**Lesson 25: GOVERNMENT and our citizenship**

**BIBLICAL RESPECT FOR GOVERNMENT**

**Read Romans 13:1-7
⏵**Is this passage only for the times when we have a great leader or for all times?

To understand this passage, it is important to consider the background. Paul is writing this from prison in Rome. He is in prison for being falsely accused of burning Rome when Nero the ruler of that time actually burned the city. Peter and Paul were both accused of burning Rome because they were disliked by many of the Romans. Peter was crucified, and Paul, because he was a Roman citizen and could not be crucified, was later beheaded.

**Read Romans 13:1
⏵**What does this passage say about every authority in our lives?

**⏵**What is man’s ultimate goal in life? What does the Bible say and what does society say?

**⏵**What is God’s view and ultimate purpose of authority?

**⏵** Why would God allow such horrible leaders like Nero to be in authority?

**Read Romans 13:3
⏵**Do we only fear the authorities when we do wrong or do we fear them all the time?

**Read Romans 13:4-5
⏵**What does this passage say is one of the purposes of government?

**⏵**What is our responsibility in government?

**Read Romans 13:6-7**

**⏵**  What does this passage say about our responsibility to government?

**DISOBEYING THE GOVERNMENT**

**Read Acts 4:8-22**

**⏵**Is it ever okay to not obey the government?