

Can I work for

The Government



... And still go to heaven?

This is a serious question, and if you work for the government, an important question. It is also a question that you are routinely lied to about. Understand that because you work for the government, you command respect. That word “command” is important here. You see, most people have to earn respect by doing what is right and good. Because you work for the government, there are times when you don’t have to earn it. You have the government behind you—and they *determine* what is right and good, and they have the guns to force people to accept those determinations of right and good (which are called “laws”). You are—in your official capacity—right and good by definition, and thus the whole machinery of the state commands everyone under its power to respect you. And so respect comes automatically from people you don’t even know. If you’re observant then I’m sure you’ve seen this. Just think about how people treat you on the job, when you have authority over them, versus how they treat you when they don’t know who you are.

This commanded respect is a far bigger problem for you than you probably realize. Think about it. You can see the fullness of this problem in Latin America, where someone is guilty until proven innocent, and where the judge is easily bought. In such a climate there are the most corrupt imaginable officials and police officers, and yet everyone is very polite and submissive to them. Watching people interact with them, you’d think they’re the best and most loved of citizens, but in fact they’re feared and hated. Nobody dares to come against them because if they did, they could end up in jail being beaten half to death every day. Understand that the same dynamic—to a greater or less extent—is in effect everywhere a man is covered by government authority. Others will let you go to hell rather than risk telling you you’re wrong.

This dynamic operates on a social level as well as a personal level. Realize that the church is licensed and controlled by the state, just like the individual, and you will understand why it might fall under this same dynamic.

I would like you to be ruthlessly honest with yourself, in your heart, and consider the “why” behind a little church theology: The great majority of church leaders teach everybody who will listen to them that (1) God’s law has passed away, and (2) that we should always obey the government, because God put it there for our good and it is His instrument of justice. Understand that these two points, taken together, completely surrender moral authority to the state. With them, one can effectively wipe away what God says about anything and put what the state says in its place.

It is important to realize that this compromise is the *essential* compromise which our democratic republic requires of the church. We read the Constitution and see freedom of religion because we’ve been taught to see it. What we don’t see as an infringement of that freedom is the fact that the state asserts the absolute right to make whatever law it chooses so long as it has the proper majorities. Yet if the state has the sole prerogative to make law, it has effectively usurped God’s throne, because *every law is an authoritative statement of morality*. It says “this is bad, don’t do it.” And wherever a law does not exist, the implication is “this is not bad, you can do it if you want to.” And *laws are what teach people their morality*.

No church that will not accede to the idea that the state has authority to make whatever law it so chooses is allowed to exist in a democratic republic. To do so is to come head to head against the government. That's why the modern church teaches that God's law has passed away and that the good Christians should obey the government.

The Bible calls this church a harlot, though, comparing it to a woman who sells her body for the pleasure of whoever comes along. One cannot cover up and subvert the truth in order to please others without deeply offending God. The church is called to be the light of the world, to shine forth the truth so that all may see it. If it does not, it has abandoned its station. Worse, by covering up the truth it has become an agent of darkness, and a servant of the evil one. This is part of the "commanded respect" I was talking about. The church is commanded to respect the state so it arranges its theology accordingly. However, it is dishonest to the core. It will respect you to your face, but in truth it's selling you into hell by letting you live in a lie.

The great problem is that a dishonest church envelops people in darkness and herds them into hell. Consider one simple question: when you stand before God, by what standard will you be judged? Will He open the law books of your own country and measure you by those laws? or will He open his own law book and judge you by it?

If you listen to the church, they'll tell you that you just have to "believe in Jesus" and maybe pray some little rote prayer at some time in your life. Then you'll go to heaven. What they're not so quick to tell you is that the Bible defines this "belief" very precisely:

You believe that there is one God: you do well; the demons also believe, and tremble. But will you know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?—*James 2:19,20*

And hereby do we know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that says, I know him, and does not keep his commandments is a liar.—*1 John 2:3,4*

and tells us again and again what we must do.

How plain can it be? We show God whether we love Him or not by whether or not we keep His commandments or laws:

If you love me, keep my commandments.—*John 14:16*

If a man love me, he will keep my words . . . He that loves me not keeps not my sayings.—*John 14:23,24*

The harlot church, however, pretends those commandments have been done away with. They're just friendly suggestions if you won't be judged by them or held accountable to them. This is the great sell-out. Without those commandments, there is truly no right and wrong. There is *no moral difference* between the person who takes \$100 from you at gun point and the person who gives you \$100. The man who took it is just as good as the man who gave it. The man who

gave it is just as evil as the man who took it. Such a state of things is obviously a picture of hell, and indeed, of something worse than hell. (At least those in hell deserve what they get.) This situation results in a moral vacuum, in which the state is called upon to legislate because God has *failed* to. The conclusion, which is and must remain unstated by the harlot, is that God Himself has abdicated, and placed the state in charge.

All of this is merely the figment of churchmen's imaginations though. The Bible has made it very clear that the believer is a believer because he obeys God's commandments, and that we are all held accountable to obey them.

Whoever commits sin transgresses the law, for sin is the transgression of the law.—1 John 3:4

Indeed, throughout scripture, wherever you see words like “good”, “evil”, “justice”, “righteousness” and many more, these are defined in terms of what God says is right and wrong, not in terms of what some king or legislature says. (It was upon this very point that America was born, for the king and parliament were judged by the Americans to be wrong before God, and the Americans appealed to Him in their Declaration of Independence.)

On the basis of how you have measured up to God's commandments—His law—you will either find heaven and eternal happiness, or eternal damnation.

Now here is the question the harlot church will not ask, because of this commanded respect I've discussed: Could it be that, by acting as an agent of the state and enforcing the government's law, you are breaking God's law and deeply offending Him? **I am asking this question not because I want to condemn you, but because I care enough about you not to stand by and watch you be cast into hell.** I realize that you could make trouble for me because I ask it, but I am willing to take that risk.

You see, the problem is that men read God's law and affirm it, because it is good, but then when they want to break it, they start making excuses about why it doesn't apply to them. Any common thief does this. He reasons in his heart that his victim won't even miss what he's about to steal, or that he's rich and he can afford it, or that he's a bad man and deserves to be stolen from. In this way, the thief asserts a higher form of justice than God's law, and acts as its moral agent. This eases his conscience as he commits his evil deed. However, all of these arguments fall apart before God, just as they should.

Now the Bible tells us very clearly in many places that God is no respecter of persons.¹ To understand what this means we must look at the word “person”. It comes from the Latin *per sona* which literally means “sounding through”. It originally referred to the mask an actor wore in a theater. The mask replaced the actor's face, making him into a different individual, as it were, and yet allowed his voice to “sound through” it. This language of the theater came to apply in the legal realm in Rome. A Roman citizen was not merely a private individual. He also had a legal personality or *persona*. He had a role to play in the public arena, yet a role where his own voice—his own ideas and desires—could sound through. In this role, the person had both rights and duties. He had taxes to pay, but he had a right to a trial when accused of wrongdoing, etc. Apart from this

persona, the individual was just an animal, not part of society or the legal order. He had no rights or duties and was a natural enemy of society fit only for slavery or death. That God does not respect persons, therefore, means that *He doesn't respect any rank or title they may have been given by men*. The highest king and the lowest beggar will be judged by exactly the same standard.

The problem that most people with positions of authority in government face is that their authority is specifically given to enforce laws made by the state. They have been given a place above other men in society to do what an ordinary man may not. Furthermore, the laws they are called upon to enforce generally contradict God's laws in one way or another. By enforcing the state's laws, these people in authority positively violate God's law. But God does not respect persons. It doesn't matter at all to God whether you break His law on your own behalf or on behalf of a government. It is equally a crime whether you steal to satisfy your drug habit or whether you steal with the full authority of the law for your government. It is equally a violation of God's law if you club someone for fun in a back alley at night, or you are a politician who has him clubbed by the police under the authority of Legislative Act 10-289. Each and every action will be weighed according to God's laws, and the thief won't be able to stand up and say "But he was too rich". The king won't be able to say "But I made a law against that." The policeman won't be able to say "I had authority to do that under Section 10-289." In short, *who you are* is no excuse for *what you do*.

The Bible also tells us that one of God's commandments is that we should not change his words—including his commandments—in any way:

You shall not add to the word which I command you, neither shall you diminish ought from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.—*Deuteronomy 4:2*

Thus, to make a law that is contrary to God's law is itself a sin. A little careful thought will make it plain why this is so. Any law which encourages behavior that God condemns effectively teaches man to sin with impunity. The law teaches men that it's okay to steal as long as there is a vote and a law behind it. The lone gunman is condemned by the law, yes, but the innocent citizen is also condemned by it too. He is required to pay taxes, which are taken by force and used for the benefit of others. The state's law teaches us that this is okay, and that to pay your taxes is your patriotic duty. God's law, though, counts taxes as a curse,² and nowhere authorizes the state to collect taxes. And He is no respecter of persons. Therefore those who collect taxes are thieves in His sight. If they say they are Christians or believe in Jesus they are also hypocrites.

Again, when the government's law teaches men that something is wrong when God has not said it is wrong, it destroys man's God-given freedom to live as he sees fit and turns him into a slave of the state. By making such laws, the state teaches a man to spend his time and effort practicing the state's laws and ignoring God's laws. For example, the state says you cannot drive a car unless you have a license and obey all of the rules of the road. Thus, people are generally conscientious about speed limits. Yet, in being conscientious about the state's law, they do not always consider God's law of the road, which is that you must

not hurt anyone or their property while driving.³ People often drive unsafely in poor visibility conditions because the state has authorized it. If they run somebody down, the state protects them. The man who is under the state's authority is thus taught to throw away his mind when considering what is safe. As a result, if the state says 55 mph, he is taught to go 55 mph. He is not free to go 85 mph when that would obviously be just as safe, and he uses the covering of the state to go 55 even when 25 mph might be unsafe.

All of this is claiming the immunity of personhood—a license holder who has obeyed the state's rules of the road thinks he can be exempted from obeying God. God does not recognize this personhood though. The state official who tickets a man for going 85 mph is a thief in God's eyes, and the man who kills somebody within the parameters of the law is a guilty manslayer who is wrongly justified by the state's officials.

Again, when the state's laws differ from God's laws in specifying the manner of punishment, it breaks God's law by changing it. For example, God's law commands that a thief pay restitution for what he stole.⁴ He must pay back what he stole, plus damages, to his victim. When the state instead imprisons a thief, it joins in stealing from the victim, for the victim must now pay taxes to house and feed the thief. The state and its officials also engage in kidnapping and unlawful enslavement, in as much as they take the thief by force and make him the slave of the state for a period of time, even though he owes the state nothing under God's law. By perverting God's law, the state and its officials also teach the thief that he has no responsibility to his victims,

So, whether the state has outlawed what God permits, or whether it permits what God outlaws—or whether it changes the punishments which God has prescribed for any particular crime—the state is going against God and positively breaking His law, teaching people to ignore and break His law, and herding them into hell.

Because of this, you, the agent of the state, are in a very precarious position. “The state” or “the government” is not alive and will not stand before God in judgment. The government consists of all the people who work for it and put its directives into action. *That means individuals who work for the government will be held responsible for the sins the government establishes as law in society.* Since God is no respecter of persons, He does not allow the excuse “I was just doing my job.” He requires *everyone* to pass moral judgment on *everything* they do and make sure it is not immoral *according to His law*. That applies equally to the brutal guard in the Nazi extermination camp leading people off to be tortured and to the nice little lady who collects the fees for sales tax licenses. Both are relying on their personhood—granted by the government—to do what they do with impunity. But God does not recognize that personhood.

Now I must ask you to apply this understanding to your own position within the government. If you don't believe in God, that is one thing, but if you do, and if you count yourself one of His children, then consider how deeply you are offending Him. Once you rip off this veil of personhood, its implications are truly horrendous. The nice little lady who collects fees and the IRS agent in a coat and tie are armed robbers with an organized crime racket behind them. The policeman (or any government official who can call in the policeman for

non-compliance) is a robber and a kidnaper because he uses fines and jail (not biblical) to punish people for breaking laws that God didn't make. The judge who takes a salary to enforce the state's law instead of God's is a dishonest judge and, as far as God is concerned, his salary is nothing more than a bribe from the state to ignore God's law. *Any government official paid with tax money extracted from people by force is a thief.* Those who are busy making new laws and regulations are the teachers of false morality, and thus bear the guilt for all of it. Period. These judgments will not be open for discussion before God's throne.

How does all of this apply to you? Only you can answer this question. Understand that a man cannot serve two masters.⁷ Either he will love one and hate the other or vice versa. You cannot serve God and the government. Their laws and ideas of what is moral and immoral are different. As a child of God you are called on to uphold His commandments and maintain the highest standard of His ideas of right and wrong. As a government employee, you are called on to maintain the state's laws, and its standards of right and wrong with unerring fidelity. You have to decide whose standard you are going to obey. If you don't believe in God, or in a final judgment, then you serve the god of this world (which is the state, because it has the guns to make its word law) and with it you have cast your lot. If you do claim to believe though, then I suggest you do some careful thinking. Don't let the harlot church deceive you. She'll tell you that you're okay—but, as we discussed, this is simply the commanded respect of the government's slave toward her slavemaster. Look at the job you perform and consider what rules you are being paid to uphold. Consider how those rules go against God's rules, which are plainly laid out in the Bible, including the punishments. Consider where your salary is coming from. Maybe you will find nothing that condemns you in these questions. You might not, for example, if you are a postman. He performs a real service that people need (not one created by a law) for a fee. However, if you do find condemnation, then you must act to get things right with God. You have lived in ignorance of the truth up until now, but God does not want you to remain ignorant.⁶ Truth, even if convicting, is of great benefit to a righteous man because it helps him to live a life that is not an offense to God. Truth is a curse to the unrighteous though, because they'd rather remain ignorant and go on sinning so when they hear it they run from it. So you now stand at the doorway. Who will you be? The righteous who accepts the truth when it comes to him and changes, or the unrighteous, who makes excuses for disobedience. Make no mistake, *your eternal destiny hangs in the balance!*

Notes:

1. Acts 10:34, Romans 2:11, 2 Samuel 14:14, James 2:9
2. 1 Samuel 8
3. Exodus 21:12-14, 18, 19
4. Exodus 22:1-4
5. Luke 16:13
6. Acts 17:30