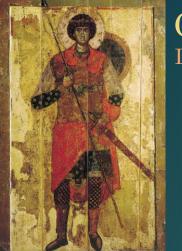


# THE CHRISTIAN IN SOCIETY: CITIZENSHIP IN CHURCH AND WORLD

### CHRIST REIGNS IN THE WORLD THROUGH LAW

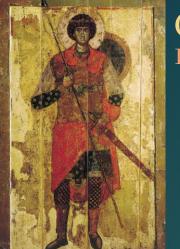
- Read Rom 13: 1-7; Eph 6:1-8: Christ exercises authority in the world through laws, rules, and standards, delegating authority to those given legitimate authority.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment: Honor your father and your mother.
- What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.
- All legitimate exercise of authority in society flows within temporal orders from Christ by Divine right e.g. parents, govt. officials, etc.



# THE CHRISTIAN IN SOCIETY: CITIZENSHIP IN CHURCH AND WORLD

### Christ reigns in the world through Law

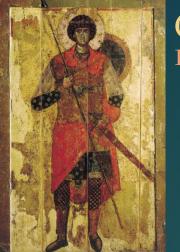
- Christ rules in the world through a civil use of the Law
- Encourages a modicum of outward moral behavior and curbs gross and manifest sin (laws, rules, moral standards)
  - Standard of civil just behavior: Law written on Heart
  - Motivation based on self-interest: rewards and penalties
- Applies to believers and non-believers alike
- Discipline is to teach children the wisdom of civil obedience: Life will go better for me if I follow the rules than if I break them.



## THE CHRISTIAN IN SOCIETY: CITIZENSHIP IN CHURCH AND WORLD

CHRIST REIGNS IN THE CHURCH THROUGH THE GOSPEL

- Sin and evil are forgiven freely for the sake of the finished universal atonement of Christ on the cross.
- Citizens of Heavenly Kingdom live with God through Christ by faith alone.
- The Gospel nurtures and matures faith and life in Christ and energizes the works of faith in vocation.
- The Gospel is applied to all penitent sinners in the Church and world. No distinction.
- The ministry of the Law is auxiliary: preparatory for reception of the Gospel by working a penitent heart.



## THE CHRISTIAN IN SOCIETY: CITIZENSHIP IN CHURCH AND WORLD

### Christ reigns in the Church and world through Law and Gospel

- All power exercised in the world and/or Church not authorized and delegated by Christ is evil and ultimately of the Devil.
- Lutheran Confessions: The Power and Primacy of the Pope
  - The Church through its called Servants of the Word have Divine right authority to preach the Gospel, administer the Sacraments, and exercise jurisdiction through the Keys of the Church.
  - Servants of the Word (pastors, teachers, bishops, elders) have no Divine right authority to create or enforce civil laws.