WEAVER STUDY GUIDES

Ungodly Rulers and National Judgment

Study Guide

Civil Government

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A lesson-by-lesson companion for reading, discussion, and written responses.

Downloadable classroom edition | 8.5 x 11 inches

Name / group

Date

Contents

Lesson 1: Biblical Attitude Towards Ungodly Rulers 3

Major Themes 3

Key Arguments 4

Scripture References 5

Discussion Questions 8

Applications 11

Personal Application and Notes 13

Online Lecture Resources 14

Using this guide

Read the corresponding chapter, then work through the themes, arguments, and Scripture references.

Write your responses before discussing the questions with others. Use the application pages to identify a practical next step.

The study material is retained from the existing lecture study guides. Added writing prompts provide space for your own response.

Print at Actual Size / 100% on US Letter paper. Single-sided and double-sided printing are both suitable. Lessons begin on the next available page; no blank pages are inserted.

Reading assignments refer to the October 9, 2026 opening-heading corrected edition of the companion book. Online lecture links and QR codes are collected at the end.

LESSON 1

Biblical Attitude Towards Ungodly Rulers

March 05, 1995

Read Chapter 1 in the companion book, pages 5-24 (October 9, 2026 opening-heading corrected edition).

Major Themes

Biblical Dominion Mandate

God gave man authority to rule the earth under His sovereignty, a mandate renewed in the Great Commission.

Lecture support: Weaver explains Genesis 1-2, Genesis 9, Psalm 8, and Matthew 28:18-20 as the dominion charter.

Renewing the Mind with Scripture

Christians must reject worldly thinking and be transformed by renewing their minds according to God's Word.

Lecture support: Weaver cites Romans 12:1-2, Ephesians 4:23, 1 Peter 4:1, Philippians 2:5, and 2 Corinthians 10:5.

God's Qualifications for Rulers

Civil rulers must be believers who fear God, rule justly, and obey His commands.

Lecture support: Weaver references Deuteronomy 17:15, Exodus 18:21, 2 Samuel 5:1-2, and 2 Samuel 23:1-3.

Righteous Anger Toward Ungodly Rulers

The biblical attitude toward ungodly rulers is not apathy but righteous anger that leads to action.

Lecture support: Weaver defines the Hebrew word 'charah' (grieved) as burning anger and shows Samuel's response.

Consequences of Tolerating Wicked Rulers

When God's people willingly follow ungodly rulers, they share in the judgment that comes upon them.

Lecture support: Weaver cites Hosea 5:10-11 and Micah 6:16 to show oppression and desolation result from obeying ungodly commands.

Historical Apostasy of America

Modern America has abandoned the biblical standards for civil rulers that the founding colonies upheld.

Lecture support: Weaver contrasts colonial charters requiring Christian profession with today's tolerance of ungodly rulers.

Key Arguments

Biblical thinking is mandatory for Christians

Christians must submit their minds to Scripture and not be conformed to the world's patterns.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'we must submit and surrender our minds to the Word of God' and cites Romans 12:2.

God requires civil rulers to be believers

The Bible explicitly commands that rulers be chosen from among God's people and fear Him.

Lecture support: Weaver points to Deuteronomy 17:15: 'one from among thy brethren shalt thou set king over thee: thou mayest not set a stranger over thee.'

Early American law reflected biblical standards

Colonial charters and constitutions required Christian faith for public office, showing they took God's Word seriously.

Lecture support: Weaver reads from New Jersey's 1683 charter: 'no man shall be admitted... who shall not profess faith in Jesus Christ.'

Samuel's grief was righteous anger

The Hebrew word 'charah' means to burn with anger, indicating Samuel was righteously indignant, not merely sad.

Lecture support: Weaver explains the word and shows its use in Genesis 39:19 and Numbers 25:3-4 for fierce anger.

Righteous anger leads to godly action

Samuel's anger drove him to cry to God, confront Saul, rebuke him, reject him, and seek a replacement.

Lecture support: Weaver traces Samuel's actions in 1 Samuel 15:11-16:1.

Tolerating ungodly rulers brings judgment

When people willingly obey ungodly rulers, they come under the same judgment as those rulers.

Lecture support: Weaver cites Hosea 5:11: 'Ephraim is oppressed and broken in judgment, because he willingly walked after the commandment.'

Modern America has apostatized from biblical foundations

The nation has abandoned the requirement for Christian rulers, leading to ungodly leadership.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'It is we who are in America that have apostatized and have left the faith.'

Christians must replace ungodly rulers

The biblical pattern is not passive acceptance but active replacement of wicked leaders with godly ones.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'When will we... cry to the Lord, confront our ungodly rulers, rebuke them, reject them, and replace them?'

Scripture References

1 Samuel 15:1-11

Weaver reads the passage about Saul's disobedience and God's rejection of him as king.

Genesis 1-2

Weaver references the Dominion Mandate given to Adam and Eve.

Genesis 9

Weaver notes the dominion mandate renewed to Noah.

Psalm 8

Weaver mentions that God gave the earth to the children of men.

Matthew 28:18-20

Weaver equates the Great Commission with the dominion mandate.

Isaiah 55:8-9

Weaver quotes to show God's thoughts are higher than man's.

Romans 12:1-2

Weaver cites to urge transformation by renewing the mind.

Ephesians 4:23

Weaver references being renewed in the spirit of the mind.

1 Peter 4:1

Weaver mentions arming ourselves with the mind of Christ.

Philippians 2:5

Weaver quotes to have the mind of Christ.

2 Corinthians 10:5

Weaver cites bringing every thought captive to Christ.

2 Timothy 2:15

Weaver references studying to rightly divide the word.

2 Peter 3:18

Weaver mentions growing in grace and knowledge.

Proverbs 29:2

Weaver reads that when the righteous rule, people rejoice; when the wicked rule, people mourn.

Proverbs 28:12

Weaver reads that when the wicked rise, a man is hidden.

Deuteronomy 17:15

Weaver cites that a king must be chosen by God from among the brethren.

Exodus 18:21

Weaver reads that rulers must be able men who fear God.

2 Samuel 5:1-2

Weaver shows David was chosen as a brother with a godly testimony and God's appointment.

2 Samuel 23:1-3

Weaver emphasizes that a ruler must be just, ruling in the fear of God.

1 John 2:4

Weaver quotes that whoever says he knows God but does not keep His commandments is a liar.

Study notes

Discussion Questions

1. What does the Bible teach about the qualifications for civil rulers, and how should that influence our voting?

Consider: Weaver spent significant time on Deuteronomy 17:15, Exodus 18:21, and 2 Samuel 23:1-3.

2. How can we distinguish between righteous anger and sinful anger when responding to ungodly leaders?

Consider: Weaver explained that Samuel's grief was actually burning anger that led to godly action.

3. In what ways have modern Christians adopted an unbiblical attitude of apathy toward ungodly rulers?

Consider: Weaver contrasted Samuel's response with the tolerance and indifference he sees today.

4. What does Hosea 5:10-11 teach about the consequences of willingly following ungodly rulers?

Consider: Weaver warned that the people were oppressed because they willingly walked after the commandment of ungodly princes.

5. How should the historical example of America's Christian colonial charters inform our expectations for government today?

Consider: Weaver read multiple colonial constitutions that required Christian profession for office.

6. What practical steps can Christians take to 'cry to the Lord, confront, rebuke, reject, and replace' ungodly rulers?

Consider: Weaver outlined Samuel's actions as a pattern for believers.

7. Why does Weaver argue that a ruler's disobedience to God's commands proves they are ungodly, regardless of their profession of faith?

Consider: Weaver cited 1 John 2:4 and the example of Saul.

8. How does the dominion mandate (Genesis 1:28, Matthew 28:18-20) relate to our responsibility in civil government?

Consider: Weaver introduced the sermon by connecting the dominion mandate to the Great Commission.

Applications

Renew your mind with Scripture to develop biblical attitudes

Christians must study the Bible to learn God's perspective on rulers and reject worldly thinking.

Lecture support: Weaver said, 'Biblical thinking and biblical attitudes require biblical studies.'

Evaluate rulers by God's standards, not human credentials

A ruler's profession of faith is meaningless if they do not obey God's commands.

Lecture support: Weaver stated, 'If they do not obey the word of God, they are ungodly rulers.'

Cultivate righteous anger against wickedness in government

Believers should be grieved to the point of indignation over ungodly leadership, not apathetic.

Lecture support: Weaver explained that Samuel's grief was burning anger, and said, 'It's time to get ticked off.'

Pray fervently for God's intervention against ungodly rulers

Samuel's first response was to cry out to the Lord all night.

Lecture support: Weaver noted, 'the very first thing his anger did then was it led him to cry to the Lord.'

Confront and rebuke ungodly rulers when possible

Samuel did not avoid Saul but confronted him face-to-face with his sin.

Lecture support: Weaver said, 'He confronted Saul. He did not shirk from facing this ungodly man.'

Refuse to give spiritual legitimacy to ungodly rulers

Samuel rejected Saul's request for prayer and fellowship, refusing to participate in his hypocrisy.

Lecture support: Weaver said, 'Samuel wouldn't have had anything to do with it. Because you rejected God. I'm rejecting you.'

Work to replace ungodly rulers with godly ones

God sent Samuel to anoint David as a replacement for Saul.

Lecture support: Weaver urged, 'When will we... replace them?'

Recognize the danger of tolerating ungodly rulers

Willingly following ungodly rulers brings God's judgment on the people.

Lecture support: Weaver warned from Hosea 5:11 that Ephraim was oppressed because he willingly walked after the commandment.

Study notes

Personal Application and Notes

Which application will you work on, and what specific step will you take?

What Scripture or teaching will you return to as you put this into practice?

Additional notes or questions to discuss

Online Lecture Resources

Scan a code or select the lecture link in the PDF. The original lecture identifiers and destinations are preserved.

Lesson 1: Biblical Attitude Towards Ungodly Rulers

Lecture JW01168

Open the formatted lecture online

https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW01168&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted

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Source information

Study material: existing Major Themes, Key Arguments, Scripture References, Discussion Questions, and Applications from the corresponding Weaver Bible College lecture records. Original lecture titles and provenance are retained in those source records.

Layout upgraded September 30, 2026. Original manuscripts, study-guide data, and previous PDFs have not been changed.