"... has that good (law) become death to me? It cannot be!" (Rm. 7:13)

# GOD'S LAW: BLESSING OR CURSE?

### SERPENTS IN POLITICS & RELIGION

My readers may tire of my frequent rants against the churches. I suppose I keep doing it to emphasize their deception and the damage they have caused to mankind. Some of God's harshest criticisms and punishments are levied against false prophets. I think I know why.

Those who subtly twist truth are more dangerous than outright liars in that a blatant lie is soon exposed, but subtle lies, slightly twisted just enough to still appear credible, can continue for generations masquerading as truth.

In this manner, churches have taken the words of the Apostle Paul and twisted them, cleverly, to make them appear to be the opposite of what Paul was actually teaching. The churches have twisted Paul's writings to falsely portray him as antinomian - i.e., teaching that God's law was canceled by Jesus. Antinomians claim that God's law was a curse upon man ... a curse which Jesus persuaded his Father to remove by offering his own life to satiate his Father's blood lust. What kind of twisted thinking would reason that a father would want the blood of his own son?

This theology, taught in virtually every church and seminary, is NOT Biblical. It is NOT Christian. It is a DEATH CULT doctrine, and as such is blasphemous and hateful. By teaching this abomination, churches have convinced millions of churchgoers that God is a remote, cruel, tyrant.

The god of churches is NOT the God of the Bible. Ergo, churchgoers do NOT know the true God. And since they do not know the God of the Bible, they do not know his Son. They are without God and without Christ. Their gods and christs are characters adopted from heathen religions.

Churchgoers think they "love Jesus." But they don't even know who Jesus is. Jesus, Himself, said:

- 21. Not every one saying to me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the Reign of the Heavens; but the one doing the will of my Father which is in the heavens.
- 22. Many will say to me on that day, Lord, Lord, do we not

- prophesy in your name, and in your name cast out demons? and in your name ("Christian") do many works?
- 23. And then will I proclaim to them, <u>I do not know you</u>: depart from me, you that work <u>LAWLESSNESS</u>.

Mtt. 7:21-23

41. The Son of man shall send forth his messengers, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do LAWLESSNESS;

Mtt. 13:41

28. ... you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but within you are full of hypocrisy and <u>LAWLESSNESS</u>.

Mtt. 23:28

Jesus clearly condemns lawlessness. How, then, can any honest Bible student say He did away with God's law? How can they perceive lawlessness as a good thing?

Furthermore, how can any honest Bible student perceive the Apostle Paul, who was called out, taught, and then sent by Jesus, as teaching that God's law is a curse?

What did Paul say?

12. ... the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good.

Rom. 7:12

7. ... the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not in subjection to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

Rom. 8:7

- 19. ... you have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and lawlessness unto lawlessness; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.
- 21 What fruit had you then in those things whereof you are

now ashamed? for the end of those things is death.

23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eonian life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Rom. 6:19-23

Paul condemns lawlessness, equating it with "uncleanness and shame." He goes on to state that the wages of sin is death. So ... what is sin? How is sin defined?

4. He that says, I know Him and keeps not his commandments, is a liar and the truth is not in him.

1 Jn. 2:4

4. Everyone practicing sin also practices lawlessness, for <u>sin</u> is lawlessness.

1 Jn. 3:4

- 2. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments.
- For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments, and his commandments are not grievous.

1 Jn. 5:2-3

Now, let's review some basic logic:

- 1. Jesus, Paul and John all condemned lawlessness.
- 2. "Sin" is the breaking or ignoring of God's law. Without law, sin cannot be defined. Thus, the churches that claim there is no law are ignorantly saying there can be no sin.
  - 3. The remedy for sin is forgiveness, not lawlessness.
- Anyone who claims to know God but rejects his law is a liar.

People who twist scripture are a miserable lot. God warns of judgment upon those who prophecy falsely:

14. The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake to them: they prophesy to you a false vision ....

Jer. 14:14

There is nothing lower or more cursed than a scripture-twisting preacher. He is as bad as a politician.

#### WHAT WAS GOD'S MOTIVE?

Churches teach people that God instated law for the purpose of finding fault with us and punishing us. If that had been his motive it would have made Him a sadistic ogre who hates his own creation.

But Scripture tells us something else. It tells us that

God loves us. It describes Him as a "Father." Fathers don't purposely do things to cause their children trouble.

3. Yahweh appeared of old to me, saying, Yea, I have loved you with an enduring love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn you (to Me).

Jer. 31:3

Scripture clearly describes God as loving and gracious toward us. So Bible students must decide which kind of God He is. Is he a loving God or a hateful God?

- But God, being rich in mercy, through his great love wherewith he loves us,
- 5 And we being dead in trespasses, [He] makes us alive together with Christ, (by grace you are saved;)

Eph. 2:4-5

If God is a loving father figure, and not a heartless tyrant, then we must conclude that his actions are not to condemn us, but to save us.

24. And Yahweh commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear Yahweh our God, for our good always, that He might preserve us alive, as it is at this day.

Deut. 6:24

- 12. And now, Israel, what does Yahweh your God require of you, but to fear Yahweh your God, to walk in all his ways, and to love Him, and to serve Yahweh your God with all your heart and with all your soul,
- 13. To keep the commandments of Yahweh, and his statutes, which I command you this day **for your good**.

Deut. 10:12-13

22. For Yahweh is our judge, Yahweh is <u>our lawgiver</u>, Yahweh is our king; **He will save us**.

Isa. 33:22

# **CHANGING LAWS = CHANGING GODS**

Whoever makes your laws is your god. When men choose to make their own laws they are rejecting God's laws. When men decide what is or is not acceptable based on their own desires, they are engaging in idolatry. Legislators and voters participating in the system of making laws are declaring that they are their own gods. This was the sin of Adam in Genesis 3.

Historically, men make bad choices when left to themselves. They choose to ignore God's laws and make their own laws. When they do this they are not just changing laws, they are changing gods. This was the temptation offered to Adam in Eden. He failed the test. He was convinced that he could be his own god, "knowing good and evil" based upon laws made by himself. Such laws made by men are "serpent" laws. Systems based on serpent thinking are called "dragons" and "beasts" in Scripture.

God's laws are for OUR GOOD, not for his ego. They

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are like a compass for men. Without that compass men are left with only their own guesses to guide them. When men make laws by guesswork, people get hurt.

Adam chose to decide for himself what was good or evil.

Any society or nation that looks to a man, or a body of men, to make its laws has openly rejected God and declared that it creates its own god to make its laws.

Any individual, any society, or any nation whose laws come from any source other than God is adrift without a viable compass. God gave men a compass that can keep them on course and living free ... unenslaved by bad men and unseduced by the typical errors of the minds of men. Without God's compass we destroy ourselves and hurt those around us.

#### MAN ENSLAVES US - GOD FREES US

When Israelites chose to abandon their God they wanted to have a king like the nations around them. They opted for a different god with different laws. When Israel rejected God they did not want Him to reign over them (1 Sam. 8:7). God told Samuel to let them have a king, but to warn them what would happen when they adopted man's laws and abandoned God's laws. Read all of 1 Sam 8. This led to God divorcing the nation of Israel and eventually led to its captivity by Assyria, Babylon, and Persia.

Israelites changed gods and lost Yahweh's protection. The nation split into two parts: Israel and Judah. Both sections were taken captive by Assyria and Babylon. Israelites then lived in those nations under their gods. They adopted the systems and gods of those nations.

About 150 - 200 years into their captivity, several thousand Israelites returned to the land around Jerusalem formerly called Israel but was now under Persian rule. A century or so later Greece conquered Persia. A few more decades and Rome took over. What used to be Israel was now Samaria (to the north), and what had been Judah was now Judea (to the south). The captives who settled there were racially and religiously a mixed bunch. The Pharisees (Jews) were from the Parsees ... devotees of Zoroaster. Zoroastrianism was from Babylon. From these roots sprang Judaism. This was the environment around Jerusalem at the time of Jesus' ministry.

At one point Jesus was talking with a woman of Samaria. She stated that her fathers worshiped in Samaria, but the Judeans claimed that Jerusalem was the right place to worship. It was an on-going argument between the Judeans and the Samaritans (Jn. 4:21-24). Jesus told her that although both Judah and Samaria claimed to worship the God of Israel, in fact <a href="they didn't know what they worshiped">they didn't know what they worshiped</a> (Jn. 4:22). During the past several hundred years they had learned strange laws, and adopted strange gods. Both claimed to worship Yahweh, but neither did.

#### GOD'S LAW IS LIKE A COMPASS

Man needs God's law like an explorer needs a compass. However, the carnal pride of man tempts him to reject the counsel (compass) of God. Without it man gets lost.

God's compass works. Man's compass doesn't. Rejection of God's compass is called "idolatry" (opting for other gods).

When man rejects God's compass he hurts himself. God urges us to accept his compass, not because He will punish us if we don't, but because we hurt ourselves. The Bible is filled with examples of God's love. He sends messengers, prophets, apostles, and even his own Son to point us toward his saving laws.

God sent Moses to explain and promote his laws to give men the opportunity to learn truth.

- 5. Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as Yahweh my God commanded me, that you should do so in the land where you go to possess it.
- Keep therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.
- 7. For what nation is there so great, who has God so near to them, as Yahweh our God is in all things that we call upon him for?
- 8. And what nation is there so great, that has statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day?

Dt. 4:5-8

- 19. ... I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both you and your seed may live.
- 20. ... that you may cleave to Him: for He is your life, and the length of your days:

Deut. 30:19-20

Moses' instruction to Israel was not that they should fear an angry God, but rather that they should reject lies and deceptions that could cause them to lose their compass. They could curse themselves by losing God's laws.

This was Moses' farewell address to the Children of Israel. After he gave this address, God told Moses to "write a song and teach it to the Children of Israel." In Dt. 31:22 we read that "Moses therefore wrote this song in the same day, and taught it to the Children of Israel." That "song," which obviously taught God's laws, is mentioned again in the New Testament:

- And I saw as it were a sea of glass (glassy, calm sea) ...
   and those victorious over the beast (system), and his
   image, and over the number of his name, standing upon
   the sea of glass...
- 3. And they are singing the Song of Moses the servant of God, and the Song of the Lamb ...

Rev. 15: 2-3

This symbolic vision depicts a quiet and peaceful scene in the midst of great turmoil and chaos. The folks standing on the "sea of glass" have peace of mind. They are able to prevail against the Beast System by singing the Song of

Moses (God's laws) along with the Song of the Lamb (the Gospel of the Kingdom). This clearly shows us that the current Reign of Christ incorporates God's laws, and those laws protect us against the deceptions of the Beast System.

The folks who do not accept God's laws and Christ's Reign are choosing stormy seas: chaos and enslavement under the Beast System. Their choice to reject God's laws prevents them from the "sea of glass."

Jesus stated:

- 17. Think not that I come to abolish the law, or the prophets: I am not come to abolish, but to fulfill.
- 18. For verily I say to you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.
- 19. Whosoever therefore should break one of these least commandments, and should teach men so, he shall be called the least in the Reign of The Heavens: but whosoever should do and teach them, the same should be called great in the Reign of The Heavens (Christ's Reign).

Mtt. 5:17-19

Jesus taught us how to avoid chaos and have a sound mind. It is called "the sea of glass." It is found in Christ's Reign (New Jerusalem). These are they who follow the Lamb and teach the laws of God (Rev. 14:4). These are "the greatest" in the Reign of The Heavens. And those who break God's laws and teach others to do so are "the least." He also stated that He did not come to abolish God's law, but rather to "fulfill" it (i.e., observe it; keep it; comply with it).

#### **GOD IS KNOWN BY HIS LAW**

Some say we cannot know God, and we must believe in Him anyway. But how can we believe in, or follow, someone we don't know? Believing in something you don't know is called "blind faith." It is also called being naive. The truth is, we cannot believe in someone we don't know. The Samaritans and Judeans worshiped gods they didn't know, and they were completely lost in confusion. God wants us to know Him (i.e., understand Him).

Some say they can know God through his Son. I agree ... as long as their Jesus is the right Jesus. But if they don't know the Father how can they know the Son? Jesus told the Pharisees, "You neither know Me, nor my Father. If you had known Me, you also had to know my Father." (Jn. 8:19)

Their confusion is evidenced in their doctrine of their socalled "Trinity" god who, by their own words, is the very epitome of the occult. No one in his right mind would claim to know the trinitarian's god. Here is how they define him:

"The father incomprehensible, the son incomprehensible, and the holy ghost incomprehensible.

The father eternal, the son eternal and the holy ghost eternal. And yet there are not three eternals but one eternal, as also there are not three uncreated, nor three incomprehensibles, but one uncreated and one incomprehensible."

It is true. The Trinitarians' god IS unknowable.

16. They profess that they know God; but in works they deny Him. ....

Titus 1:16

So how does the true God of creation describe Himself? He spoke to Hosea:

20. I will even betroth you to Me in faithfulness: and you shall know (Me) Yahweh.

Hos. 2:20

Israel needed to be reintroduced to the true God. Jesus was God's perfect communication to them. He is "the Logos" (the Communication) sent to show us the Father. He did that, in part, by shining a light on God's law. He fulfilled it. And in doing that, He manifested God ... because God's law reflects the nature of God Himself.

- 19. And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lies in wickedness.
- 20 And we know that the Son of God is present, and has given us an understanding, that we may be knowing the True One, and we are in the True One, by Jesus Christ his Son. He (Yahweh) is the True God, and eonian life.

1 Jn. 5:19-20

## LAW, SIN, FLESH & DEATH

In Romans 8:7 Paul tells us that the carnal mind separates us from God by not being in subjection to his law. He explains the law's purpose regarding sin, flesh, and death. In Romans 6:22, he tells us that we are freed from sin. In verses 6 & 11, he explains that this is accomplished, not by eliminating law, but by using law to expose our sin and then with the spirit of Christ we can put sin to death. We are to "reckon" ourselves "dead to sin, but alive to God."

In chapter 7, Paul takes the explanation further. He says that law defines and reveals sin. Sin finds lodging in the carnal mind. But law exposes sin, condemns it, and through Christ kills the "old man" (the carnal mind).

Paul concludes that it is not law that kills, but the carnal mind and sin. The law doesn't kill. Sin kills. Law only exposes the sin. To blame law for the crime is like blaming the messenger for the message he delivers; like blaming the doctor for the illness he discovers; like blaming light for revealing the flaw that was hidden in a dark place.

God's law is like light (Prov. 6:23). It shines upon sin. Ignore that light and the sin remains ... unrealized.

The "new man" (the man of spirit) understands God's law. He uses it as a compass to guide him; like a light to shine in his way (Ps. 119:105).

God's law is hated by the carnal mind. Churches are temples for carnal minds. As such, churches hate God's law and they promote lawlessness.

God's law is a blessing. Churches are a curse.

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