



The Purpose of Institutions

Searching for Meaning in Family, Government, and Church.

Ordained by God

- God ordained the family (Gen. 2:24).
- God ordained human government (Rom. 13:1).
- God ordained the church (Eph. 1:22-23; Col. 1:18).

God created these institutions, and that alone gives them meaning.

The Family (Eph. 5:21-6:4)

- A Godly family submits to Jesus (Eph. 5:21)
- A Godly family starts with marriage (Eph 5:22-33).
- A Godly family has important relationships within it (Eph. 5:22-6:4).
- A Godly family passes on the faith (Deut. 6:4-25; Psalm 78:1-8).

God created the family to pass on a Christian worldview.

The Government (Rom. 13:1-7)

- Government was instituted by God (Rom. 13:1-2).

- Government is a benefit to society (Rom. 13:3-4a).
- Government provides justice (Rom. 13:4b).
- Government requires participation (Rom. 13:5-7).

God created government to establish order, provide protection, and promote justice.

The Church (Ephesians)

- The church proclaims God's Mission (Matt. 28:19-20)
 - The spread of the Gospel
 - The discipling of the Saints
- The church practices public worship (Acts 2:42-47).
- The church provides vital community (Acts 2:42; Phil. 2:1-2).
- The church allows believers to serve (Eph. 4:1-16).
- The church represents God (Eph. 3:21).
 - To the Lost (Matt. 5:13-16)
 - To the Angels (Eph. 3:10-11)
 - To each other (Eph. 4:1-6; 5:1-2)

God created the church to display the glory of Jesus Christ to our lost and dying world.

Take comfort in this:

God infuses all time, all places, all people with meaning for His glory and our good.