THE QUESTION

Did the early Christians vote in civil elections?

Asked by a THF member on November 5, 2026 · published November 9, 2026 · 12 numbered quotations · the 21 early Christian passages and 153 Bible verses we kept are listed at the back, each with a link.

Read it online: thehistoricfaith.com/early-church-questions/did-the-early-christians-vote-in-civil-elections

The short answer *Interpretation: our reading of the passages, not their words*

These passages give no early rule for or against Christians voting. One writer hints that elections by the people had faded in his day, and one persecuting edict stripped Christians of the right to vote. What the writers do teach is to honor and pray for rulers, obey them in what pleases God, and keep first loyalty for Christ.

LIBRARY ONLY	This study was written only from The Historic Faith's library of early-Christian writings and the Bible, never from the web. Every passage we kept from what the library gave is listed at the back, with a link to read it.
HOW IT WAS MADE	Compiled by machine learning from The Historic Faith's library of early-Christian writings and the Bible only. Every quotation was matched word for word against our stored text. Not yet reviewed by The Historic Faith.
SHARING WITH AN AI?	Every quotation here comes from The Historic Faith's library. If you paste this study into an AI, anything it adds beyond these pages comes from that AI, not from us.

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POINT 1 OF 8

Voting is mentioned, but never ruled on

Our note · compiled by machine learning · Interpretation: our reading of the passages, not their words

Arnobius asks pagans whether they still keep old Roman customs, such as electing magistrates by a vote of the people. His question suggests that custom had faded. He uses it to show that pagans had changed their ways too, not to teach Christians whether to vote.

1 “Do you still have the people divided into five classes, as your ancestors once did? Do you ever elect magistrates by vote of the people?”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Arnobius,** *Against the Heathen* 2 (c. 290–330 AD) **Source 20, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 2 OF 8

Persecutors took away Christians' right to vote

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Lactantius records an edict that took away all honors and positions from Christians, and even the right to vote. This shows such rights could be taken from them under persecution. It does not say how Christians had used that right before.

2 “The next day, an edict was published that took away all honors and positions from the Christians.”

later in the same passage

“Finally, they were to have neither the ability to be free nor the right to vote.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Lactantius,** *Of the Manner in Which the Persecutors Died* 13 (c. 290–320 AD) **Source 21, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 3 OF 8

Honor rulers in what pleases God

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

The Apostolic Constitutions and Theophilus both teach Christians to be subject to rulers, pay their taxes and give them honor. The Constitutions add a limit: this obedience is in matters that are pleasing to God.

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3 “Be subject to all royal authority and rule in matters that are pleasing to God, as to ministers of God and punishers of the ungodly.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Apostolic Constitutions** (c. 250–380 AD) **Source 19, page 7** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

4 “And it teaches us to render all things to all: Romans 13:7-8 honor to whom honor, fear to whom fear, tribute to whom tribute; to owe no man anything, but to love all.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Theophilus of Antioch,** *To Autolycus* 14 (c. 169–183 AD) **Source 5, page 6** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

POINT 4 OF 8

God set up government to restrain evil

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Irenaeus teaches that God, not the devil, set up earthly rulers. Their laws hold back violence so that people do not destroy one another. Rulers who act unjustly will still answer to God's judgment.

5 “Earthly authority, therefore, has been established by God for the benefit of nations, and not by the devil, who never rests, and does not desire even peaceful nations.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Irenaeus,** *Against Heresies: Book V* (c. 175–202 AD) **Source 7, page 6** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

POINT 5 OF 8

Christians served their nation by praying

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

The church's prayers asked God to keep rulers peaceable so believers could live quiet, godly lives. Origen tells a critic that Christians do good for their country by praying for their fellow citizens.

6 “Let us pray for kings and those in authority, that they may be peaceable toward us, so that we may have and live a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Apostolic Constitutions** (c. 250–380 AD) **Source 18, page 7** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

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7 “For in secret, and in our own hearts, prayers rise up like those of priests on behalf of our fellow citizens.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Origen,** *Against Celsus* 74 (c. 215–254 AD) **Source 15, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 6 OF 8

They declined public office for church service

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

When a critic urged Christians to hold office, Origen answered that they kept themselves for service in the Church. He says this was not to dodge duty, but for a more needed work: the salvation of people.

8 “And Christians do not refuse public offices in order to escape public duties, but so that they may keep themselves for a more divine and necessary service in the Church of God, for the salvation of men.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Origen,** *Against Celsus* 75 (c. 215–254 AD) **Source 14, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 7 OF 8

Loyalty to rulers has limits

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Tertullian says the king must be honored only while he stays in his own place and does not claim God's honor. Hippolytus warns against obeying rulers just because of who they are, since we answer to God.

9 “Peter, in 1 Peter 2:13, also certainly said that the king must indeed be honored, but only so long as the king stays within his own sphere and does not claim divine honors.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Tertullian,** *Scorpiace* 14 (c. 196–220 AD) **Source 11, page 6** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

10 “We must pay no attention to lies, and we must not give submissive obedience to rulers just because of who they are, since we know that we must give an account to God.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Hippolytus,** *Exegetical Fragments* 1 (c. 200–236 AD) **Source 13, page 6** Read it in the library ›
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POINT 8 OF 8

Christians belong first to another kingdom

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

The Epistle to Diognetus says Christians live in every city but are not of the world. Tertullian tells believers that their true ranks and offices belong to Christ and His church.

11 "The soul dwells in the body, yet is not of the body; and Christians live in the world, yet are not of the world."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Mathetes,** *Epistle to Diognetus* (c. 80–200 AD) **Source 1, page 6** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

12 "But your ranks, your offices, and your very place of meeting, the church, are Christ's."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Tertullian,** *De Corona* 13 (c. 196–220 AD) **Source 10, page 6** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

THE LIMITS

What these passages don't tell us

- None of these passages says whether a Christian may vote or should refuse to vote.
- They do not show how the early writers would have judged voting in a modern election.
- A word-for-word match shows that a quotation really is in our text. It does not show that our reading of it is right, or who wrote each work.

WHERE EVERY QUOTE CAME FROM

The Sources

The 21 early Christian passages and 153 Bible verses we kept for this question (repeats and weak or off-topic search hits were left out): early Christian passages first (sources 1–21, grouped by writer, earliest first), then Bible verses in The Faith Once Delivered Bible (sources 22–130, in Bible order), then 44 more verses THF links to these passages, by reference. **Quote 1, page 2** beside a source shows where the study quotes it. Passages are in THF's updated English unless marked "1885 English" (the Roberts–Donaldson translation, public domain). "… [continues online]" marks a passage the library gave only in part. **On paper?** At **thehistoricfaith.com**, Bible verses are in the **Audio Bible** and early Christian writings in the **Library** (search for the title).

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EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITERS *21 passages from 15 writers*

Mathetes, *c. 80–200 AD · source 1*

1 *Epistle to Diognetus* **Quote 11, page 5** “sum up everything in one word—what the soul is in the body, that Christians are in the world. The soul is spread throughout all the members of the body… [continues online] **read ›**

Hermas, *c. 90–150 AD · source 2*

2 *Shepherd* (on point 8) He says to me, "You know that you who are servants of God live in a foreign land, because your city is far away from this one. If, then," he… [continues online] **read ›**

Polycarp, *c. 100–155 AD · sources 3–4*

3 *Martyrdom of Polycarp* (1885 English; on point 7) “we are taught to give all due honour (which entails no injury upon ourselves) to the powers and authorities which are ordained of God… [continues online] **read ›**

4 *Epistle to the Philippians* (on point 5) for all the saints. Pray also for kings… [continues online] **read ›**

Theophilus of Antioch, *c. 169–183 AD · source 5*

5 *To Autolycus* 14 **Quote 4, page 3** “6:3 Moreover, concerning subjection to authorities and powers, and prayer for them, the divine word gives us… [continues online] **read ›**

Athenagoras, *c. 170–190 AD · source 6*

6 *A Plea for the Christians* 37 (1885 English; on point 5) “who are more deserving to obtain the things they ask, than those who, like us, pray for your government, that you may, as is most equitable, receive the kingdom, son… [continues online] **read ›**

Irenaeus, *c. 175–202 AD · sources 7–8*

7 *Against Heresies: Book V* **Quote 5, page 3** he is the minister of God, the avenger for wrath upon those who do evil.” For this reason too, magistrates themselves, acting justly and lawfully, shall not be questioned or… [continues online] **read ›**

8 *Against Heresies: Book V* (on point 4) As the devil lied at the beginning, he also lied at the end when he said, "All these are given to me, and I give them to whomever I will."… [continues online] **read ›**

Clement of Alexandria, *c. 190–215 AD · source 9*

9 *Instructor* 3.12 (1885 English; on point 3) “of civil government: Render to Cæsar the things which are Cæsar's… [continues online] **read ›**

Tertullian, *c. 196–220 AD · sources 10–11*

10 *De Corona* 13 (1885 English) **Quote 12, page 5** “the magistrates besides with golden ones, as at Athens, and at Rome… [continues online] **read ›**

11 *Scorpiace* 14 (1885 English) **Quote 9, page 4** “he bids you be subject to the powers, not on an opportunity occurring for his avoiding martyrdom, but when he is making an appeal in behalf of a good life… [continues online] **read ›**

Early Liturgies, *c. 200–400 AD · source 12*

12 *Liturgy of Adaeus and Maris* 1 (1885 English; on point 5) “that the priesthood with the government may have peace… [continues online] **read ›**

Hippolytus, *c. 200–236 AD · source 13*

13 *Exegetical Fragments* 1 (1885 English) **Quote 10, page 4** “Then the assembly believed them. It becomes us, then, to be steadfast in every duty, and to give no heed to lies, and to yield no obsequious obedience to the… [continues online] **read ›**

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Origen, *c. 215–254 AD · sources 14–15*

14 *Against Celsus* 75 (1885 English) **Quote 8, page 4** “this service is at once necessary and right… [continues online] **read ›**

15 *Against Celsus* 74 (1885 English) **Quote 7, page 4** “Christians are benefactors of their country more than others… [continues online] **read ›**

Dionysius of Alexandria, *c. 232–265 AD · source 16*

16 *Epistles and Epistolary Fragments* (1885 English; on point 6) “who were engaged in the public service, were drawn into compliance by the very necessities of their official duties… [continues online] **read ›**

Apostolic Constitutions, *c. 250–380 AD · sources 17–19*

17 *Apostolic Constitutions* (1885 English; on point 4) “as if all killing were wicked, but only that of the innocent: but the killing which is just is reserved to the magistrates alone… [continues online] **read ›**

18 *Apostolic Constitutions* **Quote 6, page 3** “us pray for kings and those in authority, that they may be… [continues online] **read ›**

19 *Apostolic Constitutions* **Quote 3, page 3** “all the fear that is due to them, all offerings, all customs… [continues online] **read ›**

Arnobius, *c. 290–330 AD · source 20*

20 *Against the Heathen* 2 **Quote 1, page 2** “you ever elect magistrates by vote of the people… [continues online] **read ›**

Lactantius, *c. 290–320 AD · source 21*

21 *Of the Manner in Which the Persecutors Died* 13 (1885 English) **Quote 2, page 2** “finally, that they should neither be capable of freedom, nor have right of suffrage… [continues online] **read ›**

THE BIBLE *109 verses, The Faith Once Delivered Bible (Old Testament from the Septuagint), in Bible order*

22 **Genesis 49:18** waiting for the salvation of the Lord. **read ›**

23 **Exodus 18:19** Now then, listen to me, and I will advise you, and God will be with you. Act for the people in the things that concern God, and you shall bring their matters to God. **read ›**

24 **Deuteronomy 12:8** You shall not do all that we are doing here today, each one doing what is pleasing in his own sight; **read ›**

25 **Deuteronomy 16:18** You shall appoint for yourself judges and officers in your cities that the Lord your God is giving you, tribe by tribe, and they shall judge the people with righteous judgment. **read ›**

26 **Judges 17:6** In those days there was no king in Israel; every man did what was right in his own eyes. **read ›**

27 **Judges 21:25** In those days there was no king in Israel; every man did what was right in his own sight. **read ›**

28 **1 Chronicles 13:4** And all the assembly said that they would do so, for the thing was right in the eyes of all the people. **read ›**

29 **2 Chronicles 19:6** And he said to the judges, “Consider what you are doing, for you do not judge for man but for the Lord, and the matters of judgment are with you. **read ›**

30 **Ezra 9:12** Now therefore do not give your daughters to their sons, and do not take their daughters for your sons; and you shall never seek their peace or their good, so that you may be strong and eat the good things of the land and leave it as an inheritance to your sons forever.’ **read ›**

31 **Nehemiah 10:14** The rulers of the people: Parosh, Pahath-moab, Elam, Zattu; (Septuagint 2 Esdras 20:15 (Nehemiah 10:14 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

32 **Esther 8:11** in which he commanded them to use their own laws in every city, and to come to their own aid, and to deal with their opponents and those who attacked them as they wished, **read ›**

33 **Esther 9:23** And the Jews accepted this, as Mordecai had written to them: **read ›**

34 **Proverbs 7:12** For at one time she roams outside, and at another she lies in wait in the streets at every corner. **read ›**

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35 **Proverbs 8:15** By me kings reign, and rulers write decrees of righteousness. **read ›**

36 **Ecclesiastes 7:16** Do not be very righteous, and do not be overly wise, lest you be astonished. **read ›**

37 **Ecclesiastes 9:15** and he should find in it a poor wise man, and that man should save the city by his wisdom; yet no one remembered that poor man. **read ›**

38 **Song of Solomon 4:4** Your neck is like the tower of David, which was built for Thalpioth; a thousand shields hang on it, all the darts of the mighty men. **read ›**

39 **Isaiah 2:13** and upon every cedar of Lebanon, of those that are high and lofty, and upon every oak tree of Bashan, **read ›**

40 **Isaiah 3:19** and the necklace, and the ornament of their faces, **read ›**

41 **Isaiah 5:19** who say, “Let what he will do draw near quickly, so that we may see; and let the counsel of the Holy One of Israel come, so that we may know.” **read ›**

42 **Isaiah 6:4** And the beam above the door was lifted up at the voice with which they cried, and the house was filled with smoke. **read ›**

43 **Isaiah 7:8** but the head of Aram is Damascus, and the head of Damascus is Rezin; and yet within sixty-five years the kingdom of Ephraim shall fail from being a people; **read ›**

44 **Isaiah 7:21** And it shall be in that day that a man shall rear a young cow and two sheep; **read ›**

45 **Isaiah 8:6** “Because this people does not desire the water of Siloam that flows gently, but desires to have Rezin and the son of Remaliah as king over you, **read ›**

46 **Isaiah 15:3** Wrap yourselves in sackcloth in her squares, and lament on her rooftops and in her lanes; all of you, wail with weeping. **read ›**

47 **Jeremiah 2:2** And he said: Thus says the Lord: I remember the mercy of your youth, and the love of your marriage, in following the Holy One of Israel, says the Lord. **read ›**

48 **Jeremiah 32:12** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

49 **Jeremiah 46:9** Mount the horses, make ready the chariots; go out, you warriors of the Ethiopians, and you Libyans armed with weapons; and go up, you Lydians, bend the bow. (Septuagint Jeremiah 26:9 (Jeremiah 46:9 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

50 **Ezekiel 35:2** Son of man, set your face against Mount Seir, and prophesy against it, **read ›**

51 **Daniel 11:31** And seeds from him shall arise, and they shall profane the sanctuary of might, and remove the continual offering, and set up an abomination made desolate. **read ›**

52 **Daniel 12:5** And I, Daniel, looked, and behold, two others were standing, one on this side of the bank of the river and one on that side of the bank of the river. **read ›**

53 **Amos 1:1** The words of Amos, which came in Accarim in Tekoa, which he saw concerning Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah king of Judah and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash king of Israel, two years before the earthquake. **read ›**

54 **Amos 3:9** Proclaim it to the regions among the Assyrians, and to the regions of Egypt, and say, “Gather yourselves on the mountain of Samaria, and see the many marvels in her midst, and the oppression that is in her.” **read ›**

55 **Amos 6:3** You who are coming to the evil day, who draw near and lay hold of false Sabbaths, **read ›**

56 **1 Esdras 4:56** And for all who guarded the city he wrote that they be given allotments and wages. **read ›**

57 **1 Esdras 4:62** And they blessed the God of their fathers, because he had given them release and freedom **read ›**

58 **1 Esdras 8:94** as has been decided by you and by all who obey the law of the Lord. **read ›**

59 **1 Esdras 9:12** Let the leaders of the multitude stay, and let all those of our settlements who have foreign wives come at an appointed time, **read ›**

60 **Judith 11:14** And they have sent men to Jerusalem to bring back permission for them from the council of elders, because those who live there have also done these things. **read ›**

61 **Wisdom of Solomon 1:1** Love righteousness, you who judge the earth; think of the Lord in goodness, and seek him in sincerity of heart. **read ›**

62 **Wisdom of Solomon 3:9** Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will stay with him in love, for grace and mercy are for his chosen ones. **read ›**

63 **Wisdom of Solomon 6:3** For your dominion was given you by the Lord, and your sovereignty by the Most High, who will examine your works and search out your plans. **read ›**

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64 **Wisdom of Solomon 12:18** But you, being master of strength, judge with gentleness, and govern us with great restraint; for power is with you whenever you will. **read ›**

65 **Wisdom of Solomon 14:16** Then, strengthened in time, the ungodly custom was kept as a law, and by the commands of tyrants carved images were worshiped. **read ›**

66 **Wisdom of Solomon 18:9** For the holy children of good men offered sacrifice in secret, and in full agreement they established the divine law, that the holy ones would share alike in the same good things and dangers, the fathers already leading the songs of praise. **read ›**

67 **Wisdom of Sirach 46:10** so that all the children of Israel might see that it is good to follow after the Lord. **read ›**

68 **1 Maccabees 1:43** And many from Israel took pleasure in his worship; they sacrificed to idols and profaned the Sabbath. **read ›**

69 **1 Maccabees 1:58** By their power they did this to Israel, to those who were found in the cities, month after month. **read ›**

70 **1 Maccabees 7:12** Then a congregation of scribes gathered before Alcimus and Bacchides to seek just terms. **read ›**

71 **1 Maccabees 8:15** And they have made a senate house for themselves, and every day three hundred and twenty counselors deliberate continually about the people, to keep them in good order; **read ›**

72 **1 Maccabees 11:34** We have therefore confirmed to them the territory of Judea and the three districts of Aphairema, Lydda, and Ramathem, which were added to Judea from Samaria, and all that belongs to them, for all who sacrifice in Jerusalem, in place of the royal dues that the king formerly received from them each year from the produce of the land and the fruit of the trees. **read ›**

73 **1 Maccabees 14:42** and that he should be general over them, and that he should take charge of the sanctuary, to appoint men over its works and over the country and over the weapons and over the strongholds; **read ›**

74 **2 Maccabees 4:17** For it is no light thing to commit ungodliness against the divine laws; but the time that follows will make this clear. **read ›**

75 **2 Maccabees 4:48** So those who had spoken for the city and the people and the holy vessels quickly suffered the unjust penalty. **read ›**

76 **2 Maccabees 7:16** But he looked at the king and said, “Because you have authority among men, though you are mortal, you do what you please. But do not think that our race has been forsaken by God. **read ›**

77 **2 Maccabees 9:15** and the Jews, whom he had decided not to consider worthy even of burial but to throw out with their infants to the wild beasts, for the birds to devour, he would make all equal to the citizens of Athens; **read ›**

78 **2 Maccabees 11:23** Now that our father has passed on to the gods, we wish the subjects of the kingdom to be free from disturbance and to attend to their own affairs. **read ›**

79 **2 Maccabees 11:30** Therefore those who return by the thirtieth of Xanthicus will have our right hand as a pledge, with full security, **read ›**

80 **2 Maccabees 14:8** first, out of genuine concern for the king’s interests, and second, with regard also for my own fellow citizens; for through the foolishness of those I have mentioned our whole race is suffering no small misfortune. **read ›**

81 **3 Maccabees 1:27** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

82 **3 Maccabees 2:29** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

83 **3 Maccabees 4:4** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

84 **4 Maccabees 2:13** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

85 **4 Maccabees 3:19** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

86 **4 Maccabees 5:19** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

87 **4 Maccabees 6:4** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

88 **4 Maccabees 7:8** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

89 **4 Maccabees 7:21** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

90 **4 Maccabees 8:6** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

91 **4 Maccabees 15:3** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

92 **4 Maccabees 15:26** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

93 **4 Maccabees 16:16** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

94 **4 Maccabees 16:23** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

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95 **1 Enoch 51:2** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

96 **1 Enoch 58:1** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

97 **1 Enoch 58:2** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

98 **1 Enoch 93:10** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

99 **1 Enoch 94:4** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

100 **1 Enoch 95:3** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

101 **1 Enoch 99:10** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

102 **Matthew 22:16** They sent their disciples to him with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are truthful and teach the way of God in truth, and you are not swayed by anyone, for you do not regard people’s status. **read ›**

103 **Matthew 22:17** Tell us therefore, what do you think? Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?” **read ›**

104 **Luke 20:22** Is it lawful for us to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?” **read ›**

105 **Luke 20:25** He said to them, “Then give to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” **read ›**

106 **Acts 4:19** But Peter and John answered them, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, judge for yourselves, **read ›**

107 **Acts 10:35** but in every nation he who fears him and works righteousness is acceptable to him. **read ›**

108 **Acts 16:20** When they had brought them to the magistrates, they said, “These men, being Jews, are agitating our city **read ›**

109 **Acts 16:35** When day came, the magistrates sent the officers, saying, “Release those men.” **read ›**

110 **Acts 16:38** The officers reported these words to the magistrates, who were afraid when they heard that Paul and Silas were Roman citizens, **read ›**

111 **Acts 19:38** If therefore Demetrius and the craftsmen who are with him have a matter against anyone, the courts are open and there are proconsuls. Let them press charges against one another. **read ›**

112 **Acts 19:39** But if you seek anything about other matters, it will be settled in the regular assembly. **read ›**

113 **Acts 26:10** I also did this in Jerusalem. I both shut up many of the saints in prisons, having received authority from the chief priests; and when they were put to death I gave my vote against them. **read ›**

114 **Romans 13:1** Let every soul be in subjection to the higher authorities, for there is no authority except from God, and those who exist are ordained by God. **read ›**

115 **Romans 13:2** Therefore he who resists the authority withstands the ordinance of God; and those who withstand will themselves receive judgment. **read ›**

116 **Romans 13:3** For rulers are not a terror to good works but to evil works. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do good, and you will have praise from it, **read ›**

117 **Romans 13:7** Therefore give everyone what you owe: if you owe taxes, pay taxes; if customs, then customs; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor. **read ›**

118 **Romans 14:2** One believes he may eat everything, but the weak person eats vegetables. **read ›**

119 **Romans 14:5** One man esteems one day as more important. Another esteems every day alike. Let each man be fully assured in his own mind. **read ›**

120 **Romans 14:14** I know and am persuaded in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean of itself; except that to him who considers anything to be unclean, to him it is unclean. **read ›**

121 **Romans 14:16** Then do not let your good be slandered, **read ›**

122 **Romans 14:18** For he who serves Christ in these things is acceptable to God and approved by men. **read ›**

123 **Romans 14:22** Do you have faith? Keep it to yourself before God. Blessed is the one who does not condemn himself in what he approves. **read ›**

124 **1 Corinthians 10:27** But if one of the unbelievers invites you and you wish to go, eat whatever is set before you, asking no questions for the sake of conscience. **read ›**

125 **Philippians 3:20** For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, **read ›**

126 **1 Timothy 2:2** for kings and all who are in high places, that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and reverence. **read ›**

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127 **1 Timothy 5:21** I command you in the sight of God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the chosen angels, that you observe these things without prejudice, doing nothing by partiality. **read ›**

128 **Titus 3:1** Remind them to be in subjection to rulers and to authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, **read ›**

129 **1 Peter 2:13** Therefore subject yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord’s sake: whether to the king, as supreme, **read ›**

130 **1 Peter 2:14** or to governors, as sent by him for vengeance on evildoers and for praise to those who do well. **read ›**

ALSO LINKED BY THF TO THESE PASSAGES *44 verses, by reference*

Partly machine-linked: related to the passages, not always quoted in them. Each reference links to the verse in our audio Bible.

Leviticus 25:23

1 Chronicles 29:15

Psalms 4:4

Matthew 4:9 · 4:10 · 5:39 · 5:40 · 5:42 · 5:44 · 5:45 · 5:46 · 6:3 · 6:19 · 6:20 · 17:27 · 19:21 · 21:9 · 22:21 · 27:5

Mark 12:17 · 12:32

Luke 2:14 · 4:6 · 6:29 · 6:32 · 19:15

John 12:6 · 17:11

Acts 1:18

Romans 13:4 · 13:6 · 13:8

2 Corinthians 5:1 · 7:1

Galatians 1:1

Ephesians 4:3 · 4:26

Philippians 3:14

1 Timothy 2:1

Hebrews 11:13 · 13:14 · 13:20

James 1:27

1 Peter 2:11

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Searched: Ante-Nicene Fathers volumes 1–9 and the Bible, including the Septuagint.

ABOUT THIS STUDY

A THF member asked “Did the early Christians vote in civil elections?” on November 5, 2026. The Historic Faith answered it as a public study on November 9, 2026.

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THE END OF THIS STUDY