

# The Righteousness of God

The Kind of Christian  
My Country Needs

## Romans 13:1-7 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup> Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

<sup>2</sup> Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. <sup>3</sup> For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, <sup>4</sup> for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer.

<sup>5</sup> Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. <sup>6</sup> For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. <sup>7</sup> Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

## 3 Considerations:

\_\_\_\_\_ context

*What do we know of ancient Rome?*

*How would the original hearers/readers have understood this passage?*

\_\_\_\_\_ context

*What is the bigger message of Romans?*

*What does Paul say before and after this?*

\_\_\_\_\_ context

*What other scriptures come to bear on this subject?*

#### 4 timeless truths:

God is the \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Daniel 2:20-21 (ESV)

<sup>20</sup>"Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, to whom belong wisdom and might. <sup>21</sup>He changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings ...";

#### Psalm 22:28 (ESV)

<sup>28</sup>For kingship belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.

God is pro-\_\_\_\_\_.

#### 1 Peter 2:13-15a (ESV)

<sup>13</sup>Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, <sup>14</sup>or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. <sup>15</sup>For this is the will of God ...

Governments have a God-given \_\_\_\_\_.

#### 2 Samuel 23:3-4 (ESV)

<sup>3</sup>The God of Israel has spoken; the Rock of Israel has said to me: When one rules justly over men, ruling in the fear of God, <sup>4</sup>he dawns on them like the morning light, like the sun shining forth on a cloudless morning, like rain that makes grass to sprout from the earth.

You can be a Christian at \_\_\_\_\_ and at \_\_\_\_\_.

#### A brief guide to **Christian citizenship**:

- 1) Respect \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) Live \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) Don't expect government to be a \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) Don't blame government for \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6) Yield to \_\_\_\_\_ as a higher authority than government.

And remember:

- 7) We are citizens of a \_\_\_\_\_!