

- ◆ God has not only appointed everyone who is in authority, He has also given them a responsibility. What, according to Paul, is the God-given responsibility of every government (verses 3 – 4)?

- ◆ What right has God given to governments — a right that belongs to no individual — to enable them to carry out their task (verse 4)?

- ◆ Given that not every government fulfils it's God given role as it should, how do you understand what Paul says in verse 3, “Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from them.”?

- ◆ Paul repeats the important points in what he has just said in verse 5. What are they?

- ◆ In verse 6 Paul spells out one practical implication of his teaching. What is it and what might it mean for Christians today?

- ◆ What, in practical terms, could verse 7 mean for Christians living under oppressive, unjust, anti-christian regimes?

- ◆ In the light of this passage, how can we be prepared for possible future persecution?