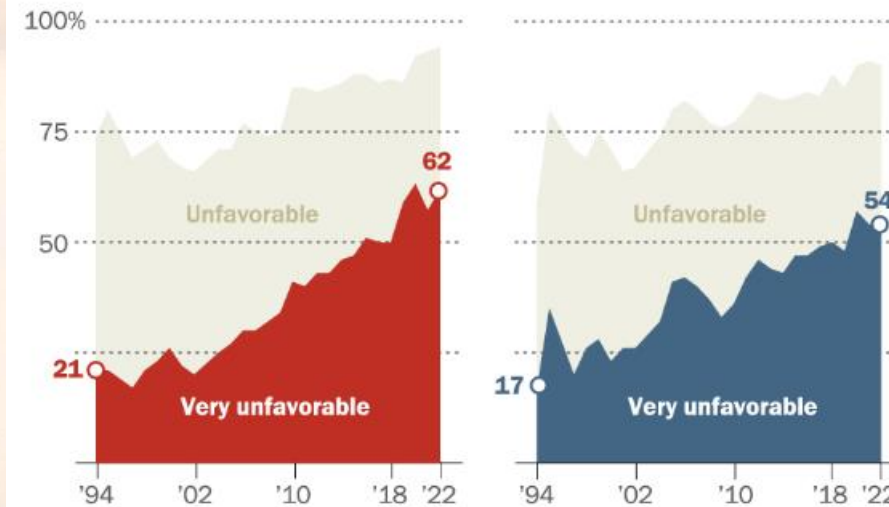


# 80% of Americans are dissatisfied with the way things are going in the U.S. GALLUP, 2023

## Highly negative views of the opposing party are far more widespread than in the past

% of *Republicans* with a(n) \_\_\_\_ view of the *Democratic Party*

% of *Democrats* with a(n) \_\_\_\_ view of the *Republican Party*



Note: Based on partisans and does not include those who lean to each party.  
Source: Yearly averages of survey data from Pew Research Center American Trends Panel (2020-2022) and Pew Research Center phone surveys (1994-2019).

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

*the* GOOD NEWS *about...*



*the*  
GOOD  
NEWS  
*about...*

Gender | Ethnicity | Politics





# PRAYER & ACTION GOALS

AUGUST 2022 - JULY 2023

**EQUIP:** Get equipped to share my joy more confidently with others by learning about the most challenging questions of our day and age.

*the GOOD NEWS about...*



“Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?”



*the* GOOD NEWS *about...*



“Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s,  
and to God the things that are God’s”

God’s Things

Caesar’s  
Things



*the GOOD NEWS about...*

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. <sup>2</sup>Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. <sup>3</sup>For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, <sup>4</sup>for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer...

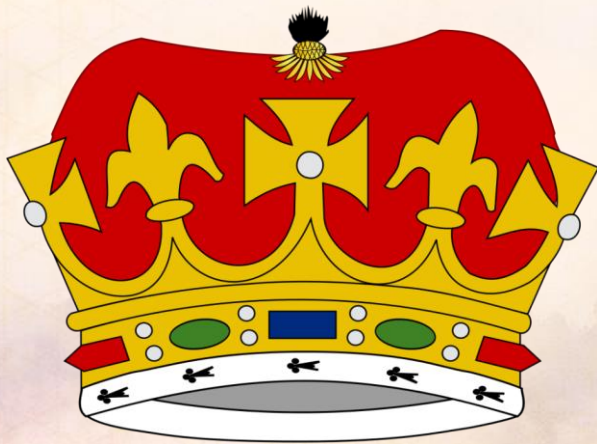
... <sup>5</sup> Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. <sup>6</sup> For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. <sup>7</sup> Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

Romans 13:1-7 (ESV)



# What Should Governments Do?

What God's Word Doesn't Tell Us What Form  
Government Should Take



*the GOOD NEWS about...*



# What Should Governments Do?

## Uphold God's Justice

But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer...

Romans 13:4b



*the* GOOD NEWS *about...*



# What Should Governments Do?

## Promote the Good

For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad...Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God's servant for your good.

Romans 13:4-5



*the GOOD NEWS about...*



“What has Rome ever done for us?”



*the* GOOD NEWS *about...*



# “What has Rome ever done for us?”



*the GOOD NEWS about...*



# What Should Governments Do?

## Promote the Good

For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad...Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God's servant for your good.

Romans 13:4-5



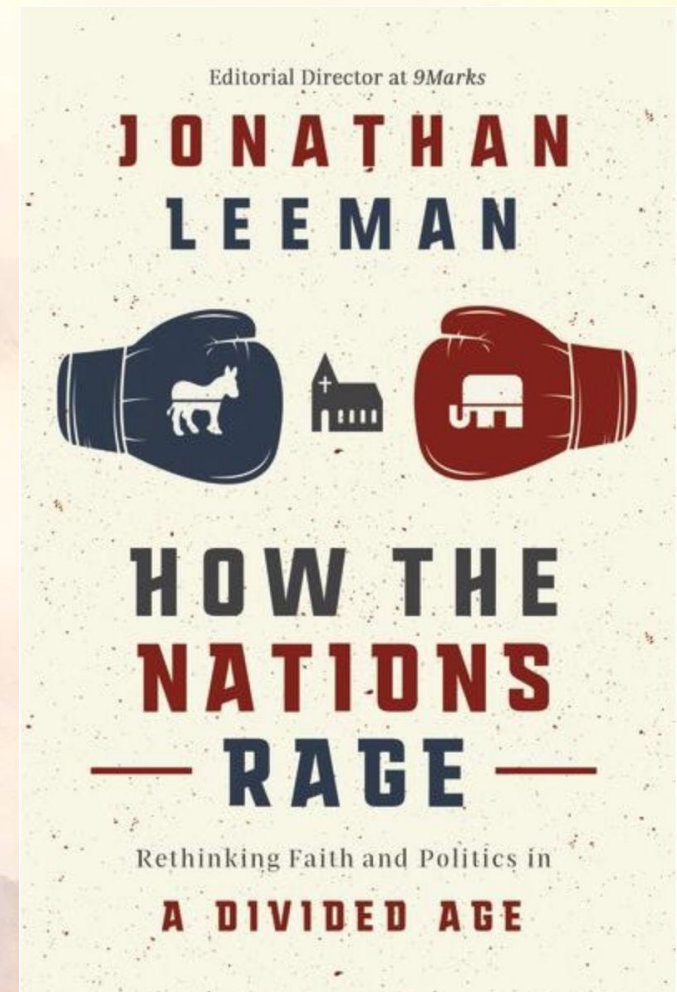
*the GOOD NEWS about...*



# Why Should Governments Do This?

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

1 Timothy 2:1-4



*the GOOD NEWS about...*



# Why Should Governments Do This?



*the GOOD NEWS about...*



# Why Should Governments Do This?



*the* GOOD NEWS *about...*



# What Should We Do?

## Submit to Governing Authorities

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities.  
Romans 13:1

Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good.

1 Peter 2:13-14

Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work

Titus 3:1

# What Should We Do?

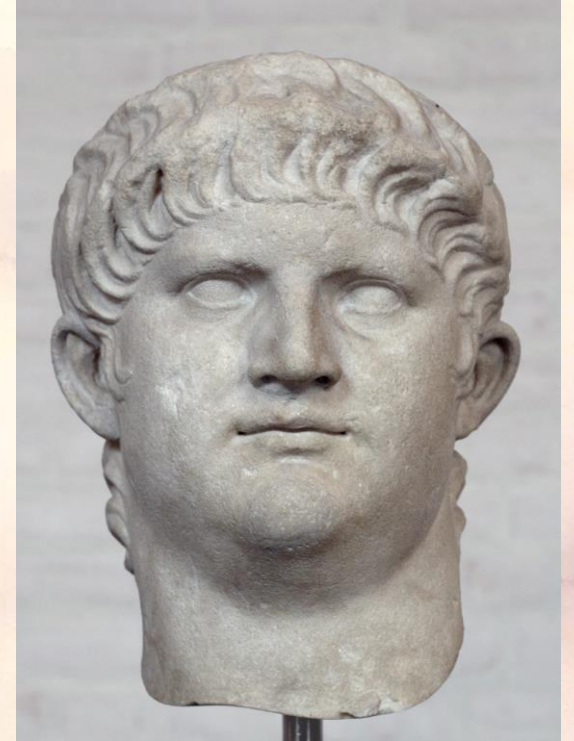
## Submit to Governing Authorities



**Caligula**  
37-41AD



**Claudius**  
41-54AD



**Nero**  
54-68AD  
*the GOOD NEWS about...*



# What Should We Do?

## Submit to Governing Authorities *A Major Exception*

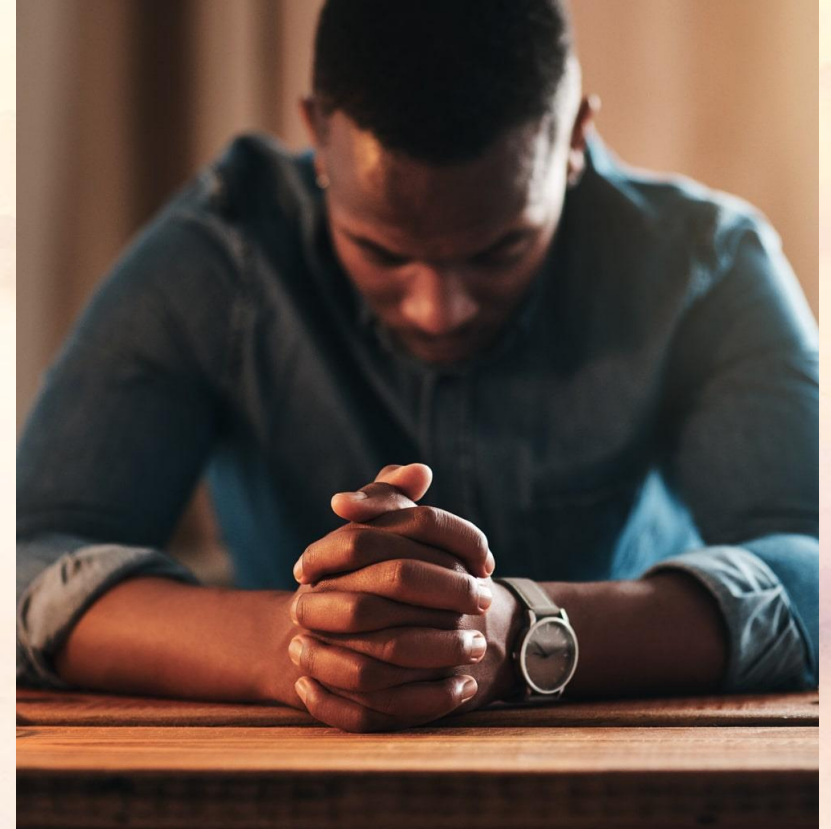
But Peter and the apostles answered,  
“We must obey God rather than men...”  
Acts 5:29

# What Should We Do?

## Pray for Governing Authorities

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way...

1 Timothy 2:1-3





# What Should We Do?

## Influence Our Government



*the GOOD NEWS about...*

# What Should We Do?



**Lackey Clinic**

A Free and Charitable Healthcare Center



*Serve Moms. Save Babies.*



Why Should We Do These Things?

Jesus is our true king

&

His kingdom is coming