

# For the LOVE of GOD

July 6, 2014 • David Platt

## “THE GOSPEL AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY”

1 Peter 2:13-17

### Biblical Truth...

- We are \_\_\_\_\_ citizens of a government.
  - Government is given by God for the restraint of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Government is given by God for the promotion of \_\_\_\_\_.
- We are free \_\_\_\_\_ of God.
  - We use our freedom in Christ to model good \_\_\_\_\_.
  - We use our freedom in Christ to show God’s \_\_\_\_\_.
    - We \_\_\_\_\_ everyone, especially our leaders.
    - We \_\_\_\_\_ for the church.
    - We \_\_\_\_\_ God.

### Cultural Application...

- We believe religious liberty is not primarily a political issue; it is a \_\_\_\_\_ issue.
  - Freedom of religion is ultimately given by \_\_\_\_\_, not just granted by government.
  - Faith, in its essence, cannot be \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Religion is a matter of voluntary \_\_\_\_\_, not involuntary coercion.
- We work for religious liberty for \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Religion exists to \_\_\_\_\_ the questions of life and \_\_\_\_\_ our conclusions to life.
  - Government exists to \_\_\_\_\_ this fundamental human privilege.
    - Government does not exist for the \_\_\_\_\_ of religion.
    - Government does not exist for the \_\_\_\_\_ of religion.
    - Government exists for the free \_\_\_\_\_ of religion.
      - ◆ Not just in episodic gatherings, but in \_\_\_\_\_ life.
      - ◆ Those who gather for worship in private settings scatter to live out their beliefs in the \_\_\_\_\_ square.
- We obey our government \_\_\_\_\_ it requires us to disobey God.
  - Four options...
    - God alone is our authority.
    - The government alone is our authority.
    - God and government are authorities with \_\_\_\_\_ in the dominant position.
    - God and government are authorities with \_\_\_\_\_ in the dominant position.
  - One conclusion...
    - We must \_\_\_\_\_ God rather than men.
- We speak and serve on behalf of the \_\_\_\_\_ church around the world.
  - We speak...
    - To \_\_\_\_\_ on their behalf.
    - To \_\_\_\_\_ government and \_\_\_\_\_ governments on their behalf.
  - We serve...
    - We \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to our persecuted brothers and sisters.
    - We \_\_\_\_\_ with our persecuted brothers and sisters.
      - ◆ By following Christ no matter what it \_\_\_\_\_.
      - ◆ By \_\_\_\_\_ the gospel to people around us and people around the world.

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## “THE GOSPEL AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY”

1 Peter 2:13-17

### Biblical Truth...

- We are submissive citizens of a government.
  - Government is given by God for the restraint of evil.
  - Government is given by God for the promotion of good.
- We are free servants of God.
  - We use our freedom in Christ to model good lives.
  - We use our freedom in Christ to show God’s love.
    - We honor everyone, especially our leaders.
    - We care for the church.
    - We fear God.

### Cultural Application...

- We believe religious liberty is not primarily a political issue; it is a gospel issue.
  - Freedom of religion is ultimately given by God, not just granted by government.
  - Faith, in its essence, cannot be forced.
  - Religion is a matter of voluntary choice, not involuntary coercion.
- We work for religious liberty for all.
  - Religion exists to explore the questions of life and apply our conclusions to life.
  - Government exists to protect this fundamental human privilege.
    - Government does not exist for the establishment of religion.
    - Government does not exist for the elimination of religion.
    - Government exists for the free exercise of religion.
      - ♦ Not just in episodic gatherings, but in everyday life.
      - ♦ Those who gather for worship in private settings scatter to live out their beliefs in the public square.
- We obey our government unless it requires us to disobey God.
  - Four options...
    - God alone is our authority.
    - The government alone is our authority.
    - God and government are authorities with government in the dominant position.
    - God and government are authorities with God in the dominant position.
  - One conclusion...
    - We must obey God rather than men.
- We speak and serve on behalf of the persecuted church around the world.
  - We speak...
    - To God on their behalf.
    - To our government and other governments on their behalf.
  - We serve...
    - We give and go to our persecuted brothers and sisters.
    - We identify with our persecuted brothers and sisters.
      - ♦ By following Christ no matter what it costs.
      - ♦ By proclaiming the gospel to people around us and people around the world.