FOUNDATIONS.
FAMILY, CHURCH & GOVERNMENT

WHAT DO "FOUNDATIONS" GIVE?

- GIVE STABILITY - TO BUILD UPON
- GIVE STRENGTH - TO WITHSTAND STORMS
- GIVE STRUCTURE - TO OPERATE

FOUNDATIONS:

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OUR FOUNDATIONAL VERSE:

PSALMS 18:1-2 ESV

"I LOVE YOU, O LORD, MY STRENGTH. THE LORD IS MY ROCK AND MY FORTRESS AND MY DELIVERER, MY GOD, MY ROCK, IN WHOM I TAKE REFUGE, MY SHIELD, AND THE HORN OF MY SALVATION, MY STRONGHOLD."

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"IT MAY BE A REFLECTION ON HUMAN NATURE, THAT SUCH DEVICES SHOULD BE NECESSARY TO CONTROL THE ABUSES OF GOVERNMENT. BUT WHAT IS GOVERNMENT ITSELF, BUT THE GREATEST OF ALL REFLECTIONS ON HUMAN NATURE? IF MEN WERE ANGELS, NO GOVERNMENT WOULD BE NECESSARY. IF ANGELS WERE TO GOVERN MEN, NEITHER EXTERNAL NOR INTERNAL CONTROLS ON GOVERNMENT WOULD BE NECESSARY."

-JAMES MADISON IN FEDERALIST 51

FOUNDATIONS:

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THE GOVERNMENT IS FOR PROTECTION!

- BACKGROUND:
  - NERO IN CHARGE IN ROME. HE WAS FAVORED INITIALLY AROUND ITALY & GREECE.
  - PAUL WAS WRITING FROM GREECE TO THE CHRISTIANS IN ROME
  - ROMAN'S VALUED JUSTICE AND TOLERATION. GOOD & BAD MIXED IN TOGETHER.
  - 6-8 YEARS AFTER PAUL'S LETTER TO ROME, NERO BEGAN SLAUGHTERING CHRISTIANS.
  - A DECADE AFTER THIS LETTER, THE JEWS IN PALESTINE WOULD REVOLT AGAINST THE ROMAN'S.

THE GOVERNMENT IS FOR PROTECTION!

BACKGROUND:

- PROVERBS 16:10 ESV “AN ORACLE IS ON THE LIPS OF A KING; HIS MOUTH DOES NOT SIN IN JUDGMENT.”
- PROVERBS 21:1 ESV “THE KING'S HEART IS A STREAM OF WATER IN THE HAND OF THE LORD; HE TURNS IT WHEREVER HE WILL.”
- ISAIAH 45:1 ESV “THUS SAYS THE LORD TO HIS ANOINTED, TO CYRUS, WHOSE RIGHT HAND I HAVE GRASPED, TO SUBDUE NATIONS BEFORE HIM AND TO LOOSE THE BELTS OF KINGS, TO OPEN DOORS BEFORE HIM THAT GATES MAY NOT BE CLOSED”

THE GOVERNMENT IS FOR PROTECTION!

BACKGROUND:

- JEREMIAH 25:9 ESV "BEHOLD, I WILL SEND FOR ALL THE TRIBES OF THE NORTH, DECLARES THE LORD, AND FOR NEBUCHADNEZZAR THE KING OF BABYLON, MY SERVANT, AND I WILL BRING THEM AGAINST THIS LAND AND ITS INHABITANTS, AND AGAINST ALL THESE SURROUNDING NATIONS. I WILL DEVOTE THEM TO DESTRUCTION, AND MAKE THEM A HORROR, A HISSING, AND AN EVERLASTING DESOLATION."

- DANIEL 4:32 ESV "AND YOU SHALL BE DRIVEN FROM AMONG MEN, AND YOUR DWELLING SHALL BE WITH THE BEASTS OF THE FIELD. AND YOU SHALL BE MADE TO EAT GRASS LIKE AN OX, AND SEVEN PERIODS OF TIME SHALL PASS OVER YOU, UNTIL YOU KNOW THAT THE MOST HIGH RULES THE KINGDOM OF MEN AND GIVES IT TO WHOM HE WILL."

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ROMANS 13:1-7 NIV

" LET EVERYONE BE SUBJECT TO THE GOVERNING AUTHORITIES, FOR THERE IS NO AUTHORITY EXCEPT THAT WHICH GOD HAS ESTABLISHED. THE AUTHORITIES THAT EXIST HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED BY GOD. CONSEQUENTLY, WHOEVER REBELS AGAINST THE AUTHORITY IS REBELLING AGAINST WHAT GOD HAS INSTITUTED, AND THOSE WHO DO SO WILL BRING JUDGMENT ON THEMSELVES. FOR RULERS HOLD NO TERROR FOR THOSE WHO DO RIGHT, BUT FOR THOSE WHO DO WRONG. DO YOU WANT TO BE FREE FROM FEAR OF THE ONE IN AUTHORITY? THEN DO WHAT IS RIGHT AND YOU WILL BE COMMENDED. FOR THE ONE IN AUTHORITY IS GOD'S SERVANT FOR YOUR GOOD. BUT IF YOU DO WRONG, BE AFRAID, FOR RULERS DO NOT BEAR THE SWORD FOR NO REASON. THEY ARE GOD'S SERVANTS, AGENTS OF WRATH TO BRING PUNISHMENT ON THE WRONGDOER. 5 THEREFORE, IT IS NECESSARY TO SUBMIT TO THE AUTHORITIES, NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF POSSIBLE PUNISHMENT BUT ALSO AS A MATTER OF CONSCIENCE. THIS IS ALSO WHY YOU PAY TAXES, FOR THE AUTHORITIES ARE GOD'S SERVANTS, WHO GIVE THEIR FULL TIME TO GOVERNING. GIVE TO EVERYONE WHAT YOU OWE THEM: IF YOU OWE TAXES, PAY TAXES; IF REVENUE, THEN REVENUE; IF RESPECT, THEN RESPECT; IF HONOR, THEN HONOR."

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THE GOVERNMENT IS FOR PROTECTION!

- VS 1: GOD CREATED GOVERNMENT - NOT MAN.
- VS 2: RESISTANCE IS FUTILE IN THE END FOR US.
- VS. 4: GOVERNMENT IS GOD'S SERVANT - NOT MAN'S IDEALOGICAL WEAPON TO ENSLAVE HUMANITY.
- VS. 4: GOVERNMENT HAS THE RIGHT & POWER TO ENFORCE JUSTICE ONLY.
- VS. 5-7: WE MUST SUBMIT TO AND SUPPORT OUR GOVERNMENT**
    - 2 THESSALONIANS 2 & JAMES 5:4-6

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TWO SWORDS:

- GOVERNMENT - PROTECT AND PUNISH / RIGHT VS. WRONG
- CHURCH - SPIRITUAL SWORD TO PROTECT AND FIGHT AGAINST SATAN/DARKNESS/DEMONIC FORCES
- EPHESIANS 6:17 ESV " AND THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT, WHICH IS THE WORD OF GOD,"
- EPHESIANS 6:11-13 ESV "PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD, THAT YOU MAY BE ABLE TO STAND AGAINST THE SCHEMES OF THE DEVIL. FOR WE DO NOT WRESTLE AGAINST FLESH AND BLOOD, BUT AGAINST THE RULERS, AGAINST THE AUTHORITIES, AGAINST THE COSMIC POWERS OVER THIS PRESENT DARKNESS, AGAINST THE SPIRITUAL FORCES OF EVIL IN THE HEAVENLY PLACES. THEREFORE TAKE UP THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD, THAT YOU MAY BE ABLE TO WITHSTAND IN THE EVIL DAY, AND HAVING DONE ALL, TO STAND FIRM."

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