

So, is there an answer?

Yes, there is. We find it in [1Co 10:31](#) "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." We find it again in [Mar 12:30-31](#) "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these." It is to give God our all.

As we read His word He speaks to us. In this one book of holy writ He speaks to us infallibly. Knowing the faithful God that He is He who gives us rest. The comfort we have knowing that he is our refuge and our strength. Psalm 46:1 That he sent his son his only begotten son to save us from this God forsaken world. When do we come to really realize that we walk among the dead how many more will be called before the jot and tittle are finished? How much longer before the kingdom comes.

These things that we have discussed and will discuss all have to do with, "how do we serve God"?

[Ezr 8:22](#) When Ezra was at the river of Ahava as they prepared to return to Jerusalem he said, "For I was ashamed to require of the king a band of soldiers and horsemen to help us against the enemy in the way: because we had spoken unto the king, saying, The hand of our God is upon all them for good that seek him; but his power and his wrath is against all them that forsake him."

"A convoy on many accounts would have been desirable for the pilgrim band, but a holy shame-facedness would not allow Ezra to seek one. He feared lest the heathen king should think his professions of faith in God to be mere hypocrisy, or imagine that the God of Israel was not able to preserve his own worshippers. He could not bring his mind to lean on an arm of flesh in a matter so evidently of the Lord, and therefore the caravan set out with no visible protection, guarded by him who is the sword and shield of his people. It is to be feared that few believers feel this holy jealousy for God; even those who in a measure walk by faith, occasionally mar the lustre of their life by craving aid from man. It is a most blessed thing to have no props and no buttresses, but to stand upright on the Rock of Ages, upheld by the Lord alone. Would any believers seek state endowments for their Church, if they remembered that the Lord is dishonoured by their asking Caesar's aid? as if the Lord could not supply the needs of his own cause! Should we run so hastily to friends and relations for assistance, if we remembered that the Lord is magnified by our implicit reliance upon his solitary arm? My soul, wait thou only upon God. "But," says one, "are not means to be used?" Assuredly they are; but our fault seldom lies in their neglect: far more frequently it springs out of foolishly believing in them instead of believing in God. Few run too far in neglecting the creature's arm; but very many sin greatly in making too much of it. Learn, dear reader, to glorify the Lord by leaving means untried, if by using them thou wouldst dishonour the name of the Lord." *Spurgeon*

It is said that we must obey the government, submit, it is the Christian thing to do. But, there are those of the libertarian mindset which include Ron Paul and Charles Murray that say the answer is civil disobedience. What do you think?

The midwives did not submit. Rahab did not submit. And although Artaxerxes was dead, his order was still in effect. Zerubbabel and Jeshua returned to building the temple in defiance to the king's order to cease. So, what is told us here. Are these examples of civil disobedience? Or, is it obedience to a sovereign God?

Is it that we don't want a social security number because it is not required or that we don't want to be tracked? Is it that we do not want a drivers license because we've learned that that too is being used as a national ID card? Is it that we don't want to give a bank or an employer a social security number because we don't want the government to know we have money there?

Or is it because we have given our whole self to the Lord. That we understand the social security number is a mark. A mark that identifies you as the servant/slave property of someone other than God. Is it because we have come to realize that a license is about limited liability. Where is that taught in scripture?

In Exodus 20 God said, "I am the Lord your God which have brought thee out of the Land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage." The Hebrew for Egypt is system and the Hebrew idea of the house of bondage is the house of the iron hand. He delivered them from the system of the iron hand. They were delivered, they were freed. But, we remember in Numbers 14:2-4 that with exception of Joshua and Caleb there was no faith in the other ten where it says "And all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron: and the whole congregation said unto them, Would God that we had died in the land of Egypt! or would God we had died in this wilderness! And wherefore hath the LORD brought us unto this land, to fall by the sword, that our wives and our children should be a prey? were it not better for us to return into Egypt? And they said one to another, Let us make a captain, and let us return into Egypt.

Return to Egypt? Return to the system of the iron hand? Why? To enjoy the leeks and onions? Have we forgotten who is our provider? We, that are here today have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and enabled by the Spirit to know the truth and the truth has set us free. His mercy is upon us by the moment.

That is why we are here. God is our answer. He will show us the way. He will give us the provision we need. He will open doors as well as windows for us.

As Elijah, in despair complained to God and said, "I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: because the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, *even* I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away." God's reply was, "Yet I have left *me* seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him. "

Are you of the Seven Thousand? Do you stand upon the Rock of your salvation? As Joshua did say, I pray you say the same, "As for me and my house we will serve the Lord"

Harold Forney