

# Can We Trust Government?

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## I. Introduction.

A. Text: Ecclesiastes 8:2-15.

B. Despite a lot of phony righteousness in religious circles today, a true wisdom can be found.

## II. Despite injustice in government, there are proper powers that a government wields. (Romans 13:1-7)

A. By virtue of sharing the benefits of a government, there are also proper responsibilities. This is not always going to be pleasant.

B. The government has power to compel us to do obey.

C. He that obeys a command will meet no harm.

## III. The time and the way are left up to us.

A. There is a time and a place for everything. (Ecclesiastes 3)

B. God is not looking for automatons.

C. The way to obey can be found when one is walking with God in wisdom.

## IV. We do not always know what God intends to work out by means of our obedience.

## V. It is possible that one can lose his life in service to the government.

A. Death is wholly in God's hands.

B. There is no discharge in time of war.

C. There is an honest recognition that there is evil in government.

1. There is a delay in human justice, which permits crime to increase.

2. There are righteous people being treated as criminals.

3. However, God will preserve the man despite what will happen to the body.

4. God will judge wrong in His own time.

## VI. Enjoyment is a gift of God that can come no matter what we are going through. (Philippians)

### **Application questions:**

1. How would you respond to someone claiming that a Christian need only obey God and can break the law?

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2. How should the Christian respond when the government demands his life? Explain.

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3. What positive effects might your obedience to government yield for the sake of God?

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