

LOVE. NO MATTER WHAT

Loving You, No Matter What Your Political Views Are
January 25-26, 2020

Series Verse – Proverbs 19:11 (TPT)

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“A wise person demonstrates patience, for mercy means holding your tongue. When you are insulted, be quick to forgive and forget it, for you are virtuous when you overlook an offense.”

1 Peter 2:13-17 (NLT)

For the Lord’s sake, submit to all human authority—whether the king as head of state, or the officials he has appointed. For the king has sent them to punish those who do wrong and to honor those who do right. It is God’s will that your honorable lives should silence those ignorant people who make foolish accusations against you. For you are free, yet you are God’s slaves, so don’t use your freedom as an excuse to do evil. Respect everyone, and love the family of believers. Fear God, and respect the king.

We are unloving, no matter what, regarding government because:

- Our focus is “I”, not “We the people...”

1 Corinthians 1:10 (NLT)

I appeal to you, dear brothers and sisters, by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, to live in harmony with each other. Let there be no divisions in the church. Rather, be of one mind, united in thought and purpose.

We are unloving, no matter what, regarding government because:

- Our fallacy is that, because we are citizens of heaven, we don’t have to obey the government.

Mark 12:17 (TPT)

Jesus said, “Precisely. The coin bears the image of the emperor Caesar, so you should pay the emperor his portion. But because you bear the image of God, you must give back to God all that belongs to him.” And they were utterly stunned by Jesus’ words.

We are unloving, no matter what, regarding government because:

- Our faith is under attack, so we must fight.

Matthew 26:52 (TPT)

Jesus said to him, “Put your dagger away. For all those who embrace violence will die by violence.”

God’s Model for Citizenship

1 Timothy 2:1-4 (TPT)

Most of all, I’m writing to encourage you to pray with gratitude to God. Pray for all men with all forms of prayers and requests as you intercede with intense passion. And pray for every political leader and representative, so that we would be able to live tranquil, undisturbed lives, as we worship the awe-inspiring God with pure hearts. It is pleasing to our Savior-God to pray for them. He longs for everyone to embrace his life and return to the full knowledge of the truth.

We love those in politics or government, no matter what, when we:

1

Convey an attitude of obedience and respect.

Romans 13:1 (TPT)

Every person must submit to and support the authorities over him. For there can be no authority in the universe except by God’s appointment, which means that every authority that exists has been instituted by God.

2

Communicate my support, or displeasure, by participating in civil discussions.

Romans 13:2 (TPT)

So to resist authority is to resist the divine order of God, which results in severe consequences.

Acts 6:3 (TPT)

We want you to carefully select from among yourselves seven godly men. Make sure they are honorable, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, and we will give them the responsibility of this crucial ministry of serving.

- We must vote and use our voice lovingly.

3

Conduct my dual citizenship with the highest integrity at all times.

Philippians 3:20-21 (NLT)

But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior. He will take our weak mortal bodies and change them into glorious bodies like his own, using the same power with which he will bring everything under his control.

Romans 13:3-7 (TPT)

For civil authorities don't intimidate those who are doing good, but those who are doing evil. So do what is right and you'll never need to fear those in authority. They will commend you for your good citizenship.

Acts 4:18-21 (TPT)

So they had them brought back in before the council, and they commanded them to never teach the people or speak again using the name of Jesus. But Peter and John replied, "You can judge for yourselves—is it better to listen to you or to God? It's impossible for us to stop speaking about all the things we've seen and heard!" Since the members of the council couldn't come up with a crime they could punish them for, they threatened them once more and let them go. All the people praised God, thrilled over the miraculous healing of the crippled man.

**Recommended Reading for Love. No Matter What Series:
Unoffendable by Brant Hansen**

Please send any questions you have regarding the "Love. No Matter What" series to questions@gracechurchco.com so we can answer them during our Q&A Night on February 8!

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