

“BIBLICALLY, WHEN CAN YOU DISOBEY YOUR GOVERNMENT?” (Part 4)

VII. GOD’S RIGHTEOUSNESS REVEALED THRU THE CHURCH (12:1-16:23)

A. The Christian’s Responsibility to Obey Governing Authorities (13:1-7)

1. Civil governments have been invested by God with the _____ to rule the state, and as Christians, we are to _____. (Rom. 13:1-7; 1 Peter 2:11-17)

2. As believers we are to always obey human government, _____ when government over-reaches, and _____ us to do what God commands or even _____ us to do what God forbids.

B. You are to obey God rather than man when you are threatened and beaten to not teach or preach in the name of Jesus Christ. (Acts 5:12-42)

1. The apostles were performing many _____ and _____ in the power of Christ, and many people were getting _____. (vv. 12-16)

2. All of these large gatherings and miracles once again drew the _____ of the high priest and the Sadducees, “*and they were _____ with indignation*” to the point where they _____ the apostles. (vv. 17-18)

3. The Lord _____ the civil authorities, and sent His angel who commanded the apostles to once again _____ in the temple just as they had done before they were arrested. (vv. 19-21a)

4. The religious leaders sent for Christ's disciples to be brought out of _____ and put them on _____, but were told that they were back in the temple preaching. (vv. 21b-25)

5. Out of fear for the large crowds, the captain of the temple guard brought the apostles _____ before the Sanhedrin where they were asked, "*Did we not strictly* _____ you _____ *to teach in this name?*" (vv. 26-28)

6. In unanimous agreement, Peter spoke on behalf of the other apostles, "*We ought to obey* _____ *rather than* _____;" and then went on to respectfully explain why they were _____ for Christ. (vv. 29-32)

* Can there be serious consequences in taking a stand against the authorities who are in power? (vv. 33, 40a)

7. After a Pharisee named Gamaliel cautioned the council to *not* _____ these men, they decided to _____ them with rods instead. (vv. 34-40a)

8. As in Acts 4:18, they were _____ to not _____ to anyone in the name of Jesus, and they were released from custody. (v. 40b)

9. Rather than be discouraged by the civil authority's beating, they _____, and they completely _____ the _____, and kept on preaching Jesus as the Messiah. (vv. 41-42)

* What will you do if attending church or evangelizing is made illegal?