

**When politics  
drives you**

**cray**

**Remember who is in charge**



## When politics drives you *crazy*

### Lesson 1

Psalm 2 - Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain? <sup>2</sup> The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together against the LORD and against his anointed, saying, <sup>3</sup> “Let us break their chains and throw off their shackles.” <sup>4</sup> The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them. <sup>5</sup> He rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying, <sup>6</sup> “I have installed my king on Zion, my holy mountain.” <sup>7</sup> I will proclaim the LORD’s decree: He said to me, “You are my son; today I have become your father. <sup>8</sup> Ask me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession. <sup>9</sup> You will break them with a rod of iron; you will dash them to pieces like pottery.” <sup>10</sup> Therefore, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth. <sup>11</sup> Serve the LORD with fear and celebrate his rule with trembling. <sup>12</sup> Kiss his son, or he will be angry and your way will lead to your destruction, for his wrath can flare up in a moment. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

## Discuss:

What is the relationship between the rulers of the world and the Messiah?

Can you give some examples of this from Bible history and the history of the Church?

Who wins?

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Romans 13:1,2 – 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.

### **Discuss:**

How does this fly in the face of how the world sees how those in power are chosen or from whom they receive their power?

Who are included in the “governing authorities” that are instituted by God?

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Ephesians 1:19-23 – That power is the same as the mighty strength <sup>20</sup> he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, <sup>21</sup> far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. <sup>22</sup> And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

### **Discuss:**

Who is really in charge in the world?

What is the purpose for Jesus' rule over all authorities, and how has this played out in history?

Why is it important that we “live by faith?” (See Habakkuk 2:4)



## Discussion

What are some of your favorite stories from Bible history that demonstrate how God chooses unusual people, even evil people, to rule for the ultimate good of his people?

What are some stories you can share from your life or world history that illustrates the same?

## Six truths about government to remember

ITS EXISTENCE: Every government is established by God.

ITS PURPOSE: Every government works for the good of God's kingdom, knowingly or unknowingly.

ITS TOOLS: The state wields the sword to accomplish its purposes.

ITS METHOD OF RULING: The state uses rewards and punishments to move people to obedience.

ITS SOURCE OF TRUTH: The state governs by natural reason, which is affected by sin.

ITS SURVIVAL: The state rises and falls. The church remains forever.

# Questions?

Submit follow-up questions at <http://forwardinchrist.net/submit>