Giving Thanks for Rulers

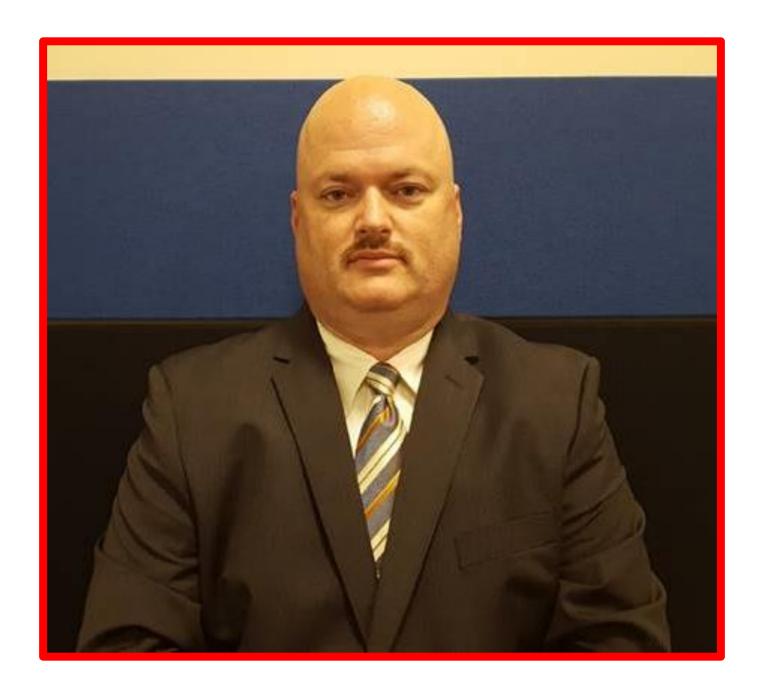


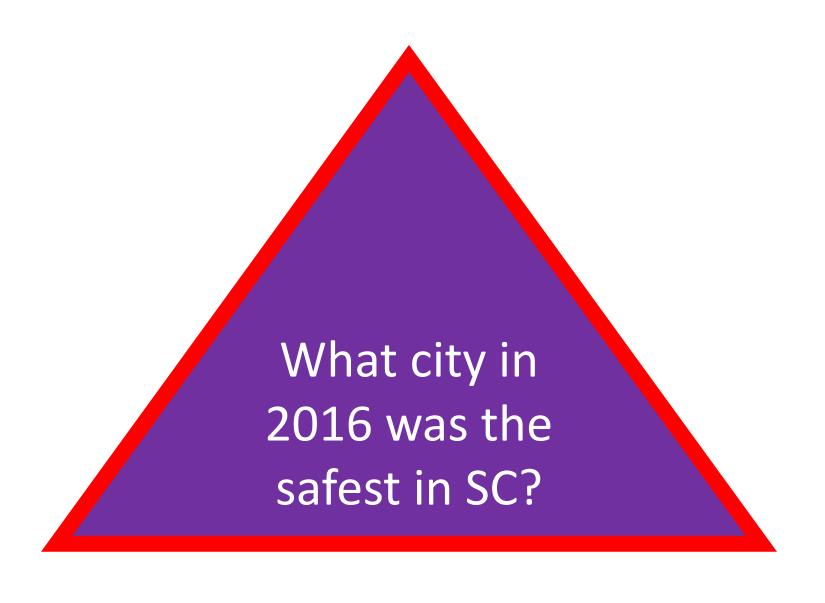


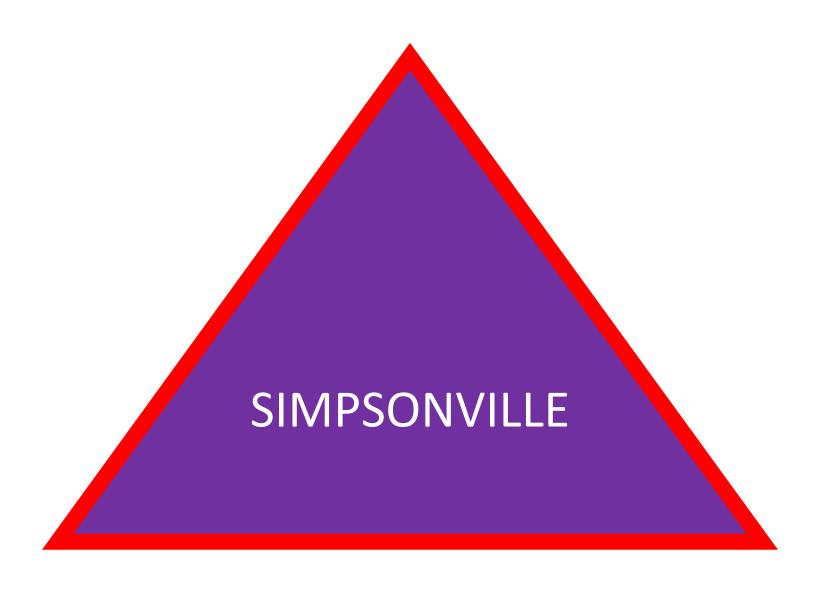












We want to love God and Jesus Christ by keeping their commandments ... to obtain their promise of greater love and manifestation to us.

John 14:21,23

We started with His command to love our enemies ... and now His command to give thanks for civil rulers to God.

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I Timothy 2:1-3

sight of God our Saviour;

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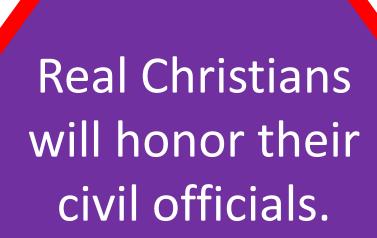
Why this Study?

Attacks on POTUS

Keep Jesus' Words

Be Like David

April 15



- 1 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.
- 2 Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.

Romans 13:1-2

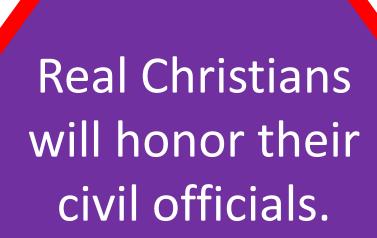
13 Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme;

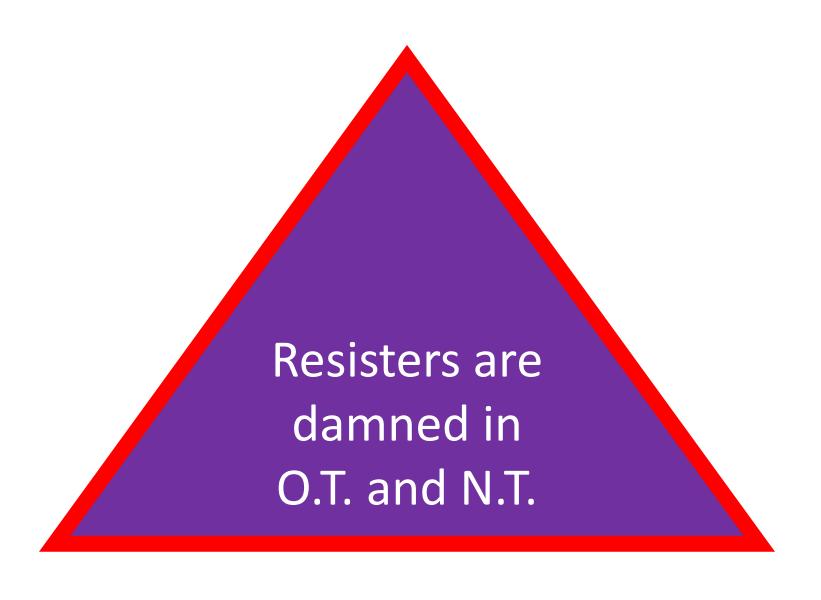
14 Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.

I Peter 2:13-14

- 15 For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men:
- 16 As free, and not using your liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God.
- 17 Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. **Honour the king**.

I Peter 2:15-17







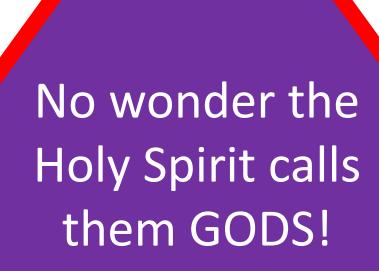
10 But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous are they, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities.

11 Whereas angels, which are greater in power and might, bring not railing accusation against them before the Lord.

II Peter 2:10-11

Curse not the king, no not in thy thought; and curse not the rich in thy bedchamber: for a bird of the air shall carry the voice, and that which hath wings shall tell the matter.

Ecclesiastes 10:20

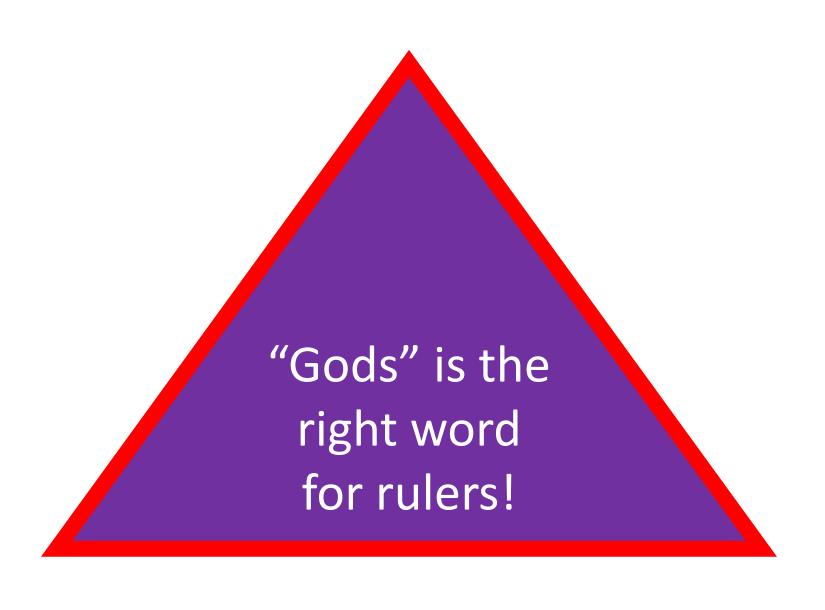


Thou shalt not revile **the gods**, nor curse **the ruler** of thy people.

Exodus 22:28

I have said, **Ye are gods**; and all of you are children of the most High.

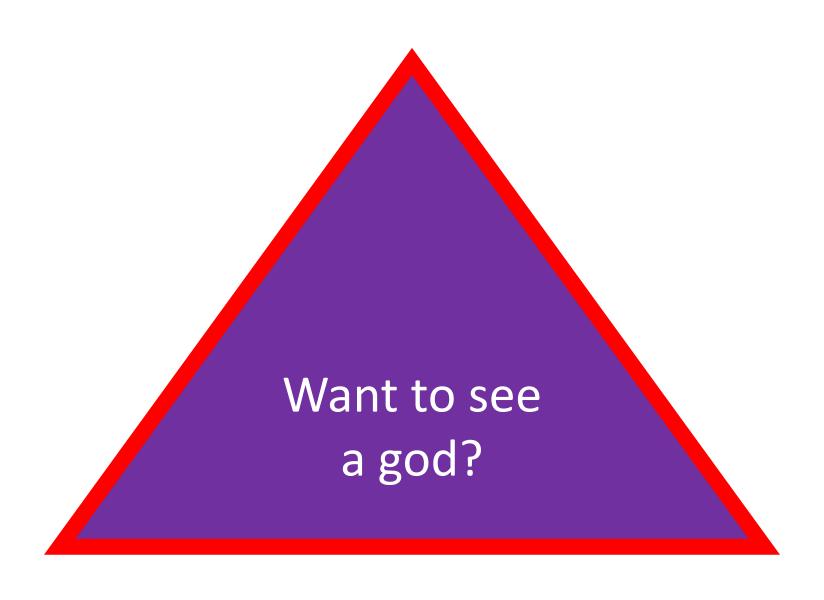
Psalm 82:6

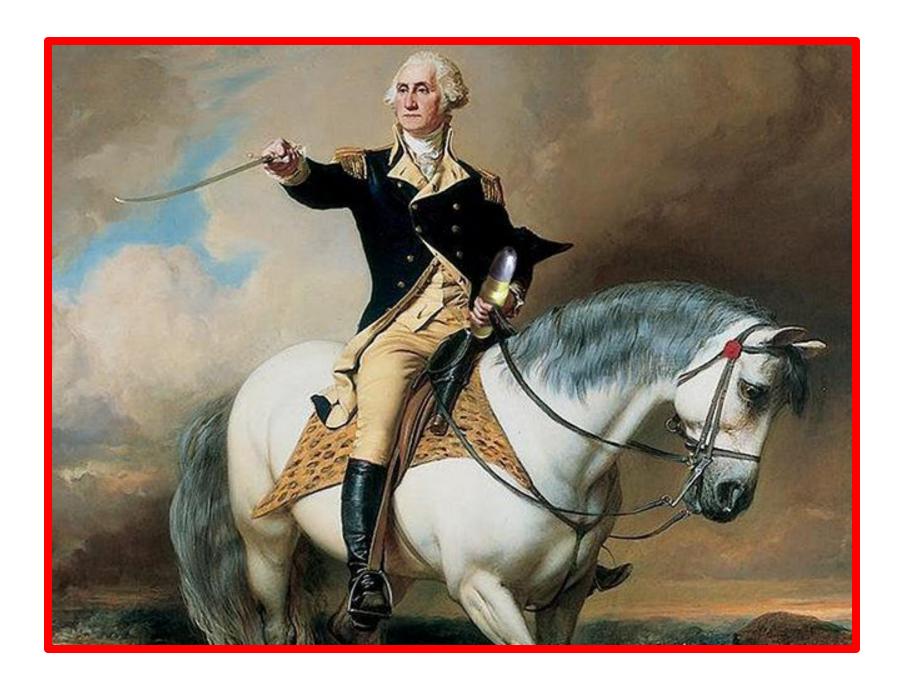


If <u>he called them gods</u>, unto whom the word of God came, and the <u>scripture</u> <u>cannot be broken</u>;

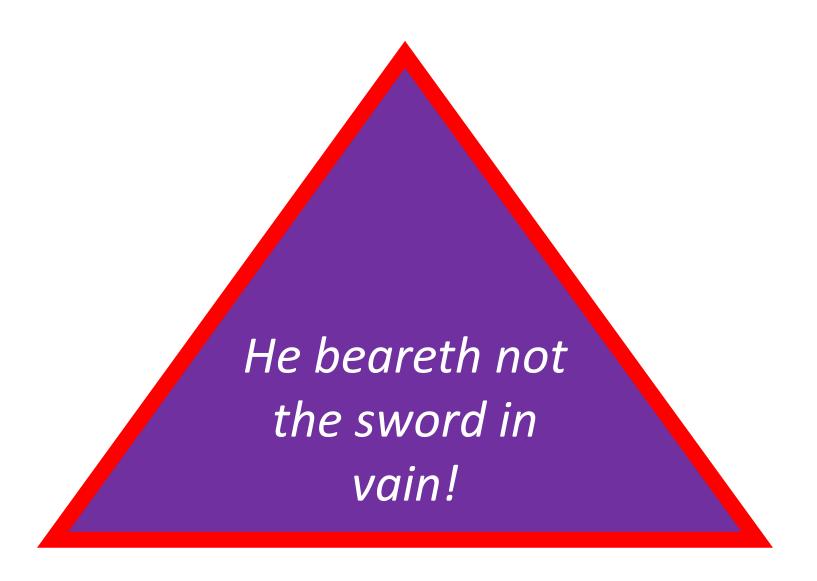
John 10:35

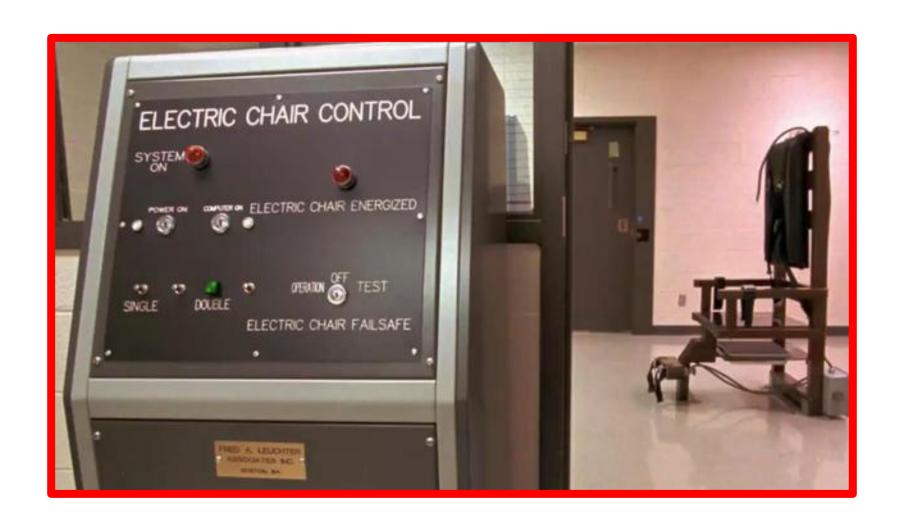






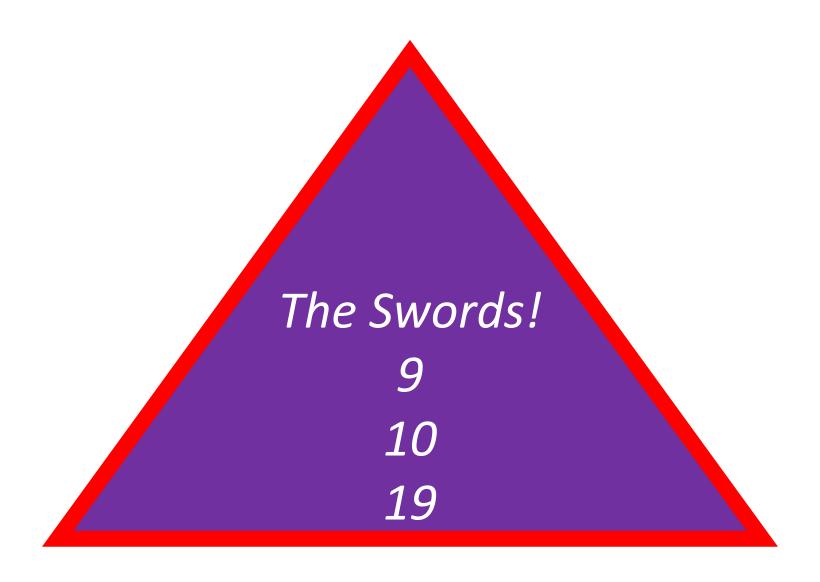












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The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will.

Proverbs 21:1

For <u>God hath put in their hearts to fulfil</u> <u>his will</u>, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled.

Revelation 17:17



For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil.

Romans 13:4

And kings shall be thy nursing fathers, and their queens thy nursing mothers: they shall bow down to thee with their face toward the earth, and lick up the dust of thy feet; and thou shalt know that I am the LORD: for they shall not be ashamed that wait for me.

Isaiah 49:23

That saith of Cyrus, <u>He is my shepherd</u>, and shall perform all my pleasure: even saying to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be built; and to the temple, Thy foundation shall be laid.

Isaiah 44:28

- 1 Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying,
- 2 Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, The LORD God of heaven hath given me all the kingdoms of the earth; and he hath charged me to build him an house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah.

Ezra 1:1

And kept the feast of unleavened bread seven days with joy: for the LORD had made them joyful, and turned the heart of the king of Assyria unto them, to strengthen their hands in the work of the house of God, the God of Israel.

Ezra 6:22

Blessed be the LORD God of our fathers, which hath put such a thing as this in the king's heart, to beautify the house of the LORD which is in Jerusalem:

Ezra 7:27



Criminals

Commerce

Property

Safety

Prosperity

Protection

Travel

Legal

Exemptions

Participation

Education

Beauty

Ministers of God? - Example

- You saw 12 basic categories of government benefits.
- Each one is easily expanded like the first, <u>criminals</u>.
- Rulers create laws to define crimes for public safety.
- Rulers design punishments to deter any violations.
- Rulers make ways to report crimes for your safety.
- Rulers send law enforcement offers to arrest them.
- Rulers hold them in jails or prisons away from you.
- Rulers execute capital punishment to destroy them.
- Rulers punish criminals as God's minister (Rom 13:3-5).
- Rulers allow redress to save you from false charges.



Deduct giving

Tax-exempt property

Tax-exempt revenue

Schooling

Parsonage allowance

Children subsidies

No withholding

No filing

America's rulers chose to subsidize Christ's gospel by allowing a tax deduction for giving to a local church.

This incredible benefit looks like this for a 50% tax rate:

a man gives \$10k; the church gets \$10k; it only costs him \$5k. The church got \$10k.

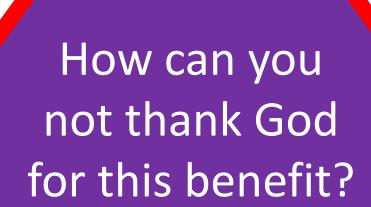
It only cost him \$5k

after his tax return.

Where did the other \$5k come from?

It was a gift from the rulers to the church for preaching the gospel as plain as if they had sent their own check! And this in spite of the fact that gospel preaching must identify numerous sins of the rulers and their laws!

A nation that forbids prayer in school ... subsidizes prayer, preaching, and worship in Christ's local churches!

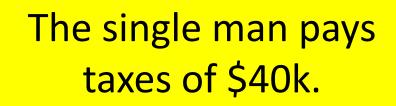


America's rulers also chose to subsidize marriage and families that hate abortion and have lots of children.

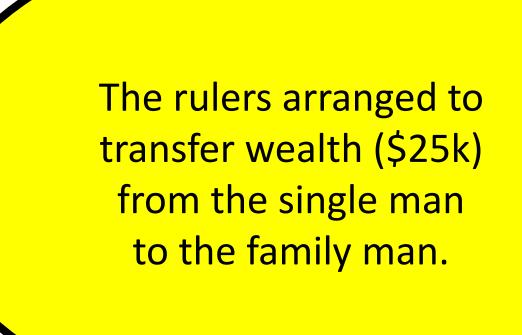
Two men each make \$100k.

One is single w/o children.

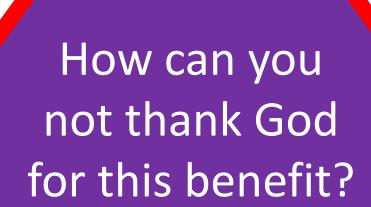
One is married with five.



The family man pays taxes of \$15k.



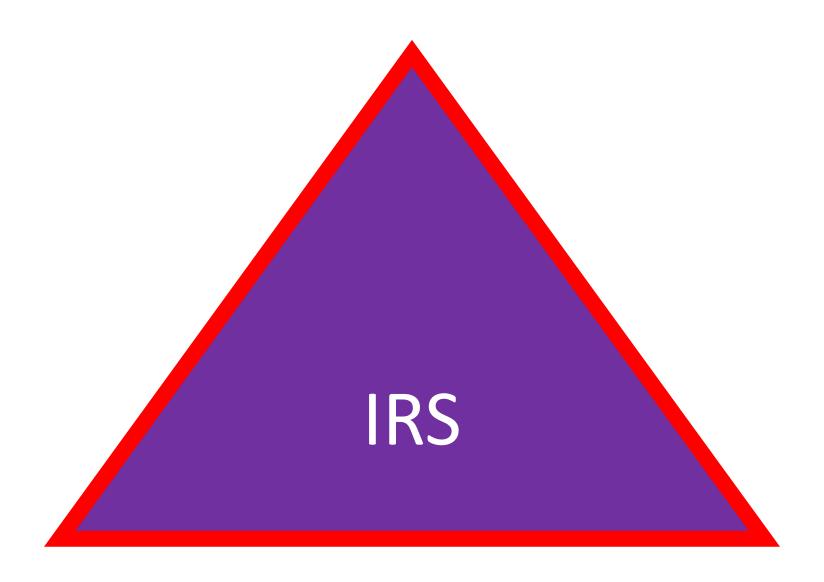
And this in spite of a nation that glamorizes fornication and promotes abortions!



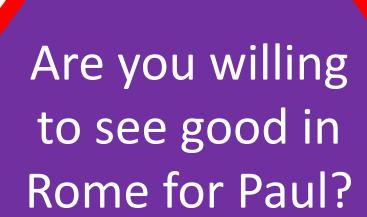


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Isaiah 49:23



Paul had less under Rome, but still gave thanks to God.



Giving Thanks for Nero (1)

- Caesar's power got Paul free passage from Philippi (Ac 16:35-40).
- Caesar's power got Paul saved from Jewish rabble (Ac 18:12-17).
- Nero saved Paul's life from the Jews in Jerusalem (Ac 21:27-40).
- Nero saved Paul's back from a zealous chief captain (Ac 22:22-30).
- Nero saved Paul's life from the Jewish rabble again (Ac 23:10-11).
- Nero saved Paul's life from a Jewish conspiracy (Ac 23:12-35).

Giving Thanks for Nero (2)

- Nero allowed Paul a fair trial before Governor Felix (Ac 24:1-22).
- Nero allowed Paul liberty, visitors, and teaching Felix (Ac 24:23-26).
- Nero saved Paul's life again from a Jewish conspiracy (Ac 25:1-8).
- Nero saved Paul from a trial in Jerusalem by Festus (Ac 25:9-12).
- Nero allowed Paul an audience with King Agrippa (Ac 25:13 26:32).
- Nero provided free transportation to Rome for trial (Ac 27:1-2).

Giving Thanks for Nero (3)

- Nero allowed Paul liberty at Sidon to visit his friends (Ac 27:3).
- Nero saved Paul's life from zealous, ruthless soldiers (Ac 27:39-44).
- Nero allowed Paul to evangelize the island of Melita (Ac 28:1-10).
- Nero allowed Paul to see friends on his way to Rome (Ac 28:11-15).
- Nero allowed Paul to dwell by himself outside prison (Ac 28:16).
- Nero allowed Paul his own place for teaching (Ac 28:17-31; Phil 4:22).

Giving Thanks for Nero (4)

- The thanksgivings so far were specific Roman blessings for Paul.
- There were also general benefits of Roman roads for him to travel.
- There were also general benefits of international peace for travel.
- There were also general benefits of a universal language (Greek).
- There were also general benefits of law and order by the Empire.
- The Jews were publicly disliked in the Empire for his help (Ac 18:2).

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For Further Study

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Romans 13 sermon outline ... <a href="http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/romans-thirteen.pdf">http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/romans-thirteen.pdf</a>
Christian & Politics (short) ... http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/remedies-for-political-fear.pdf
Christian & Politics (long) ... http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/christian-and-politics-2.pdf
God Bless the IRS ... <a href="http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/god-bless-the-irs.pdf">http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/god-bless-the-irs.pdf</a>
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