**“Our Attitude Toward Government”**

**(Romans 13:1-7)**

**We live in a day in which there are many strong opinions about our government and our rulers. In today’s text Paul instructs the church in the imperial city of Rome to have a godly attitude toward government rulers, even though their treatment of Christians was hostile. Paul reminds the Romans and us of…**

 **I. God’s PLACEMENT of Rulers (1-2)**

 *“Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power*

 *but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.”*

* **Ordained of God (1)**

(John 19:11; Daniel 4:17; Psalm 75:6-7)

* **Obeyed by Man (2)**

(Titus 3:1; 1 Peter 2:13; Acts 5:29; Daniel 1:8; 3:18; 6:10)

 **II. God’s PURPOSE for Rulers (3-5)**

 *“For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil…for he is the*

 *minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil.”*

* **Put Down Evil/Promote Good (3)**
* **Minister of God/Revenger of Evil (4-5)**

(Genesis 9:6; 1 Samuel 24:6)

**III. God’s PAYMENT of Rulers (6-7)**

 *“For this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending*

 *continually upon this very thing.”*

* **Reason for Payment (6)**
* **Form of Payment (7)**

(Matthew 22:21; 1Timothy 2:1-4; Philippians 2:14-16)