

## God of Power, God of Right

1

God of power, God of right,  
Guide us with thy priesthood's might.  
Forge our souls in living fire;  
Shape them to thy great desire.

2

God of wisdom, God of truth,  
Take us in our eager youth;  
Lift us step by step to thee  
Thru an endless ministry.

3

God of mercy, God of love,  
Let thy Spirit, like the dove,  
Touch and humble, teach and bless,  
As we serve in holiness.



## The Foundation Bible Lessons

**PART 10:**

### Christian Liberty

**Topic: The Powers that Be**

**Lesson: 104**

**Part C**

**Volume: 10**



#### MISSION STATEMENT

Foundation Progressive Sabbath Advent Ministries (FPSAM), Inc. exists to build upon the four **PILLARS** (*Mental, Physical, Spiritual and Social*) that **GUIDED** Jesus' life.

#### VISION

All Foundation Progressive Sabbath Advent Ministries (FPSAM), Inc. members will use the four pillars to establish and build their personal life and that of others.

#### SLOGAN

"Don't Accommodate Eliminate"

#### MOTTO

"Building on FOUR"

#### TEXT

"And Jesus increased in wisdom (Mental) and stature (Physical & Spiritual), and in favor with God (Spiritual) and man (Social)." **Luke 2:52**

#### WEBSITE

[www.fpsam.org](http://www.fpsam.org)

**Notes:** By an overruling of Providence the carrying out of this terrible decree was averted, and Haman was hanged on the very gallows which he had erected for the execution of Mordecai. See **Esther 7:9-10**.

God has placed the sword (**civil authority**) in the hands of Caesar (**civil government**) for the punishment of evil-doers; but when the sword is raised to slay the *innocent*, as in the case of the children of Bethlehem (**Matthew 2:16**); or to *enforce idolatrous worship*, as in the case of the three Hebrews (**Daniel 3**); or to *prohibit the worship of the true God*, as in the case of Daniel (**Daniel 6**); or to *slay all of God's people*, as in the time of Esther; or to *enforce the observance of a false sabbath*, as in the case of all Sunday laws, it is an *abuse* of civil authority, and not a proper or justifiable use of it; and God honors those who, under such circumstances, in the face of persecution, oppression, and death, remain loyal and true to Him.

"Government is never the gainer in the execution of a law that is manifestly unjust. . . . Conscientious men are not the enemies, but the friends, of any government but a tyranny. They are its strength, and not its weakness. Daniel, in Babylon, praying contrary to the law, was the true friend and supporter of the government; while those who, in their pretended zeal for the law and the constitution, would strike down the good man, were its real enemies. It is only when government transcends its sphere that it comes in conflict with the consciences of men.

"But it is objected that the example is corrupting,- that a bad man will violate a good law, because the good man refuses to obey a wicked law. The cases are just as unlike as right and wrong and any attempt to justify the one by the other is gross dishonesty. Unquestionably, the principle can be abused by the wicked, and so can any truth whatever; but the principle of unquestioning obedience to human law is false, and needs no perversion to make it mischievous. . . .

"It should always be remembered that the **great end of government is human well-being**, that law and authority are nothing in themselves, and that all their sacredness arises from the uses which they serve. The machinery of government is valuable only for the work it does; in itself, it has no value. . . . The most grievous of all imperfections in government is the failure to secure the just and good result. . . . Injustice and oppression are not made tolerable by being in strict accordance with the law. Nothing is surer, in the end, than the reaction of such wrong to break down the most perfectly constituted government."- **"Moral Philosophy," by James H. Fairchild, pages 184-186.**

**Notes:** God is above all earthly rulers, and His law above all human laws. He made us, and we therefore owe allegiance to Him before any earthly power, potentate, or tribunal. And this is saying nothing in disparagement of civil authority exercised in its rightful domain- civil things.

### Kept By the Power of God

As humans we often falter and fail,  
Errors are made every day,  
But as Christians we're kept by God's power...  
On Heaven's Holy Highway.  
Though we stumble along our pilgrim path,  
We shall never be cast down,  
For no man can pluck us out of God's hand...  
Soon we'll hear that trumpet sound...  
Hallelujah! We're Kept By the Power of God.

Our greatest desire is to please our Lord,  
And walk closer than before,  
Till we arrive in Heaven undefiled...  
Perfected forevermore.  
On earth we experience heaviness  
In trials and tribulation,  
But when we reach that Glorious City...  
Oh, what a celebration!  
Hallelujah! We're Kept By the Power of God.

How we long to see Jesus, our Saviour,  
And sing His praise face to face,  
Not a shadow of worry or trouble  
In that peaceful, Holy Place.  
Yes, in this world, we stumble and fall short  
As we walk the narrow way,  
But, thanks be to God, His merciful arms  
Gently lift us as we pray...  
Hallelujah! We're Kept By the Power of God.

**By Connie Campbell Bratcher**