

Sunday School

Ethics

War and Peace Pre-Class Verses and Questions

How should we think of war in light of the following passages?

Matthew 5:38-48; Hebrews 11:29-34; Romans 13:1-7

Westminster Confession of Faith Chapter 23:2 (On the Civil Magistrates):

It is lawful for Christians to accept and execute the office of a magistrate, when called thereunto: (Prov. 8:15–16, Rom. 13:1–2, 4) in the managing whereof, as they ought especially to maintain piety, justice, and peace, according to the wholesome laws of each commonwealth; (Ps. 2:10–12, 1 Tim. 2:2, Ps. 82:3–4, 2 Sam. 23:3, 1 Pet. 2:13) so, for that end, they may lawfully, now under the new testament, wage war, upon just and necessary occasion. (Luke 3:14, Rom. 13:4, Matt. 8:9–10, Acts 10:1–2, Rev. 17:14, 16)

How are we to think of war today in light of the Israelite conquest of Canaan recorded in the book of Joshua?

Are the “inalienable rights” of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness biblically supported?