

# Laws of the Kingdom

If one should question the consistency of God, one must remember that man being what he is, God deals with him as he does.

**John the Baptist came preaching the gospel. He also preached the kingdom conduct and the kingdom ethics.**

Luk 3:10-14 And the people asked him, saying, **What shall we do then?** (11) He answereth and saith unto them, He that hath two coats, let him impart to him that hath none; and he that hath meat, let him do likewise. (12) Then came also publicans to be baptized, and said unto him, Master, what shall we do? (13) And he said unto them, Exact no more than that which is appointed you. (14) And the soldiers likewise demanded of him, saying, And what shall we do? And he said unto them, Do violence to no man, neither accuse *any* falsely; and be content with your wages.

They were no longer to be concerned for themselves, but each other. When the people came to him asking what changes should be made, the Baptist warned the tax collectors against cheating and extortion. Quit stealing and robbing. This is kingdom conduct. Kingdom people must be honest and respect the rights of others.

To the soldiers he said, in substance: Quit accusing people falsely and victimizing them just because you have authority. Quit taking advantage of your power and committing violent acts. Quit quarrelling about your wages and be content with what you have.

All this is kingdom conduct. When Christ comes to reign on earth, right will be the rule just as wrong is now. Thus John's instruction was kingdom ethics.

**The visible church serves as an earthly container of authority and the Divine Deity in which God has chosen to abide in this world. Therefore, the church is the executor of His appointed kingdom and the is the Judiciary that is governed by laws and ordinances. The law of the kingdom of Christ is contained in Ethics and Conduct**

The New Testament law of Christianity segregates the individual from his own family, from society with all its customs and requirements, from race and nationality however exclusive, from all governmental control or intimidations, from all bonds of friendship, though dear as the tie between David and Jonathan then isolates him from every external influence, strips him of every artificial distinction arising from wealth or poverty or social status, and then shuts him up in an exclusive circle alone with God, who is no respecter of persons, and there demands his naked and solitary personality a voluntary surrender of his will to God's will and an immediate response of obedience to all its demands. There are no sponsors, or proxies. Enforced or insincere obedience counts nothing at all. The sole responsibility of decision and action rests directly on the individual soul. Each one must give account of himself to God. **This is the first principle of New Testament Law.**

1Co 6:9-20 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not **inherit the kingdom of God?** Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, (10) Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. (11) And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God. (12) All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. (13) Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats: but God shall destroy both it and them. Now the body *is* not for fornication, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body. (14) And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by his own power. (15) Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ, and make *them* the members of an harlot? God forbid. (16) What? know ye not that he which is joined to an

harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh. (17) But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit. (18) Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body. (19) What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost *which is* in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? (20) For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

Tit 3:3-8 For we **ourselves also were sometimes** foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, *and* hating one another. (4) But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, (5) Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the **washing of regeneration**, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; (6) Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; (7) That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. (8) *This is* a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be **careful to maintain good works**. These things are good and profitable unto men.

Mat 19:27-30 Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore? (28) And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in **the regeneration** when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. (29) And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life. (30) But many *that are* first shall be last; and the last *shall be* first.

## The Church as the Supreme Court of the Kingdom

### Church Discipline

Mat 18:15-23 Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. (16) But if he will not hear *thee*, *then* take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of **two or three witnesses every word may be established**. (17) And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell *it* unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican. (18) Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. (19) Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. (20) **For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.** (21) Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? (22) Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven. (23) Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants.

### Law of Christ

Gal 6:2 Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

### The law of the least esteemed to judge

1Co 6:1-11 Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unjust, and not before the saints? (2) Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? and if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters? (3) Know ye not that we shall judge angels? how much more things that pertain to this life? (4) If then ye have judgments of things pertaining to this life, **set them to judge who are least esteemed in the church.** (5) I speak to your shame. Is it so, that there is not a wise man among you? no, not one that shall be able to judge between his brethren? (6) But brother goeth to law with brother, and that before the unbelievers. (7) Now therefore there is utterly a fault among you, because ye go to law one with another. Why do ye not rather take wrong? why do ye not rather *suffer yourselves to be* defrauded? (8) Nay, ye do wrong, and defraud, and that *your* brethren. (9) Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor

effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, (10) Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. (11) And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

“The Creator has affixed several penalties, which those who disobey this law of their being, can never expect to escape. He who refuses to labor with his mind, suffers the penalty of ignorance. He who refuses to labor with his hands, suffers, besides the pains of disease, all the evils of poverty, cold, hunger and nakedness. The results which our Creator has attached to idleness are all to be considered as punishments, which he inflicts for the neglect of this established law of our being.’ **Francis Wayland Baptist Pastor 1796-1865**

## **The Law of Labour**

**(This applies to a man who can but will not)**

2Th 3:10-12 For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that **if any would not work, neither should he eat.** (11) For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies. (12) Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread.

## **The Law of economics**

1Ti 5:18 For the scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, **The labourer is worthy of his reward.**

## **The Law of ethics**

Eph 4:28 Let him that stole **steal no more: but rather let him labour,** working with *his* hands the thing which is good, that he may have to **give to him that needeth.**

## **The Law of Humility**

Mat 3:9-10 And **think not to say within yourselves,** We have Abraham to *our* father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham. (10) And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

The superiority for the twelve over Paul was claimed because they had known the Lord in the flesh. But Paul rejoined:

2Co 5:16 Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we *him* no more.

## **Law of Faith**

Rom 3:27 Where *is* boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: **but by the law of faith.**

1Ti 6:8-10 And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. (9) But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and *into* many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. (10) For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

## The Royal Law

Jas 2:1-9 My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, *the Lord* of glory, with respect of persons. (2) For if there come unto your assembly a man with a gold ring, in goodly apparel, and there come in also a poor man in vile raiment; (3) And ye have respect to him that weareth the gay clothing, and say unto him, Sit thou here in a good place; and say to the poor, Stand thou there, or sit here under my footstool: (4) Are ye not then partial in yourselves, and are become judges of evil thoughts? (5) Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him? (6) But ye have despised the poor. Do not rich men oppress you, and draw you before the judgment seats? (7) Do not they blaspheme that worthy name by the which ye are called? (8) **If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture**, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well: (9) But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors.