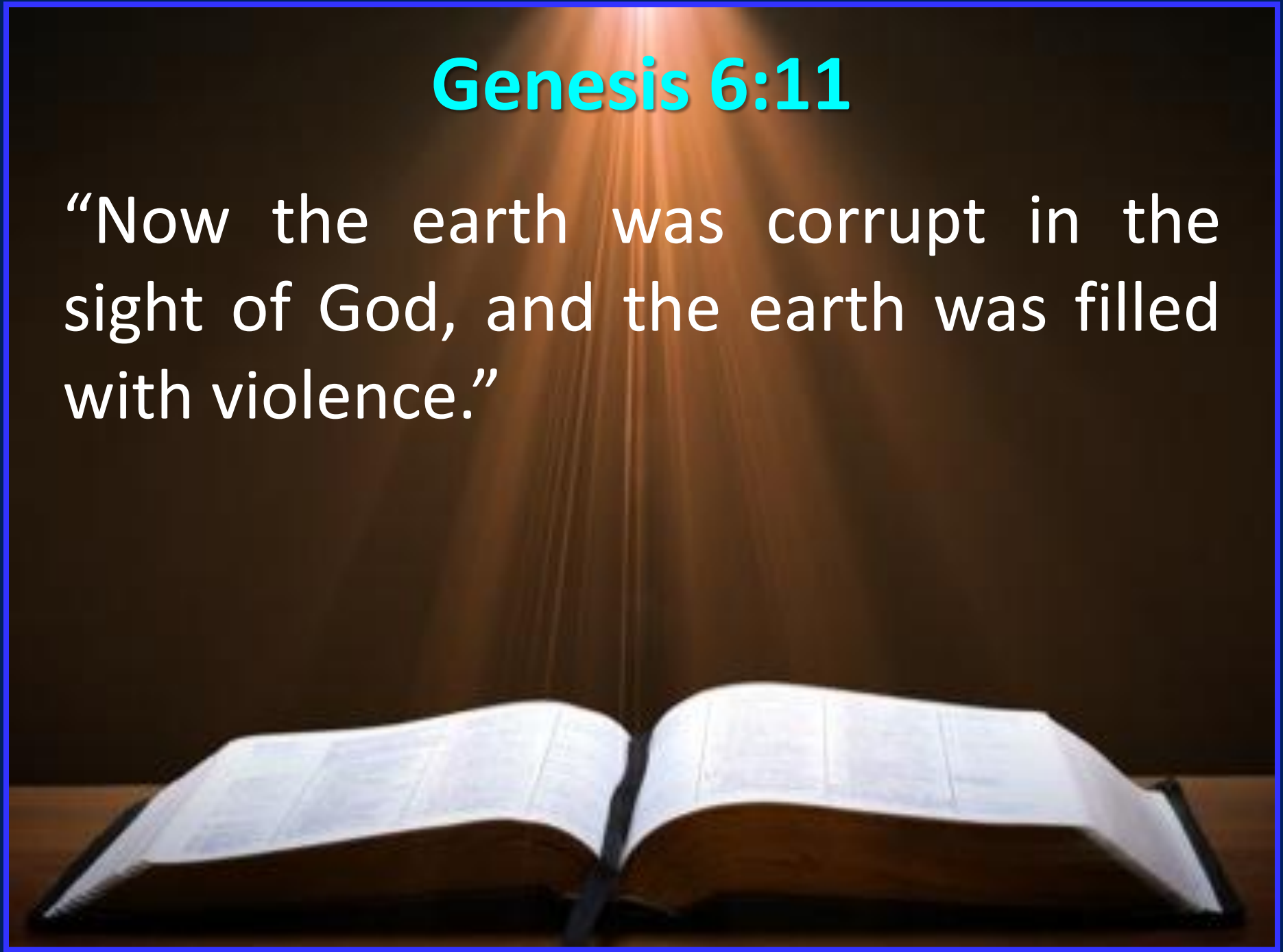
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Genesis 6:11

“Now the earth was corrupt in the sight of God, and the earth was filled with violence.”



Genesis 9:6

"Whoever **sheds man's blood, By man** his blood shall be shed, For in the **image of God** He made man."



Romans 13:3-5

“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**.”



Deuteronomy 13:10-11

"So you shall **stone him to death** because he has sought to seduce you from the Lord your God who brought you out from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. Then **all Israel will hear and be afraid, and will never again do such a wicked thing** among you."



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V. Going Too Far in Deterring Terrorism? Just War Principles

A. Just cause (Rev. 19:11)

B. Competent authority (Art. 1, sect. 8; Art II, sect. 2)

C. Comparative justice (Rom. 13:3)

D. Right intention (Prov. 21:2)

E. Last resort (Rom. 12:18)



F. Probability of success (Luke 14:31)

G. Proportionality of projected results (Rom. 12:21)

H. Right spirit (Ps. 68:30)

"War" in *ESV Study Bible*, 255

V. Going Too Far in Deterring Terrorism? How to Fight a Just War

A. Proportionality in the use of force (Deut. 20:10-12)

B. Discrimination between combatants & non-combatants (Deut. 20:13-14)

C. Avoidance of evil means

D. Good faith (Ps. 34:14)



"War" in *ESV Study Bible*, 255

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VI. What Legitimate Methods Can the Government Employ in Deterring Terrorism?



A. Proper label
B. Deterrence (Deut. 13:10-11)
C. Missile defense
D. Pre-emption
E. Invading other nations (Obadiah 11)
F. Holding nations accountable harboring terrorists
G. Spying (Josh. 2:1)
H. Enhanced interrogations (Prov. 13:24)

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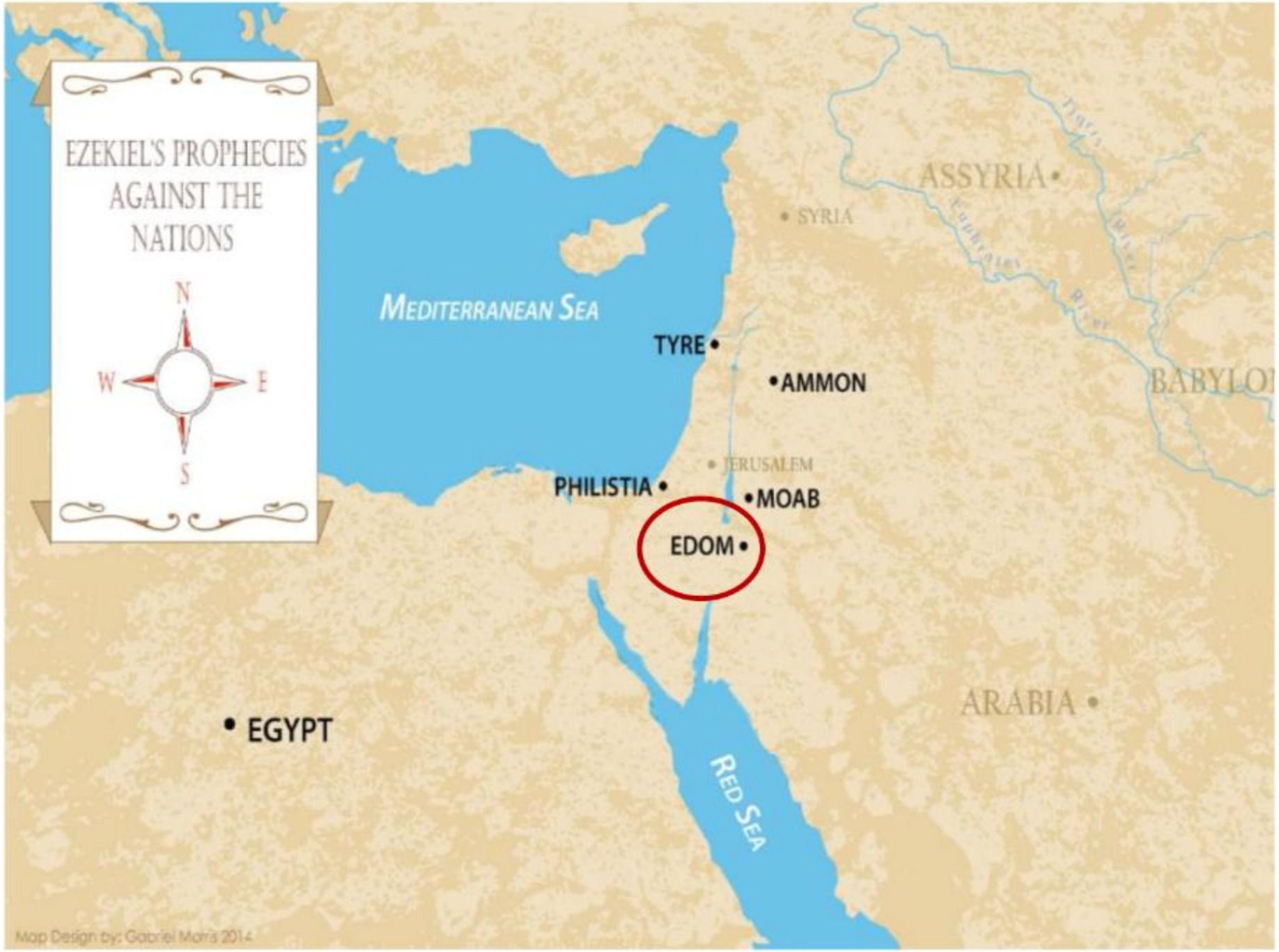


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EZEKIEL'S PROPHECIES AGAINST THE NATIONS
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E
S
MEDITERRANEAN SEA
TYRE
AMMON
SYRIA
ASSYRIA
JERUSALEM
PHILISTIA
MOAB
EDOM
EGYPT
ARABIA
RED SEA
Map Design by: Gabriel Marra 2014

Obadiah 11

“On the day that you stood aloof, On the day that strangers carried off his wealth, And foreigners entered his gate And cast lots for Jerusalem—You too were as one of them.”



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Spying in the Bible



- Joshua spies out Canaan (Josh. 2:1)
- David spies on the whereabouts of Saul (1 Sam. 26:4)
- David sent Hashai to serve as an undercover agent when Absalom was about to capture Jerusalem (2 Sam. 15:32-37; 16:15-19; 17:5-22)

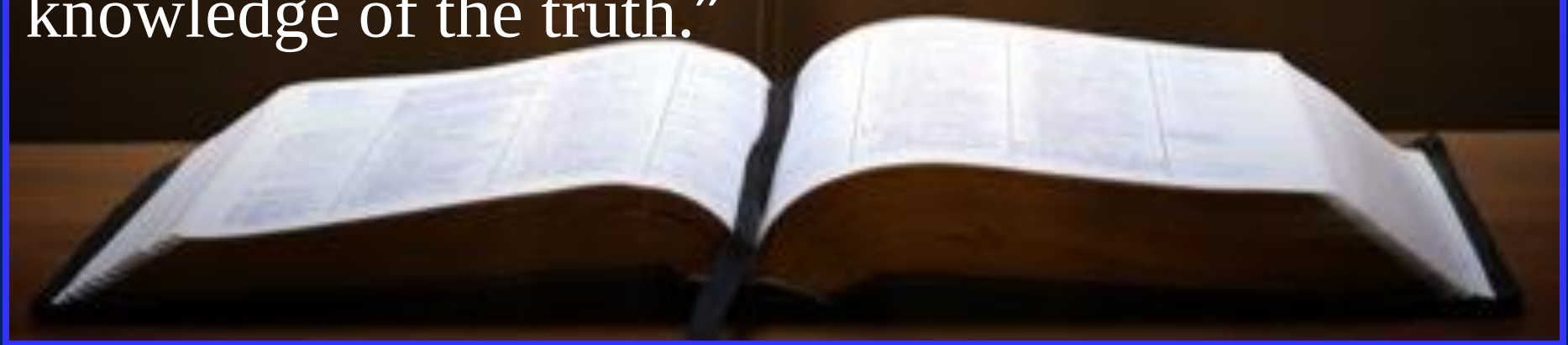
Romans 13:3-5

“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**.”



1 Timothy 2:1-4

“First of all, then, I urge that **entreaties *and* prayers, petitions *and* thanksgivings**, be made on behalf of all men, 2 **for kings and all who are in authority**, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. 3 This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”



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Enhanced Interrogation Limitations

A. Immorality

B. Denial of medical treatment

C. Sadistic humiliation

D. Violation of religious convictions

E. Causing lasting physical damage



Wayne Grudem, *Politics According to the Bible*, 429

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Conclusion

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