DAILY DOCTRINE

OCTOBER 9-15. [WEEK 41]
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9 [DAY 201]

Nature and Extent of Church Power

READ: Matthew 22:17-21

17 Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay the imperial tax[w] to Caesar or not?"

18 But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, "You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me? 19 Show me the coin used for paying the tax." They brought him a denarius, 20 and he asked them, "Whose image is this? And whose inscription?"

21 "Caesar's," they replied.

Then he said to them, "So give back to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's."

THINK ABOUT IT: What is the difference between ministerial and declarative powers?

READ: DD-201

READ: John 19:11

11 Jesus answered, "You would have no power over me if it were not given to you from above. Therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin."

THINK DEEPER: Where does the power of the state come from? Where does the power of the church come from?

DAILY DOCTRINE

OCTOBER 9-15. [WEEK 41]
MONDAY, OCTOBER 12 [DAY 202]

Establishment Principle & Voluntary Principle

READ: 1 Peter 2:13-14

13 Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, 14 or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right.

THINK ABOUT IT: What is the Establishment principle and what is the voluntary principle? Which is right?

READ: DD-202

READ: Romans 13:1-7

Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. 2 Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. 3 For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. 4 For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. 5 Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience.

6 This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. 7 Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.

THINK DEEPER: When should the church submit to the governing authorities and when should it not?

DAILY DOCTRINE

OCTOBER 9-15. [WEEK 41]
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13 [DAY 203]

Liberty and Conscience

READ: Romans 14:1-6

Accept the one whose faith is weak, without quarreling over disputable matters. [2] One person's faith allows them to eat anything, but another, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables. [3] The one who eats everything must not treat with contempt the one who does not, and the one who does not eat everything must not judge the one who does, for God has accepted them. [4] Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To their own master, servants stand or fall. And they will stand, for the Lord is able to make them stand.
[5] One person considers one day more sacred than another; another considers every day alike. Each of them should be fully convinced in their own mind. [6] Whoever regards one day as special does so to the Lord. Whoever eats meat does so to the Lord, for they give thanks to God; and whoever abstains does so to the Lord and gives thanks to God.

THINK ABOUT IT: What is your conscience? Is it different from the Holy Spirit?

READ: DD-203

DAILY DOCTRINE

OCTOBER 9-15. [WEEK 41]
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14 [DAY 204]

Regulative Principle

READ: Leviticus 10:1-3

Aaron's sons Nadab and Abihu took their censers, put fire in them and added incense; and they offered unauthorized fire before the LORD, contrary to his command. [2] So fire came out from the presence of the LORD and consumed them, and they died before the LORD. [3] Moses then said to Aaron, "This is what the LORD spoke of when he said:

" 'Among those who approach me
I will be proved holy;
in the sight of all the people
I will be honored.' "

THINK ABOUT IT: Is there a wrong way to worship?

READ: DD-204

READ: John 4:24

[24] God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth."

THINK DEEPER: What should be included in a Worship service?

DAILY DOCTRINE

OCTOBER 9-15. [WEEK 41]
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15 [DAY 205]

Mission of the Church

READ: Matthew 28:18-20
[18] Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. [19] Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, [20] and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

THINK ABOUT IT: What is the mission of the church?

READ: DD-205

READ: 2 Corinthians 5:18
[17] Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! [18] All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: [19] that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. [20] We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to Go

THINK DEEPER: What do these verses tell us about the mission of the church?

DAILY DOCTRINE