

Bible Passages for Lesson 3 of *Politics is Driving Me Crazy!*

Proverbs 28:2-12

- ² When a country is rebellious, it has many rulers,
but a ruler with discernment and knowledge maintains order.
- ³ A ruler who oppresses the poor
is like a driving rain that leaves no crops.
- ⁴ Those who forsake instruction praise the wicked,
but those who heed it resist them.
- ⁵ Evildoers do not understand what is right,
but those who seek the Lord understand it fully.
- ⁶ Better the poor whose walk is blameless
than the rich whose ways are perverse.
- ⁷ A discerning son heeds instruction,
but a companion of gluttons disgraces his father.
- ⁸ Whoever increases wealth by taking interest or profit from the poor
amasses it for another, who will be kind to the poor.
- ⁹ If anyone turns a deaf ear to my instruction,
even their prayers are detestable.
- ¹⁰ Whoever leads the upright along an evil path
will fall into their own trap,
but the blameless will receive a good inheritance.
- ¹¹ The rich are wise in their own eyes;
one who is poor and discerning sees how deluded they are.
- ¹² When the righteous triumph, there is great elation;
but when the wicked rise to power, people go into hiding.

Matthew 22:15-22

- ¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words. ¹⁶ They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. "Teacher," they said, "we know that you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren't swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are. ¹⁷ Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay the imperial tax^[a] 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."
- ²² When they heard this, they were amazed. So they left him and went away.

1 Timothy 2:1-7

¹ I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people— ² for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. ³ This is good, and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time. ⁷ And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle—I am telling the truth, I am not lying—and a true and faithful teacher of the Gentiles.

Deuteronomy 24:1

¹ If a man marries a woman who becomes displeasing to him because he finds something indecent about her, and he writes her a certificate of divorce, gives it to her and sends her from his house...

Matthew 19:1-9

¹ When Jesus had finished saying these things, he left Galilee and went into the region of Judea to the other side of the Jordan. ² Large crowds followed him, and he healed them there.

³ Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?”

⁴ “Haven’t you read,” he replied, “that at the beginning the Creator ‘made them male and female,’^[a] ⁵ and said, ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh’^[b]? ⁶ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”

⁷ “Why then,” they asked, “did Moses command that a man give his wife a certificate of divorce and send her away?”

⁸ Jesus replied, “Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning. ⁹ I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery.”