



This **Sunday** is special because it is both the first day of the week when we customarily gather to worship Jesus, and it is also **July 4**, our nation's birthday. **So then, praise Your Name Jesus and Happy Birthday America!** Having said that, today seems like a perfect time to teach on the rather touchy topic of the connection between Biblical Christianity and American Patriotism. Have you noticed that many people in our society seem to have turned their backs on patriotism while at the same time other folks seem to have elevated patriotism into its own secular religion? It also appears that many Christians believe that following Jesus and "the American way" are pretty much one in the same. But is this true? Where are we to place our loyalties as Christians? Thankfully, God answered this same set of questions for the early church when it began 2000 years ago in the Roman world of Nero and Caligula. The direction God gave then is the same teaching we need to hear on this July 4, 2021.

1. (**Romans 13:1-7**) God establishes government and ...

2. (**Matthew 23:37; Romans 9:3**) Following Jesus will prompt ...

3. (**Philippians 3:20**) Our citizenship is in and our patriotic duty is to ...

4. (**1 Thessalonians 2:12; 1 Peter 2:12**) God designed Heavenly citizens to ...

5. God has enabled us to bring ...

1 Timothy 2:1-3

2 Corinthians 3:17

1 Peter 2:17

Romans 13:7

1 Peter 2:13-15

Matthew 5:14, 16; 1 Peter 2:9

6. (**Matthew 24:9**) Prepare now for the privilege of ...