

## Recommended Reading

Some Biblical Passages to consider

- Romans 12 & 13 (esp. 13:3-4) – individual and state
- 1 Peter 2:13-14 – role of state
- John 18:36 – two kingdoms
- Matthew 5:38-41 – turning the cheek
- Luke 3:14, Matt. 8:5-13; Acts 10-11 – examples of soldier's conversions

Pacifist Perspective:

- *He Came Preaching Peace*, by John Howard Yoder
- *What Would You Do?* by John Howard Yoder

Just War Perspective:

- *Love in Hard Places*, by D.A. Carson
- *When God Says War Is Right: The Christian's Perspective on When and How to Fight*, by Darrell Cole

## Just War Theory Criteria

Just war theory attempts to limit both the reasons for resorting to war and the actual conduct of war, constraining both by what justice allows.

*Rules for going to war:*

1. The only just cause for going to war is defense against violent aggression.
2. The only just intention is to restore a just peace – just, that is, to friend and foe alike.
3. Military force must be the last resort after negotiations and other efforts (e.g. mediation) have been tried and have failed.
4. The decision to engage in such a just war must be made by the highest governmental authority.

*Rules governing the conduct of war:*

1. The wars must be for limited ends, i.e., to repel aggression and redress injustice.
2. The means of a just war must be limited by proportionality to the offense.
3. There must be no intentional and direct attack on noncombatants.
4. War should not be prolonged where there is no reasonable hope of success within these limits.