

Series: Our Great Salvation
Message: Ten Guiding Truths of God and Government
Text: Romans 13:1-8 (AM 7/02/17)

Divided, divisive, disheartened, disillusioned, and even deranged! All these adjectives aptly describe the political landscape of America from the beltway to the heartland. Predictably, all hope seems focused on the State Houses, Court House, and White House looking for answers. The Church should know that the hope of the Nation is held in our Homes and God's House. God calls His Children to live as Christian Citizens in every generation and situation. Today is no different. Let's explore the Ten Guiding Truths of God and Government Paul sets forth in today's text.

#1 God Permits Governments (1b) *"There is no authority except from God"*

#2 God Places the Governors (1c) *"The authorities that exist are approved"*

#3 God's Pleasure for the Governed (1a) *"Let every soul be subject..."*

#4 Nations exist to Prosper its citizens (4a) *"God's minister to you for good"*

#5 Nations exist to Prosecute criminals (4b) *"If you do evil be afraid..."*

#6 Nations exist to Protect the country (4c) *"An avenger to execute wrath..."*

#7 Christians should Proclaim truth (5; 2) *"Be subject...for conscious sake"*

#8 Christians should Pay taxes (6-7a) *"Because of this you also pay taxes"*

#9 Christians should Promote tenderness (7b-8) *"Love one another..."*

#10 Christians should Participate tenaciously (3) *"Do what is good..."*

Bonus: Christians should Pray tirelessly (12:21) *"Overcome evil with good"*

Application to life: Paul masterfully reveals the *place* and *purpose* of government in the lives of Believers. Studying Romans 13, both the Church and the Christian understand their God-given roles within society. We're compelled to be salt and light (Matt 5:16) seasoning and illuminating our culture to the Truth. Can we remain silent in a day that society calls good evil and evil good (Is 5:20)? God is calling His Remnant to engage even the *political* culture.