

DISCERNMENT REVIEW

5-23-17

LESSON 1 (5-23-17) *Lesson 1, page 1*

DIS•CERN•MENT Definition: noun

- a. :the quality of being able to grasp and comprehend what is obscure : skill in discerning
- b. :an act of discerning Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary

Discernment Synonyms:

ACUMEN the power to see what is not evident to the average mind.

DISCRIMINATION stresses the power to distinguish and select what is true or appropriate or excellent.

PERCEPTION implies quick apprehension by means of the senses or of the mind; cognition; understanding.

PENETRATION indicates a searching mind that goes beyond what is obvious or superficial, mental acuteness.

INSIGHT suggests depth of discernment, seeing into inner character or underlying truth.

Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary (Springfield, MA: Merriam-Webster, 1996).

Greek: **διάκρισις**, **DIAKRISIS**, the ability to distinguish and evaluate, distinguishing, differentiation of good and evil (Heb. 5:14). From **διακρίνω**, **DIAKRINO**, **DIA** = through or by, **KRINO** = to judge, judgment.

Making judgments and judging another person for their faults are not the same. One is commanded and the other is condemned.

Lesson 1, page 2

Areas where DISCERNMENT is required:

Religion

Politics

Government

Marriage

Family

Friends

Health

Business/Employment

Education

Entertainment

Money

Clothes

Every one of these areas requires discernment, deciding what is right and what is wrong, what is mediocre and what is best, what is good and what is evil.

Philippians 1:9 And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment...

1. We can see from this verse that knowledge and discernment are not the same. One can have knowledge without discernment but one cannot have discernment without knowledge.

Example: A person may have a great deal of knowledge about archeology but bores his friends to death by constantly talking about it. He lacks discernment in socializing and maintaining friendships.

It could be said that knowledge is the assimilation of information, discernment is understanding how to use that information appropriately.

A believer can know an abundance of Bible doctrine but can lack discernment. Why? Mental Attitude Sins

Lesson 2, page 3

1. RELIGION

Definition:

1. Belief in, worship of, or obedience to a super natural power or powers considered to be divine or to have control of human destiny
2. Any formal or institutionalized expression of such belief: the Christian religion
3. The attitude and feeling of one who believes in a transcendent controlling power or powers

None of the definitions above accurately describe Christianity; we trust in and worship a Person, not a power. Christianity is normally classified as a religion but it is different than any other religion, which of course it must be, since it is the only one that is correct and can be relied upon to be true.

Every other religion requires work or effort from man in order to be saved, to be accepted by God, or to reach some perceived goal. Only Christianity relies in faith alone in Christ alone to receive eternal life as a gift from God.

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.

The way of eternal salvation is through the cross of Christ. This is the grace way, apart from any works, which is rejected by all other religions.

Lesson 2, page 4

There are hundreds of religions, how can one know the right God and how to worship Him?

Jeremiah 29:13 And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

Deuteronomy 4:29 But from there you will seek the LORD your God, and you will find Him if you seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul.

2 Chronicles 15:4 But in their distress they turned to the LORD God of Israel, and they sought Him, and He let them find Him.

Jeremiah 15:16 Your words were found, and I ate them (believed them), and Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart...

Psalms 34:10 The young lions do lack and suffer hunger; But they who seek the LORD shall not be in want of any good thing.

Proverbs 28:5 Evil men do not understand justice, But those who seek the LORD understand all things.

Psalms 10:4 The wicked, in the haughtiness of his countenance, does not seek Him. All his thoughts are, "There is no God."

So How Does a Believer Go About Choosing a Church?

Lesson 3, page 5

Wrong Way:

- a. Denomination
- b. Closest to home
- c. Size

- d. Programs
- e. Choir

Right Way:

- a. The Word of God is the number one priority.
- b. P-T teaches from the original languages.
- c. P-T uses the **ICE** method of teaching.
 - 1) **I**sagogical – Proper historical context
 - 2) **C**ategorical – Comparing scripture w/ scripture
 - 3) **E**xegetical – Interpretation of text based on grammar, syntax, & etymology of words
- d. P-T uses a literal, grammatical, historical interpretation.
- e. Can you accept the authority of the pastor and grow spiritually under him?

There is a right pastor for each congregation 1 Pet. 5:2-4.

Discernment must be used when interacting with people of a different faith or with those who are of the same faith but who hold beliefs that are different than yours. Here are a few points that may be helpful:

Lesson 3, page 6

- a. REMAIN CALM and don't be belligerent or get angry.
Proverbs 15:18 A hot-tempered man stirs up strife, But the slow to anger calms a dispute.
- b. BE HUMBLE, but don't compromise doctrine in order to gain or maintain a friendship.
Proverbs 28:25 An arrogant man stirs up strife, But he who trusts in the LORD will prosper.
- c. BE OPEN MINDED, objective, and non-combative.

Proverbs 26:21 Like charcoal to hot embers and wood to fire, So is a contentious man to kindle strife.

- d. **ASK QUESTIONS** about what they believe and listen to their answers so that you can understand their position.
- e. **DON'T TELL THEM THEY'RE WRONG.** That will more than likely put them on their defensive and hinder communication with them. It is much better to ask them something like, "Where did you get that idea?" or "Who told you that?"

Proverbs 15:1 A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

LESSON 2 (5-25-17)

The thing to remember is to **LIVE AND LET LIVE**. That means that every person has a right to his own opinion even when it doesn't agree with ours. It is not our job to compel anyone to come around to our way of thinking.

Part of growing up spiritually is to allow people to express an opinion that differs from ours. Some things are not black or white and it's not about who's right or who's wrong. We can be right but still be wrong by turning a conversation into a debate or argument just to prove that we are right.

Some people try to bully you by insisting they are right and will not drop it. Usually, the best thing to do is to tell them that they are welcome to their opinion and then change the subject. If they won't let it go, just don't respond to them.

2. **POLITICS** Lesson 4, page 6

Isn't it interesting that **Religion** and **Politics**, quite possibly the two most interesting subjects to talk about, are the two subjects we supposedly should avoid? They say that it is impolite to discuss them in mixed company. The truth is, discernment must be used in bringing up these subjects.

DEFINITION:

POLITICS: noun, (used with a singular or plural verb)

1. The science or art of political government.
2. The practice or profession of conducting political affairs.

Politics, n: [**Poly** "many" + **tics** "blood-sucking parasites"]

~Larry Hardiman Lesson 4, page 7

“The Seven Social Sins:

Wealth without work.

Pleasure without conscience.

Knowledge without character.

Commerce without morality.

Science without humanity.

Worship without sacrifice.

Politics without principle.

“A nation of sheep will beget a government of wolves.”

~Edward R. Murrow~ p. 7

“Politics, it seems to me, for years, or all too long, has been concerned with right or left instead of right or wrong.”

~Richard Armour~

“George Washington is the only president who didn't blame the previous administration for his troubles.”

~Author Unknown~

“During a campaign the air is full of speeches — and vice versa.” ~Author Unknown~

“Voting for the typical politician means voting for the candidate you dislike least.” ~Robert Byrne~ *Lesson 4, page 8*

Psalms 12 describes what happens when a nation has politicians instead of statesmen. Verse eight sums it up:

(NIV) Psalm 12:8 The wicked freely strut about when what is vile is honored among men.

PULPITS AND POLITICS *Lesson 5, page 8*

Pastors are often criticized for being too political when they speak out about political issues and especially if they censure policies or people involved in government.

Shouldn't pastors, or anyone else for that matter, be free to condemn evil wherever it exists? When did pastors who denounce the corrupt practices of oppressive leaders fall into disrepute?

Why is it OK for pastors to condemn immorality, abuse, and wrongdoing in business, society, entertainment, education, churches, and the media, but not politicians or government? Why should that be off limits? What chapter and verse in the Bible prohibits pastors from speaking out about the atrocious and deplorable behavior of evil politicians who stealthily strip away our rights? Pastors must not be afraid to be politically incorrect, however they

must be totally objective in doing so. There can be no favoritism towards any particular party or person, they must all be judged according to the same standard which is of course, the Word of God.

The Pharisees and Sadducees were not only the religious leaders of their day, they also functioned as politicians in public matters. Rome relied on them to a large extent to expedite civil rule over the Jews. *Lesson 5, page 9*

Was Jesus hesitant to confront them, was He intimidated by people who would say that He was being too political?

Read: **Matt. 23:23-33**

Pastors, Politics and The Black-Robed Regiment

The British feared no group more than they feared the Colonial pastors. They hated them because they taught their congregations the biblical principles of freedom and resistance to tyranny. Writing a little less than a century after the battle of Lexington and Concord, the Rev. William Ware of Cambridge, MA wrote:

“When the struggle [at Lexington] actually commenced, the people were ready for it, thoroughly acquainted with the reasons on which the duty of resistance was founded, and prepared to discharge the duty at every hazard. No population within the compass of the Colonies were better prepared for the events of the 19th of April [1775], than the people of Lexington....” <http://www.nordskogpublishing.com/author-Jonas-Clark.shtml>

America is perishing because most pastors are not teaching their congregations the biblical perspective of freedom as it relates to personal, civil, and religious life.

LESSON 3 (5-30-17)

How are Christians going to learn the biblical principles that relate to civil government if their pastors are afraid to address political issues?

“The clergy of the American Colonies preached freedom from tyranny. The Rev. Samuel West preached that it is just as evil to avoid opposing tyranny as it is to disobey righteous leaders. Citing Romans chapter 13, Rev. West pointed out that civil magistrates are ‘ministers of God’ and therefore draw their authority from God’s law. He resounded that when the civil magistrate subverts the authority given by God, it is the duty of lesser magistrates to resist them.” Randy Pope, http://lwhf.com/black_regiment.html

What do we call that? **NULLIFICATION!**

There is an old saying that is very true, “**People get the government they deserve.**” Normally, the society degenerates first, then the government feels free to ignore the constitution and starts enacting immoral and unjust laws. **Lesson 6 page 9**

JUST A FEW WORDS ABOUT VOTING:

Jeremiah 23:16 This is my warning to my people”, says the LORD Almighty. “Do not listen to these prophets [politicians] when they prophesy [make promises] to you, filling you with futile hopes. They are making up everything they say. They do not speak for the LORD!”

Here is the biblical model for choosing leaders: **Lesson 6 page 10**

Exodus 18:21 Furthermore, you shall select out of all the people able men who fear God, men of truth, those who hate dishonest gain; and you shall place these over them, as leaders of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties and of tens.

How many politicians running for office today fear God? How many men and women in office, and those who are seeking office, have integrity and hate dishonest gain? How many honor their word and are always truthful? How many honor their oath to the constitution?

We must remember that our loyalty must always be to God and His Word above all else. To many Christians make the mistake of being faithful to a political party or to a person above being faithful to their conscience and to God.

“All of our political and military leaders pay lip service to this ‘rule of law’, and all of them solemnly swear to uphold, obey, and defend the Constitution. However, for many of them, in this area as in so many others, their oaths of office are meaningless, empty words that they regularly ignore and willingly violate.” George B. Wallace, “Proper Use of the U.S. Military”, The New American Magazine, July 5, 2010, p.12

Lying has become so common among politicians that a system has been established to measure how big the lies are. It’s called the “Pinocchio System” where the bigger the lie, the more “Pinocchios” one receives.

All this means that we must rely less on what politicians say and more on what they do and what their voting record reveals.

3. **GOVERNMENT**

Again, we start with a definition (noun):

- a. The political direction and control exercised over the actions of the members, citizens, or inhabitants of communities, societies, and states; direction of the affairs of a state, community, etc.; political administration: *Government is necessary to the existence of civilized society.*
- b. The governing body of persons in a state, community, etc.; *administration.*
- c. A branch or service of the supreme authority of a state or nation, taken as representing the whole: *a dam built by the government.*

Neither the Bible nor the Constitution for the United States of America requires un-conditional submission to authority.

There is a point where forbearance and toleration are no longer a virtue, a time when authority is no longer legitimate, and when submission is no longer required. Government can become so corrupted by evil that continued allegiance and submission to it becomes evil as well.

Excerpts from Tolerating Tyranny:

Concerning *Romans 13:1-7*

The view that *Romans 13:1-7* or *1 Peter 2:13-15* were written to compel believers to submit to tyranny is biblically incorrect! Consider the following three points:

Lesson 6 page 11

- 1) None of the verses in question state that we must submit unconditionally to civil government even though some people impose that idea on the text. In fact, there are no Scriptures in the entire Bible that teach that.
- 2) Proper hermeneutics forbids such a conclusion. There are many examples in the Bible of people who disobeyed civil government and were blessed by God for doing so.
- 3) There are clauses in the ***Romans 13*** and ***1 Peter*** passages that limit civil government. Only rulers who function as “ministers of God for good” have authorization from God, ***Rom. 13:4***. Good citizens have nothing to fear from God’s ministers; in fact, they may receive praise from them for their good behavior, ***Rom. 13: 3*** and ***1 Pet. 2:14***. This certainly does not apply to rulers who abuse people they have pledged to serve.

LESSON 4 (6-1-17)

Still, many believe that ***Romans 13:1-7*** requires unconditional submission and so they feel obligated to stand idly by while their government enslaves them.

“Romans chapter 13 has become a kind of ubiquitous opiate that causes Christians to revel in sheepish slavery and servitude... [and has] caused more Christians to surrender their God-given liberties and freedoms to all sorts of tyrants, both secular and religious.” Timothy Baldwin and Chuck Baldwin, *Romans 13, The True Meaning of Submission*, p. 11

“To apply the submission that Romans 13:1-7 requires to a tyrannical government that has become a minister of Satan for evil is a gross misapplication!” Mike Smith, *Tolerating Tyranny*, p.

“Nothing in the entire passage has any reference to wicked rulers. It says not one word about rebellious magistrates; or those who oppose God; or those who become despotic and tyrannical in their abuse of power. None of these sorts of governments are addressed or described here at all. Rather, the whole point of the passage is simply to clarify that there is indeed a God-ordained purpose for civil government.” Runyan, Gordan (2012-08-24). Resistance to Tyrants: Romans 13 and the Christian Duty to Oppose Wicked Rulers (p. 38). Happy Siege. Kindle Edition. **Lesson 7 page 11**

- 1) God has tasked national governments with the responsibility to protect the people and preserve the freedom He has endowed to them. **Lesson 7 page 12**
- 2) Those in government are to act as His ministers for the good of the people. They are responsible to Him and in our country, they are responsible to the people as well.
- 3) This includes praising those who do good and punishing those who are guilty of crime.
- 4) Government’s job is to protect and preserve the freedom, privacy, and property of the individuals under its authority.
- 5) To accomplish this, governments must have law enforcement and courts for protection internally and a military for protection externally.
- 6) Government’s job is not to solve people’s problems. Its job is to make sure that the people have freedom to solve their own problems.

7) The inherent problem of all governments is that they tend to acquire more power and authority than is necessary.

Big Gov. = less freedom, privacy and property

8) In our country, the government derives its power from the consent of the people.

Declaration of Independence

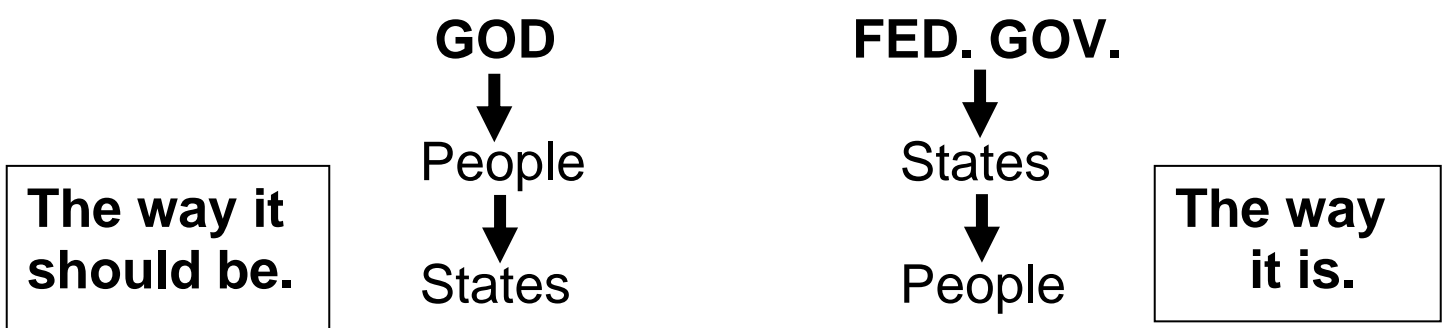
“... to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.”

This means that government has no power to act independently from the people. If the people do not give their consent to government to do something, then government has no legitimate power to do it.

9) If the government ignores this restriction and acts independently or contrary to the people, then the people have the power to alter or abolish it and form a new one.

“That whenever any form of government becomes destructive to of these ends [life, liberty, and property], it is the right of the people to alter or abolish it and to institute new government,”

10) Order of rank and authority:



↓
Fed. Gov.

↓
God

God created the people; the people created the states, the states created the federal government.

11. *“Freedom without authority becomes anarchy, in which no one is free; but authority without freedom is tyranny, which ceases to be legitimate authority. No tyrant can remain in power without the consent and cooperation of his victims.”* R.B. Theime Jr., Christian Integrity, p. 72.

Governments consider silence to be consent.

Lesson 9 page 14

PART 2, Notes from video of Publius Huldah’s paper on nullification.

How did we get to the socialist regulatory welfare state of today? It began with the change of theology; we rejected the faith of our fathers.

The Unitarians did not bring about the utopia they promised through public education, so in the early 1900s, the political progressives like Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson promised to fix all the problems by putting the federal government in control of everything.

As it turned out, their plan benefits some people at the expense of others. It benefits those on welfare, in labor unions, and working as government employees. This Frankenstein-like monster regulates everyone and everything to “protect” us from the uncertainties of life and to make everything equal.

The enumerated powers set forth in the Constitution were ignored as the government's only concern was the will of the people as expressed by their representatives in Congress. This new regulatory welfare state is immoral and destructive to the hollowed purpose for which the federal government was created.

“God never gave us the right to have a government to give us advantage over others, to be free from the challenges of life, to be free from the consequences of our own actions, and to have others forced to pay for our living expenses and subsidize our vices.”

In order to be the provider of benefits to some, the federal government must violate the God-given property rights of others. It must rob Peter to redistribute to Paul. This is taking place today under the heading of “*income inequality*”.

The federal government believes that it is the exclusive and final judge of the extent of its own powers. **WRONG !**

LESSON 5 (6-6-17)

Lesson 10 page 15

PART 3, Notes from video of Publius Huldah's paper on nullification, continued.

Thomas Jefferson said in the Kentucky Resolution:

“Where powers are assumed where they have not been delegated, a nullification is the rightful remedy, that every state has a natural right in cases that are not in the compact, to nullify of their own authority.”

James Madison commented on this in his notes on nullification in 1834:

“The right of nullification meant by Mr. Jefferson is the natural right which all admit to be a remedy against insupportable oppression.”

Our framers told the states to resist unconstitutional acts of the federal government. The founding fathers saw nullification as a natural right, not a constitutional right. Some say that States cannot nullify anything the federal government does because nullification is not a constitutional right. Of course it is not a constitutional right because our natural rights don't come from the Constitution. OUR RIGHTS COME FROM GOD !

Why go to the Constitution to determine our rights when we have always had them?

Jefferson, Madison, and Hamilton said that nullification is a natural right of self-defense AND our duty which predates and pre-existed the Constitution and the federal government.

Furthermore, it is nowhere prohibited by the Constitution of the States, being a reserved power within the meaning of the 10th Amendment.

10th Amendment: *“The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.”*

The federal government is supposed to look to the Constitution for the enumerated powers to act but the States don't go to the Constitution to get permission to act because they retain all powers they did not exclusive-

ly delegate to the federal government [only about 17 in all] or prohibited to themselves, Article 1, section 10.

Lesson 11 page 17

The nullification deniers totally pervert the Constitution by ignoring the limitations on its enumerated powers and saying that the States cannot do anything unless the Constitution says it can.

[The federal government cannot do anything unless the Constitution specifically says it can; States can do anything unless the Constitutions specifically says it cannot.]

Nullification is when a State interposes itself between the federal government and the people of the States in order to protect them from the federal government.

Federalists Paper 33 by Alexander Hamilton:

“If the federal government should overpass the just bounds of its authority and make a tyrannical use of its powers, the people, whose creature it is, must appeal to the standard [the Constitution] they have formed, and take such measures to redress the injury done to the Constitution as the exigency may suggest and prudence justify.”

The way that people nullify unconstitutional laws is by refusing to obey them saying, “**We will not comply!**” Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King nullified the Jim Crow laws by refusing to obey the unconstitutional and discriminatory laws that were unjust and unfair to black people. The brave citizens of Connecticut do this when they refuse to obey the unconstitutional State law that purports to require them to register their firearms even though the Connecticut

Constitution says that they have the right to keep and bear arms and says nothing about registering firearms.

In 1962 the SCOTUS started ordering the States to stop the prayers in schools and to remove the 10 Commandments. Since those powers were usurpations of powers not delegated and not possessed by the federal government, States should nullify them by directing their schools to ignore them. The Constitution does not authorize the federal government to disarm us. If the Congress tries to do so through law, or the president through executive order, or the BATF by rule, or the Supreme Court by opinion, or the federal government by UN treaty, we must refuse to comply. **The only thing that nullification requires is a spine.**

Madison said in a report concerning the Virginia Resolution of 1798 that the States in their sovereign capacity are the parties to the constitutional compact and are thus the final authority on whether the federal government has violated the federal constitution.

LESSON 6 (6-8-17)

There can be no tribunal above the States to decide whether the compact made by them has been violated by the federal government... when the federal government acts outside the Constitution by usurping powers, then the sovereign States who are the parties to the Constitution must appeal to that original natural right of self-defense that the judicial branch is as likely to usurp as the other two branches.

Thus the sovereign States have as much right to judge the usurpations of the judicial branch as they do the legislative and executive branches that all three branches of the

federal government retain their delegated powers from the Constitution and they may not annul the authority of their creator and we are the creator.

Application for today: When we the People ratified the Constitution and thereby created the federal government, we did not delegate to our creature, power to control our medical care, invade our homes, disarm us, dictate what is done in our schools, and all the thousands of things they dictate that we never gave them the power in the Constitution to do. Accordingly, each State has the natural right to nullify the unconstitutional dictates within its borders.

As Jefferson and Madison said, without nullification, the States and the People would be under the absolute and unlimited control of the federal government.

To sum up: Nullification is a natural right of self-defense, it is a founding principle.

So when the federal government violates the Constitution, the States must smack them down, their oath requires it.

Lesson 11 page 17

Our founders and framers were manly men who knew statecraft, political philosophy, and could think. But our “experts” of today have been indoctrinated with authoritarianism and cannot think. They lie or ignorantly repeat the prevailing authoritarian dogma. So, we the

People must man-up, throw off the indoctrination and reclaim the moral high ground which is rightfully ours. Learn our founding documents, trust no one to tell you the truth, and repudiate cowardice as the proper response to the evil that is overtaking our land.

Lesson13 page 18

*“Foreign aid might be defined as a transfer of money from poor people in rich countries to rich people in poor countries”
~Douglas Case~*

*“Government’s view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases: If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it. And if it stops moving, subsidize it.”
~Ronald Reagan (1986)~*

How many Articles are there in the U.S. Constitution?

SEVEN

Article I The Legislative Branch

Article II The Executive Branch

Article III The Judicial Branch

Article IV The States

Article V Amending the Constitution

Article VI The Constitution (Supremacy Clause, Oaths)

Article VII Ratification of the Constitution

Lesson14 page 20

We must realize that we have been deceived and lied to by our own government our entire life. Our public schools have let us down by teaching government approved curricula rather than accurate history.

Our great God does not bless those who comply with evil or those who tolerate tyranny. If we have the courage to resist evil and stand for truth, freedom, and righteousness, He will stand with us. It’s time for us to be like David and

recognize that the battle is the Lord's; it's time for us to confront our bullies and our mighty God will defeat them.

The Biblical Foundation of Our Constitution

By *Publius Huldah*

The fundamental act of our Founding, the Declaration of Independence, recognizes the Creator God as the Source of Rights; and acknowledges that the purpose of civil government is simply to "secure" the Rights God gave us. The Constitution we subsequently ratified was based on God's model of civil government as set forth in the Bible.

In this paper, I will show you **Six Principles** which come from the Bible and how our Framers applied them.

1. THE CIVIL AUTHORITIES ARE UNDER THE LAW.

THE BIBLE: GOD IS THE LAWMAKER [the kings are to apply God's Law. ²]

- **Deut. 17:18-20**: The king is to write out a copy of God's Law. He is to have it by him and read from it all his life so that he may keep, observe, and apply it.
- **1 Kings 2:1-4**: King David on his deathbed tells Solomon he must conform to God's ways, and observe his statutes, commandments and judgments, as written in the Law of Moses.

The parallel in our Constitution is that *the Constitution* is the Supreme Law which the civil authorities are to obey.

Our **Constitution** is the Standard by which the validity of all Acts of Congress, all acts of the Executive Branch, all judicial opinions, and all Treaties is measured and judged (Art. VI, cl. 2).

“This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in Pursuance thereof; and all Treaties made, or which shall be made, under the Authority of the United States, shall be the supreme Law of the Land; and the Judges in every State shall be bound thereby, any Thing in the Constitution or Laws of any State to the Contrary notwithstanding.”

Do you see? Law comes from a *higher source* than the civil authorities. The “Rule of Law” prevails when the civil authorities obey *that higher Law*, be it God’s Law and/or our Constitution.

LESSON 7 (6-13-17)

2. CIVIL GOVERNMENT HAS ONLY LIMITED AND DEFINED POWERS:

THE BIBLE:

Throughout the Old Testament, you see that civil government is limited to the Mosaic Law and the prophets.

The parallel in our Constitution is that, it is one of **enumerated powers** only:

CONGRESS’ ENUMERATED POWERS

[Congress is NOT authorized to pass any law on any subject just because a majority in Congress think the law is a good idea!

Instead, the areas in which Congress is authorized to act are strictly limited and defined. WE delegated to Congress the following Enumerated Powers over the Country at Large: Article I, Section 8, clauses 1-16.]

THE PRESIDENT'S ENUMERATED POWERS

On election night, November 2, 2010, Rep. John Boehner said in his victory speech:

"...While our new majority will serve as your voice in the people's House, we must remember it is the president who sets the agenda for our government. ..."

[emphasis added]

Next morning, Ezra Klein commented in the Cult of the President lives on: *"I'd like Boehner to show us where in the Constitution it says that the president sets the agenda for the government."*

[However it appears that] none of the House Republicans seem to know that our Constitution sets the agenda, and don't know that our Constitution also enumerates the powers delegated to the President, they are allowing Obama to carry out his "agenda" to transform our Country into a fascist dictatorship.]

THE JUDICIAL BRANCH'S ENUMERATED POWERS

The federal courts have evaded the constitutional limits on their power to hear cases by fabricating

individual “constitutional rights” so that they can then pretend that the cases “arise under the Constitution”!

All other powers (except those listed at Art. I, §10) are retained by the States or the People. “Self-government” means that as individuals, we govern ourselves in accordance with the laws of God [or the “Natural Law”]. It doesn’t mean that we elect representatives to manage our lives for us! **Tyrants** claim the power to do whatever they want.

3. CIVIL GOVERNMENT IS DIVIDED INTO THREE PARTS:

THE BIBLE:

Isaiah 33:22 says The Lord is our “**judge**”, “**lawgiver**”, and “**king**”!

The parallel in our Constitution is that the federal government is divided into three branches: **Judicial**, **legislative**, and **executive**.

No human can be trusted with all three functions, so our Constitution separates them into three branches, with each branch having checks on the powers of the other branches.

Tyrants seek to exercise all three functions. Obama is making Congress irrelevant: When they refuse to pass a law *he wants*, he implements it by “executive order” or “agency regulation”. He’s making the judicial branch irrelevant by ignoring their decisions which go against **his** will.

4. THE CIVIL AUTHORITIES PROMISE TO OBEY THE HIGHER LAW.

All those in government, as well as those in the military and police officers are required to give an oath to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America.

They are also answerable to “natural law” aka God’s law which is superior to all other laws and has jurisdiction over everyone on earth.

5. WHEN THE CIVIL AUTHORITIES VIOLATE THE HIGHER LAW, WE MUST REBUKE THEM!

THE BIBLE: The prophets **rebuked the kings** when they forsake God’s Law:

- Samuel **rebuked** King Saul, **1 Samuel 13:10-14.**
- Nathan **rebuked** King David, **2 Samuel 12.**
- A Man of God **rebuked** King Jeroboam, **1 Kings 13.**
- Elijah **rebuked** King Ahab, **1 Kings 16:29 thru 17:2;**
1 Kings 18:16-20; 1 Kings 21:17-29.
- Elijah **rebuked** King Ahaziah, **2 Kings 1:1-18.**
- John The Baptist **rebuked** Herod.

Lesson 18 page 25

God requires our clergy to take an active role in protecting the People from a civil government which violates the Higher Law, be it God’s Law or our Constitution which is based on God’s Law. God’s LAW does not come from case law or whatever some judge decided.

Ezekiel 33:6-7 But if the watchman sees the sword coming and does not blow the trumpet, and the people are not warned, and a sword comes and takes a person from them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood I will require from the watchman's hand.' 7) "Now as for you, son of man, I have appointed you a watchman for the house of Israel; so you will hear a message from My mouth, and give them warning from Me.

Even governing officials who are trying to address our government's overreach are not helping. Rather than making their stand on the Higher Law of God, the U.S. Constitution, and State Constitutions, **they seek exemptions or accommodations from that which is no law and has no power.**

Lesson 19 page 48

Family Research Council, April 14, 2016

*"It's been seven months since Rowan County Clerk Kim Davis was released from jail for beliefs on marriage. But today, thanks to Governor Matt Bevin (R-Ky.), she's finally free. After a long, public struggle, Kim and clerks like her **celebrated the accommodation** they'd been seeking since the Supreme Court radically redefined marriage last June. In his first act as governor, Bevin issued an executive order protecting county officials from complicity in marriage licenses that violated their faith. [They were already protected by the U.S. Constitution and the Kentucky Constitution.] In the meantime, the state legislature was working on a parallel track **to make the exemption official.***

Point 1 *The solution to an immoral and unconstitutional decision of the SCOTUS is not to seek an accommodation.*

Point 2 *The authority to address marriage issues is not an enumerated power given to the federal government by the U.S. Constitution, therefore it is reserved to the States or the People. (Amendment 10 of the Bill of Rights)*

Point 3 *Therefore, the solution is to follow the Kentucky Constitution which says, "Marriage is between one man and one woman". The ridiculous decision of the SCOTUS should be completely ignored.*

Point 4 *ALL legislative powers are vested in the Congress of the U.S. (Article 1, Section 1). That means the SCOTUS opinions never have been and never will be laws and they certainly are not the supreme law of the land.*

Point 5 *Governors who pass executive orders and Congressmen and women who pass laws in order to give accommodations or exemptions to victims of an immoral and unconstitutional opinions of the SCOTUS, simply do not know what they are doing.*

Point 6 *The job of our governing officials is to abide by the Constitution and to denounce anything that is immoral or unconstitutional; it's not to accommodate everyone's concerns nor seek accommodations and exceptions from those in government who violate our rights.*

Point 7 *Unlike a God-given right, an accommodation or an exemption is similar to a privilege or immunity given by the government which can be revoked at any time.*

Point 8 *Governor Bevin and the Kentucky Legislators have essentially made a deal with the Devil and it's sad that many are celebrating it.*

Lesson 20 page 26

LESSON 8 (6-20-17)

6. THE PEOPLES' OBLIGATION TO OBEY THE CIVIL AUTHORITIES IS CONDITIONAL UPON THE CIVIL AUTHORITIES OBEYING THE HIGHER LAW.

THE BIBLE: As shown by the Scripture at Principle 4, civil government is a covenant between God, the king, and the People. God makes the Laws; the king promises to obey and apply those Laws; and the people pledge themselves to the Covenant.

Out of this relationship between God, the king and the people, arises the peoples' obligation to protest lawlessness on the part of the king. If they don't protest, God punishes the people because of the misdeeds of their kings, the people will suffer if they go along with the unlawful acts:

- God sent a 3 year famine because Saul put the Gibeonites to death, **2 Sam 21**.
- God sent a pestilence which killed 70,000 Israelites because David took the census, **1 Chron 21 & 2 Sam 24**.

- God (via Elijah) sent a famine because Ahab & his house forsook the commandments of the Lord, **1 Kings 16:29-33, 17:1, 18:1, 18:17-19**).

Lesson 21 page 28

God struck a heavy blow at Joram's people because of Joram's wickedness, **2 Chron 21:1-14**.

- God visited 4 dooms upon Jerusalem & the Southern Kingdom because of the sins of Manasseh, **2 Kings 21:10-17** & **Jer 15:3-4**.

THE PARALLEL IN OUR CONSTITUTION IS THIS:

When Congress makes a law which is outside the scope of its enumerated powers, it is no "law" at all, but is **void; and we have no obligation to comply**. Alexander Hamilton says this over and over in The Federalist Papers. Here are a few examples:

*"...If the federal government should overpass the just bounds of its authority and make a tyrannical use of its powers, **the people**, whose creature it is, **must appeal to the standard they have formed, and take such measures to redress the injury done to the Constitution as the exigency may suggest and prudence justify...**" ([Federalist No. 33](#), 5th para).
[boldface added]*

*"...acts of ... [the federal government] which are NOT PURSUANT to its constitutional powers ... will [not] become the supreme law of the land. **These will be merely acts of usurpation, and will deserve to be treated as such...**" (Federalist No. 33, 6th para).
[boldface added]*

“...every act of a delegated authority, contrary to the tenor of the commission under which it is exercised, is void. No legislative act ...contrary to the Constitution can be valid. To deny this, would be to affirm ... that men ... may do not only what their powers do not authorize, but what they forbid.” ([Federalist No. 78](#), 10th para).

Hamilton also tells us that Congress can't usurp powers unless *the People* go along with it! In [Federalist No.16](#) (next to last para), he points out that:

Because judges may be “embarked in a conspiracy with the legislature”, the People, who are “the natural guardians of the Constitution”, must be “enlightened enough to distinguish between a legal exercise and an illegal usurpation of authority.”

So! Hamilton applies the Biblical model of what **WE** are supposed to do when the federal government acts outside of the Constitution. **We** are to recognize that their acts are “**void**”, and **We** are to take whatever prudent measures are necessary to enforce the Constitution.

Judge Andrew Napolitano's 5 minute video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UgGnBCDfCLM>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YRgNerzZbgg#t=18.959>

LESSON 9 (6-22-17)

<https://www.prageru.com/courses/life-studies/how-get-kids-listen>

Now, How Do We Get Rid Of Obamacare? Nullify It!

By Publius Huldah

We are Americans. We are resourceful. When doors are slammed in our faces, we find another way. **Since five (5) lawless judges on the U.S. supreme Court betrayed us by failing to declare the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (“Obamacare”) unconstitutional;** since we may be stuck with Obama for four more years; ¹ and since a democrat-controlled U.S. Senate will not repeal Obamacare, we must find another way.

There *is* another way. Here it is, and it comes from Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence.

Nullification Resolutions for State Legislatures

1. **Resolved**, That The States composing the United States of America are not united on the principle of unlimited submission to the federal government; but that, with the Constitution for the United States, they established a federal government for limited purposes only. That they delegated to this federal government only limited and enumerated powers; and reserved, each State to itself, all remaining powers, along with the right to their own self-government.

That whenever the federal government assumes undelegated powers, its acts are unauthoritative, void, and of no force.

That to these Principles, each State agreed as a State, and as The Parties to the Constitution.

That the federal government is not a party to the Constitution, but is merely the creature of the

Constitution; and as the mere creature, was not made the exclusive or final judge of the extent of the powers delegated to it; since that would have made the creature's will, and not the Constitution, the measure of its powers. That as in all other cases of compact among powers having no common judge, each State has an equal right to judge for itself as to whether the creature has committed infractions, and as to the mode and measure of redress.

2. **Resolved**, That Art. I, Sec. 2, of **the Constitution of The State of Tennessee** acknowledges the Principle that the doctrine of nonresistance against arbitrary power and oppression is absurd, slavish, and destructive of the good and happiness of mankind.

3. **Resolved**, That in the Constitution of the United States, THE PEOPLE ordained and established a Federation of Sovereign States which united only for THE LIMITED PURPOSES enumerated in the Constitution: national defense, international commerce and relations; and domestically the creation of an uniform commercial system: Weights & measures, patents & copyrights, a monetary system based on gold & silver, bankruptcy laws, mail delivery and road building. **That the 10th Amendment to the Constitution also declares that "the powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people."**

That nowhere in the Constitution of the United States was any power granted to **Congress** to make laws

respecting the medical care of THE PEOPLE; and that nowhere in the Constitution are powers over this matter prohibited to The States.

Lesson 22 page 30

4. **Resolved**, That Art. I, Sec. 1 of the Constitution of the United States provides that all legislative Powers granted by that Constitution are vested in CONGRESS; therefore, Departments within the Executive Branch are forbidden to make any “rules” or “laws” of general application whatsoever.

That administrative rules being promulgated by the **Department of Health and Human Services**, one of the executive Departments of the federal government, to be set forth in Title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations, and which pretend to regulate the medical care of THE PEOPLE throughout the several States; are altogether void, and of no force, as in violation of Art. I, Sec.1, of the federal Constitution.

That as matters pertaining to the “medical care”, “health”, and “human services” of THE PEOPLE are nowhere delegated to the federal government by the federal Constitution; but are among the countless multitudes of matters reserved to The States or THE PEOPLE; the federal Department of Health and Human Services is itself an unlawful Department, and its mere existence an affront to the Constitution; and all of the powers it exercises are usurped powers as outside the scope of the powers delegated to the federal government by our Constitution.

That if the pretended “rules” of this spurious federal Department should stand, these conclusions would flow from them; that unelected bureaucrats within the Executive Branch of the federal government may force upon The States, THE PEOPLE, the medical profession, and The Churches their own ideas of what others must and must not do in the area of medical care; and may force upon them their own ideas of what medical treatments each person shall be provided or denied.

That this spurious federal Department will further send out swarms of officers to trespass upon hospitals, doctors’ offices, other places of provision of medical care, and premises of religious institutions, to harass providers of medical services, dictate to them as to what specific medical treatments they must provide and are forbidden to provide to their patients.

To this abomination is added the additional affront that the objects of these pretended “rules” are altogether outside the scope of the enumerated powers THE PEOPLE delegated to the federal government in our Constitution.

That the Departments within the Executive Branch of the federal government have established a pattern of unlawfully functioning *as legislators*, when they write “agency rules”; *as executives*, when they investigate and prosecute violations of “agency rules”; and *as judges and juries* when they decide whether violations of their “agency rules” have occurred and impose punishment. Thus the Executive Branch unlawfully

functions as legislator, accuser, judge & jury, in violation of the Constitution and of the Principles of Separation of Power and of Checks and Balances.

LESSON 10 (6-27-17)

5. **Resolved**, That all aspects of the medical care of THE PEOPLE, not being anywhere delegated to the United States by the Constitution, or prohibited by The Constitution to The States, are reserved to The States respectively, or to THE PEOPLE. Therefore, power over this matter is reserved solely and exclusively to the respective States and THE PEOPLE, each within its or their own territory.

6. **Resolved**, That to take from The States all the powers of self-government and to transfer all powers to a general and consolidated national government, in defiance of the Constitution which was ordained and established by THE PEOPLE, is not for the peace, happiness or prosperity of THE PEOPLE.

Therefore This State is determined to refuse to submit to undelegated powers exercised over them by the federal government; and rejects altogether the notion that the federal government may exercise unlimited powers over them.

That in cases of an abuse of the **delegated** (enumerated) powers, the members of the federal government, being chosen by the people, a change by the people would be the constitutional remedy.

But, where *powers are usurped which have not been delegated* to the federal government – when the federal government acts outside of, and in defiance of, the federal Constitution by exercising powers not delegated to it by that Constitution; **then a nullification of the unlawful act is the rightful remedy.**

Thus every State has a natural right – which pre-dates & pre-exists the federal Constitution – to nullify of their own authority all such lawless assumptions of power within the boundaries of their State. That without this pre-existing natural and original right, they would be under the dominion, absolute and unlimited, of whoever in the federal government chooses to exercise tyrannical powers over them.

The States alone are The Parties to the compact; and thus are solely authorized to judge in the last resort of the powers exercised under it. Congress, the Executive Branch, and the Judicial Branch are not parties to the contract; but are merely *the creatures* of the compact (**Federalist No. 33**, 5th para). As mere creatures, they may exercise no powers other than those enumerated powers specifically delegated to them.

7. **Resolved**, That the misconstructions long and unlawfully applied by the federal government to the so-called “**taxing**”, “**general welfare**”, “**interstate commerce**”, and “**necessary and proper**” clauses, to the effect that these clauses bestow unlimited powers on the federal government, goes to the destruction of all limits prescribed to their powers by the federal

Constitution. That the true and genuine meaning of those clauses is as follows:

a) **The “taxing” and “general welfare” clauses:** Art. I, Sec. 8, cl.1, employs “general terms” which are “immediately” followed by the “enumeration of particular powers” which “explain and qualify”, by a “recital of particulars”, the general terms. It is “error” to focus on the “general expressions” and disregard “the specifications which ascertain and limit their import”; thus, to argue that the general expression provides “an unlimited power” is “an absurdity” (**Federalist Paper No. 41**, last 4 paras).

The federal Constitution declares that “the power of Congress...shall extend to certain enumerated cases. This specification of particulars...excludes all pretension to a general legislative authority, because an affirmative grant of special powers would be absurd, as well as useless, if a general authority was intended...” (**Federalist No. 83**, 7th para).

b) **The “interstate commerce” clause:** “Commerce” is the buying and selling of goods – only that and nothing more. Webster’s American Dictionary (1828) says “*commerce*” is:

“an interchange or mutual change of goods, wares, productions, or property of any kind, between nations or individuals... by barter, or by purchase and sale; trade; traffick... *inland commerce*...is the trade in the exchange of commodities between citizens of the same nation or state.”

Federalist No. 22 (4th para), **Federalist No. 42** (9th & 10th paras), **Federalist No. 44** (at 2.), and **Federalist No. 56** (5th & 6th paras), explain the two purposes of the “interstate commerce” clause: (1) to prohibit the States from imposing tolls and tariffs on articles of import and export – goods & commodities – merchandize – as they are transported through the States for purposes of buying and selling; and (2) to permit the federal government to impose duties on imports and exports, both inland and abroad.

Article I, Sec. 8, cl.1; Art. I, Sec. 9, cls. 5 & 6; and Art. I, Sec.10, cls. 2 & 3, of the federal Constitution give express effect to these two purposes of the “interstate commerce” clause.

c) **The “necessary and proper” clause**: This clause merely delegates to Congress the power to pass laws necessary and proper to execute its *declared* powers (**Federalist No. 29**, 4th para); a power to do something must be a power to pass all laws necessary and proper for the *execution* of that power (**Federalist No. 33**, 3rd para); “the constitutional operation of the intended government would be precisely the same if [this clause] were entirely obliterated as if [it] were repeated in every article” (No. 33, 2nd para); and *thus the clause is “perfectly harmless”, a “tautology or redundancy”* (No. 33, 3rd para). Madison writes to the same effect in (**Federalist No. 44**, at 1.).

The clause merely permits *the execution* of powers already delegated and enumerated in the federal

Constitution. No additional substantive powers are granted by this clause.

8. **Resolved**, That contrary to the misconstructions long and unlawfully applied by the federal government, the federal Constitution is one of **enumerated powers** only:

“The powers delegated by the proposed Constitution to the federal government are few and defined. Those which are to remain in the State governments are numerous and indefinite. The former **will be exercised principally on external objects, as war, peace, negotiation, and foreign commerce;** with which last the power of taxation will, for the most part, be connected. The powers reserved to the several States will extend to all the objects which, in the ordinary course of affairs, concern the lives, liberties, and properties of the people.” (**Federalist No. 45** , 9th para)

“...the proposed government cannot be deemed a national one; **since its jurisdiction extends to certain enumerated objects only,** and leaves to the several States a residuary and inviolable sovereignty over all other objects...” (**Federalist No. 39**, 3rd para from end)

“...the general [federal] government is not to be charged with the whole power of making and administering laws. **Its jurisdiction is limited to certain enumerated objects...**” (**Federalist No. 14**, 8th para)

“...It merits particular attention ... that the laws of the Confederacy [those made by Congress], as to the ENUMERATED and LEGITIMATE objects of its jurisdiction, will become the SUPREME LAW of the land... Thus the legislatures, courts, and magistrates, of the respective members [the States], will be incorporated into the operations of the national government AS FAR AS ITS JUST AND CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY EXTENDS...” [caps are Hamilton’s] (**Federalist No. 27**, last para).

That The Federalist Papers – and not the U.S. Supreme Court – is the highest authority and evidence “of the general opinion of those who framed, and of those who accepted the Constitution of the US. on questions as to its genuine meaning”. The supreme Court is merely a creature of the Constitution and is completely subject to its terms; and when judges on that and lower federal courts – who serve during “good Behaviour” only (Art. III, Sec. 1, cl. 1) – usurp powers, as they did with their lawless opinion upholding Obamacare, they must be impeached and removed from office (**Federalist No. 81**, 8th para).

“It may in the last place be observed that the supposed danger of judiciary encroachments on the legislative authority, which has been upon many occasions reiterated, is in reality a phantom.”

The consideration of the important constitutional check which the power of instituting impeachments in

one part of the legislative body, and of determining upon them in the other... is alone a complete security.”

Information for those who are interested in learning more about our Constitution:

Learn to defend the Constitution by studying the Federalist Papers

Written between October 1787 and August 1788, the Federalist Papers is a collection of newspaper essays written in defense of the Constitution. Writing under the penname Publius, Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay explained the merits of the proposed Constitution, while confronting objections raised by its opponents.

Thomas Jefferson described the work as “the best commentary on the principles of government, which ever was written.”

There is not a better way to increase your knowledge of the principles underlying the Constitution than studying the Federalist Papers. That’s why Hillsdale College is offering this online course, “The Federalist Papers” for FREE.

Introduction to the Constitution

Constitution 101: The Meaning & History of the Constitution

Constitution 201: The Progressive Rejection of the Founding & the Rise of Bureaucratic Despotism

American Heritage—From Colonial Settlement to the Current Day

The Presidency and the Constitution

The U.S. Supreme Court

LESSON 11 (6-29-17)

9. **Resolved**, That those within the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Branches of the federal government are sweeping away all the barriers of our Constitution; and that no ramparts now remain against their unbridled and insatiable lust for power over THE PEOPLE **except for The States**.

That if The States do not now resist all such blatantly unlawful usurpations of power, THE PEOPLE of their States will be delivered into abject slavery subject to the unbridled control of whosoever occupies the office of President. Our Representatives in Congress have shirked their constitutional obligation to support the Constitution (Art. VI, cl. 3), by acquiescing in the blatant usurpations by the Executive Branch; and have failed in their duty to impeach and remove those within the Executive Branch who usurp powers (**Federalist No. 66**, 2nd para, and **No. 77**, last para). That the supreme Court long ago took the side of those who seek to exercise unlimited control over The States and THE PEOPLE; and that Congress has failed in its duty to impeach and remove federal judges who usurp powers (**Federalist No. 81**, 8th para).

That pursuant to Art. VI, cl. 3 of our federal Constitution, all State legislators, State Officers and State Judges take a solemn Oath to support our federal Constitution. Therefore, **they are bound by sacred Oath** to protect

THE PEOPLE of their States from the usurpations of the federal government whose clear object is the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over the States and THE PEOPLE.

That our Framers anticipated the dangers we now face and provided wise counsel for such a time as this. **Federalist No. 28** (last 5 paras) states that when “the representatives of the people betray their constituents”, the people have no recourse but to exert “that original right of self-defense” [The Declaration of Independence, 2nd para], against “the usurpations of the national rulers” (5th para from end).

That in a Federation of States united under a federal government for only limited purposes,

“...the people... are...the masters of their own fate. Power being almost always the rival of power, the general [federal] government will at all times stand ready to check the usurpations of the state governments, **and these will have the same disposition towards the general government. The people, by throwing themselves into either scale, will infallibly make it preponderate. If their rights are invaded by either, they can make use of the other as the instrument of redress...**”

(4th para from end)

Thus, THE STATE LEGISLATURES are the ultimate bulwark of The People and The Ultimate Human Protectors of our Constitutional Republic:

“It may safely be received as an axiom in our political system, that **the State governments will, in all possible contingencies, afford complete security against invasions of the public liberty by the national authority.** Projects of usurpation cannot be masked under pretenses so likely to escape the penetration of select bodies of men, as of the people at large. The legislatures will have better means of information. They can discover the danger at a distance; and possessing all the organs of civil power, and the confidence of the people, they can at once adopt a regular plan of opposition, in which they can combine all the resources of the community. They can readily communicate with each other in the different States, and unite their common forces for the protection of their common liberty.” (3rd para from end)

The last paragraph of Federalist No. 28 recognizes that when the federal government seeks

“... a despotism over the great body of **the people** ... [the people] **are in a situation, through the medium of their State governments, to take measures for their own defense...**”

10. **Resolved**, That because men are corrupt and may not be trusted with power, the federal Constitution fixed the limits to which, and no further, the federal government may go. Would we be wise if we permit the federal government to destroy the limits the Constitution places upon its powers? Would we be wise if we permit

unelected bureaucrats in the Executive Departments of the federal government to regulate every aspect of our lives?

Lesson 22 page 34

UPDATE ON ALABAMA'S CHIEF JUSTICE ROY MOORE

Washington Standard, May 8, 2016, by Tim Brown

Lesson 23 page 36

Justice Department, North Carolina file dueling lawsuits over bathroom law, Fox News, May 9, 2016.

The Justice Department and North Carolina filed dueling lawsuits Monday over the state's controversial "bathroom" law, with the Obama administration answering an early-morning lawsuit filed by Republican Gov. Pat McCrory with legal action of its own.

In a suit filed late Monday in **U.S. District Court** for the Middle District of North Carolina, the DOJ alleged a "pattern or practice of employment discrimination on the basis of sex" against the state over the law requiring transgender people to use bathrooms that correspond with the sex on their birth certificate.

"They created state-sponsored discrimination against transgender individuals," Attorney General Loretta Lynch said in a press conference late Monday afternoon.

The suit was filed after McCrory, in his lawsuit, accused the administration of a "baseless and blatant overreach" in trying to get the policy scrapped.

North Carolina governor on lawsuit filed against DOJ over 'bathroom bill'

"This is an attempt to unilaterally rewrite long-established federal civil rights laws in a manner that is wholly inconsistent with the intent of Congress and disregards decades of statutory interpretation by the Courts," the state's suit, filed in **U.S. District Court** in the Eastern District of North Carolina, said.

McCrory, speaking at his own press conference, said Congress should get involved and "bring clarity" to federal anti-discrimination provisions – **but urged the court to intervene in the current dispute**, in the meantime.

"This is not just a North Carolina issue, this is now a national issue," he said. **"We believe a court rather than a federal agency should tell our state, our nation and employers across the country what the law requires."**

In an "On The Record" interview Monday night with Fox News' Greta Van Susteren, **McCrory pointed at the federal government needing to get involved to make clear rules for states** on the legal definition of gender identity.

"The U.S. Congress kind of ignored it, and now the Obama administration is interpreting existing law," he said.

"I think frankly Congress needs to deal with this to have a consistent message throughout the United States," he added.

The state had faced a DOJ-imposed Monday deadline to respond to its demand that North Carolina either scrap the law or face legal action and risk losing federal funds. Lynch said Monday that as the case moves forward, they “retain the option of curtailing federal funding” to the state Department of Public Safety and University of North Carolina.

The state law also limits state anti-discrimination protections for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people and blocks local governments from establishing their own. House Bill 2 has been criticized by gay rights groups, and entertainers including Bruce Springsteen and Pearl Jam have canceled shows. PayPal reversed plans to open a 400-employee operation center in Charlotte, and Deutsche Bank froze expansion plans near Raleigh.

Nearly 200 corporate leaders from across the country, including Charlotte-based Bank of America, have urged the law's repeal, arguing it's bad for business because it makes recruiting talented employees more difficult.

Several other states have proposed similar laws in recent months limiting protections to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. [*No, they proposed laws that would protect the People and their privacy.*] On Monday, the American Civil Liberties Union of Mississippi sued that state over a law that will allow workers to cite their own religious objections to same-sex marriage to deny services to people.

McCrory says the North Carolina law applies only to government offices, universities and road-side rest stops, not every bathroom in the state.

The Justice Department, though, had sent McCrory a letter last Wednesday stating the law violates federal civil rights laws.

The governor, speaking over the weekend with “Fox News Sunday,” said he asked the department for an extension and was given only until the close of business Monday.

“I don’t think that three working days is enough time for such a pretty big threat,” he told Fox News. “It’s the federal government being a bully, making law.”

McCrory also said he doesn’t have the legal authority to change laws and that the expectation that he can is “unrealistic.”

McCrory, who signed the bill into law in March, said last week that the department seems to be breaking new ground in claiming the North Carolina law violates Civil Rights Act protections against discrimination in education and the workplace.

Meanwhile, the administration is expected to soon take the bathroom issue further, to ensure that transgender student rights are fully protected under federal law, according to Politico. The move reportedly would be related to a federal law that prohibits sex-based discrimination in federally funded education programs and activities, and multiple agencies are expected to be involved.

LESSON 12 (7-6-17)

Lesson 23 page 37

Lynch: States Can't 'Insist' a Man is a Man and a Woman is a Woman, If Person Feels Otherwise CNS News, By Susan Jones, May 10, 2016

Lesson 24 page 39

There is an ongoing attack on the foundation of America. This attack is on morality and decency which reflect the biblical principles of the Bible. This attack is on the very definition of words and principles. “hate crime”, “assault rifle”, “income equality”, “sexual preference” now “sexual orientation”, “gender identity”, “global warming” now “climate change”, “illegal aliens” now “undocumented migrants”; “effectively legalized”, etc.

Some call this “political correctness”; I can think of more accurate terms to describe it: brain-washing, propaganda, indoctrination, programing, manipulation, conditioning, verbacide, balderdash, hogwash, and rubbish.

The current administration of our government not only elevates and celebrates perversion, it is trying to force it upon We the People in defiance of God and our Constitution.

I think you would agree that most Christians know that homosexuality is a sin, same-sex marriage is decadent, and that allowing mentally deranged men who think, or pretend, they are female, to go into girls restrooms, dressing rooms,

and showers is foolish, dangerous, irresponsible, indecent, and defiant against God and everything moral and proper.

Our government has struck down sodomy laws and now fines and imprisons Christians who refuses to accept sexual deviancy or who refuse to participate in their activities.

Our government has to go beyond its delegated enumerated powers to do this, so its actions are unconstitutional which makes its so-called laws, rulings, and directives null and void.

What our government is trying to force on us is wrong, unconstitutional, and immoral. God disciplines Christians who go contrary to His word and comply with evil. So why do Christians go against God in order to comply with evil governmental mandates that are null and void?

Answer: **Ignorance and Fear!**

But Christians are fearing the wrong thing. They fear government more than they fear God.

Exodus 1:17 *But the midwives feared God, and did not do as the king of Egypt had commanded them...*

Job 1:1 *There was a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job; and that man was blameless, upright, fearing God and turning away from evil.*

Ecclesiastes 8:12 *... I know that it will be well for those who fear God, who fear Him openly.*

Ecclesiastes 12:13 *The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person.*

1 Peter 2:17 Honor all people, love the brotherhood, fear God, honor the king.

The word "honor" in the Greek means to show high regard for, to respect one's office; it does not mean to unconditionally submit to a despotic ruler or to comply with his evil mandates.

Acts 5:29 But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men."

So the question is, what are Americans/Christians to do when their government goes against God and the Constitution to impose evil on them? There are currently two methods that are being suggested and both are wrong and ineffective.

1. Call for an Article 5 Constitutional Convention to amend the Constitution.
2. Go to the Congress or to the courts to determine the extent of the federal government's authority.

Freedom Research Council May 10, 2016

Let's be clear: This debate has never been about eliminating the non-existent rights of gender-confused, it's about the rights to privacy of the other 99.5 percent of the public...

In the clash between "gender identity" and privacy, like the clash between sexual orientation and religious liberty, accommodation is not the end goal of this president. This is about advancing an agenda, not following the law or finding a compromise. As Lynch said: "This action is about a great deal more than just bathrooms." On that we agree. It's about executive overreach, state's rights, lawlessness, public safety, hypocrisy, policy priorities, and ideological extortion.

[It's also about whether believers will trust in God, stand for truth, freedom, and righteousness, or comply with evil and be cursed by God.]

Isaiah 5:20 Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; who substitute darkness for light and light for darkness; who substitute bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!

All three branches of our government seem to be untethered to reality: With ISIS crucifying children and burying them alive, with U.S. joblessness through the roof in a disintegrating economy, with wide-open borders and absurdly reckless immigration and refugee policies transforming America in unthinkable ways, with the nuclear and terrorist threat to our country greater than ever, our president and his administration's most urgent national issue seems to be making sure grown men are allowed into the girls' bathroom."

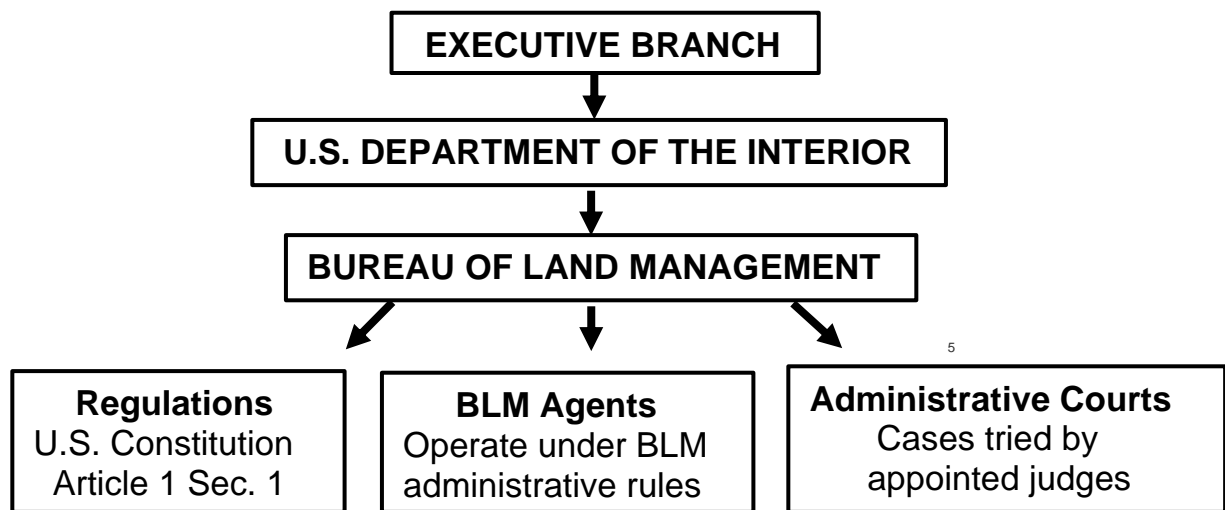
Lesson 25 page 42

Dr. Jim Brettell's Letter to the Editor, 5-16-16

This letter deals with the removal of Alabama's Judge Roy Moore and nullification:

Lesson 25 page 44

Where is the delegated power in the Constitution for the United States to create the many Departments of Justice, Education, Homeland Security, Agriculture, Energy, Labor, Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development, Health and Human Services, and the other 10 Departments? Consider the example below:



We the People can be prosecuted for not complying with bureaucratic regulations that are not laws; be arrested by agents who work for the BLM; and then be tried by appointed judges who also receive a paycheck from the BLM. Nothing in the chart above, except the Executive Branch, can be found in the U.S. Constitution.

So how could any injustice possibly exist in such a system?

New Notes:

LESSON 13 (7-11-17)

Most of the immoral, unconstitutional, and unbiblical acts of our federal government are done under the so-called authority of the 14th Amendment. The “*equal protection*” clause is most often cited in order to usurp States rights.

The Equal Protection Clause is located at the end of Section 1 of the Fourteenth Amendment:

*All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. **No State** shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any*

*State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the **equal protection** of the laws.*

Consider the following:

1. The 14th Amendment was never properly voted on nor was it ever properly ratified.

“Perhaps the greatest of all Reconstruction Era examples of breaking the law with the intent to improve it came with the resurrection of the Fourteenth Amendment in the summer of 1868... Many Northern states and territories still disallowed black voting; Ohio, Kansas, and Minnesota had voted it down the year before, and the District of Columbia, home to the U.S. capital, voted it down in 1867.” John J. Swyer, *The War Between the States, America’s Uncivil War*, Bluebonnet Press, 2005, p. 601

“The House of Representatives could still only account for twenty seven of the thirty seven states having ratified the Fourteenth Amendment. The same three-fourths requirement, by which the amendment had gone down two years before, still necessitated at least twenty eight of them doing so. So, near the end of July, Congress simply passed a resolution declaring three-fourths of the states had ratified the amendment and that the Secretary of State should attest as such, and the amendment [illegally and unconstitutionally] passed into law.” *ibid* 605

“The United States ‘may remain a republic in name, but some eight million of the people are subjects, not citizens.’ One Southern wrote, ‘utter ruin and abject degradation are our portion.’

“The Southern “former” states could not do much about it, but what they could do, they did. Every one of them except the now-Radical-ruled Tennessee, voted against the Fourteenth Amendment. So did Kentucky and Delaware, and thus the amendment failed for lack of the needed three-fourths majority.

*Former North Carolina Governor Jonathan Worth declared his opposition to the legislation: ‘If we are to be degraded, we will retain some self-esteem by not making it self-abasement.... If we were voluntarily to adopt this amendment I think we should be the meanest and most despicable people on earth.’ It is one thing to be oppressed, wronged, and outraged by overwhelming force,’ Mobile Register editor John Forsyth agreed. ‘It is quite another to submit to voluntary abasement.’ *ibid* 605*

2. The Fourteenth Amendment is in direct conflict with the Tenth Amendment, so it would have to be rescinded before the Fourteenth Amendment could have any validity.

The Tenth Amendment reserves all powers to the States except those enumerated powers they delegated to the federal government; the Fourteenth Amendment, unconstitutionally gave the federal government power to Strike down any State laws or acts that:

- a. It considers to abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States.
- b. It considers to deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law.
- c. It considers to deny to any person within its jurisdiction the **equal protection** of the laws.

THE USURPATION OF YOUR FREEDOM

By Dr. Jim Brettell

*Yes, today, I am going to present another civics lesson. I do so because of my pastoral responsibility to inform you of the danger of losing your inalienable rights to life, LIBERTY, property, and the pursuit of happiness. If – stated here as a first class condition, that is, IF AND IT'S TRUE – we as Pastors are responsible to teach the whole counsel of God, then I am obligated to teach the principles of FREEDOM and NATIONALISM. With this in mind, I'm not going to provide an introduction leading up to the 14th Amendment to our US Constitution. I'm going to go straight to the problem. The problem is **a conflict between Section 1 and Section 5 of the 14th Amendment and the 10th Amendment.***

14TH AMENDMENT

Section 1.

All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the state wherein they reside. **No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States;** nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the **equal protection of the laws.**

10TH AMENDMENT

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, **are reserved to the States** respectively, or **to the People.**

Amendment 14, Section 5.

The **Congress shall have power to enforce**, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

Now, if you think that the corruption, the lying, the deceit, and the skulduggary of Washington politicians is of recent origin, you don't know, nor do you understand the history of the U.S.A.

THE 14TH AMENDMENT IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL

1st problem: *The 14th Amendment usurps the power that every State has over the functions of the three branches of Federal Government when the function of any one of these three branches exceeds the boundaries of their Constitutional authority.*

Here's what every American needs to understand: The US Government CANNOT usurp STATES RIGHTS, yet the 14th Amendment grants the right to our Federal Government to do so.

*How did this happen and by what authority does the Federal government usurp power over the 50 States?
Answer: the 14th Amendment.*

*What do the historians say about all this? The Encyclopedia Americana states: "Reconstruction added humiliation to suffering Eight years of crime, fraud, and corruption followed and it was State legislatures composed of Negroes, carpetbaggers and scalawags **who obeyed the orders of the generals** and ratified the amendment."*

W. E. Woodward, in his famous work, "A New American History?" published in 1936, says: "To get a clear idea of the succession of events let us review [President Andrew] Johnson's actions in respect to the ex-Confederate States. In May, 1865, he issued a Proclamation of Amnesty to former rebels. Then he established provisional governments in all the Southern States. These provisional governments were instructed to call Constitutional Conventions. They did. New State governments were elected. White men only had the suffrage of the Fifteenth Amendment. [Establishing equal voting rights had not yet been passed]. Senators and Representatives were chosen, but when they appeared at the opening of U.S. Congress they were refused admission. The State governments, however, continued to function during 1866. "Now we are in 1867. In the early days of that year [Thaddeus] Stevens, as chairman of the U.S. House of Representative's Reconstruction Committee, brought in a bill that proposed to sweep all the Southern State governments into the wastebasket. The South was to be put under military rule.

(Again, Federal Government usurping States Rights!)

"The bill was passed by the U.S. Congress. It was then vetoed by President Andrew Johnson, and his veto was again overridden by the U.S. Congress. In the U.S. Senate, this bill was amended in such fashion that any State could escape from military rule and be restored to its

full rights by ratifying the Fourteenth Amendment and admitting black as well as white men to the polls."
(It wasn't until 1870 with the 15th Amendment that blacks were allowed to vote.)

In challenging the constitutionality of this law that provided a way of escape from military rule for Southern States, President Andrew Johnson said in his veto message: "I submit to Congress whether this measure is not in its whole character, scope and object **without precedent** and **without authority** (this means unconstitutional), **in palpable conflict with the plainest provisions of the Constitution, and utterly destructive of those great principles of liberty and humanity for which our ancestors on both sides of the Atlantic have shed so much blood and expended so much treasure.**"

Many historians have applauded Johnson's words. Samuel Eliot Morison and Henry Steele Commager, known today as "liberals," wrote in their book, *The Growth of the American Republic*: "Johnson returned the bill with a scorching message arguing the unconstitutionality of the whole thing, and most impartial students have agreed with his reasoning.

The U.S. Supreme Court, in case after case, refused to pass (would not render a ruling) on the illegal activities involved in "ratification." The U.S. Supreme Court simply said that these illegal acts were merely acts of the "political departments of the Government."

This was a convenient device used to avoid rendering a decision on these illegal acts.

Andrew C. McLaughlin, whose "Constitutional History of the United States" is a standard work, writes: "Can a State which is not a State and not recognized as such by the U.S. Congress, perform the supreme duty of ratifying an amendment to the fundamental law? Or does a State — by congressional thinking — cease to be a State for some purposes but not for others?"

LESSON 14 (7-13-17)

The 5th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

...nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, **nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law**; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

The 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution (Section 1)

All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; **nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law**; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the **equal protection** of the laws.

What is the difference between what is written in red in these two Amendments?

The **Fifth** applies to the federal government and is lawful and legitimate, the **Fourteenth** applies to the States and is neither lawful nor legitimate.

End of New Notes:

The effects of implementing the 14th Amendment has been predictable:

Lesson 28 page 49

WorldNetDaily.com has compiled a "Big List of Christian Coercion" with dozens of cases in which Christians have been fined, threatened or penalized for recognizing the biblical definition of marriage. Many organizations and companies endorsing traditional and biblical marriages will simply be shut down.

"Consider an editorial published in the New York Times a few weeks ago. It was written by liberal columnist, Frank Bruni, who insisted that Christians must be 'made' to change their church doctrines on sexual morality. He actually wrote, 'Church leaders must be made to take homosexuality off their sin list.'"

A foreshadowing can be seen in Obama's recent demand for laws that prevent parents from seeking professional therapy if their children are dealing with a sexual identity crisis. Already law in a couple of states, Obama's plan would require counselors to accept homosexuality in all such cases.

Dobson said. *“What business does this man have telling parents how to help their confused and disoriented kids even after they have been abused and exploited sexually? This is outrageous!”*

Also, anyone with a state license soon could be coerced into adopting the state definition of morality. Textbooks would be rewritten, and public schools soon would teach children “gay and lesbian concepts”.

“California passed a transgender bathroom law a few years ago and the people got the required 620,000 signatures to vote on it in a referendum. Government lawyers disqualified 20% of the signatures and wouldn’t release the names or the reason why they were not allowed. It took over 2 years for the courts to decide to force them to release that information. All the people needed to do was just say “NO! Nullify it! Demand that those responsible for the ridiculous law to be impeached. Refuse to allow their children to go to school until the law is nullified. If they don’t respond, remove their children from the schools permanently.

The perverts in the California Congress and their nutty governor who passed this atrocious transgender bill that obliterates children’s privacy in restroom, locker rooms, and showers, still enjoy privacy in their bathrooms.

It is completely unreasonable to expect teenagers, who are uncomfortable with themselves at this age, to accept this level of privacy invasion. After all, in the Capitol building, not only do they not allow men in the women’s bathroom, the women must enter a code to access their restrooms. WND, by Bob Unruh, 5-23-16

And of course the indignity and humiliation that Obama intends to force upon our daughters and granddaughters does not apply to his daughters since they go to private schools and have tight security surrounding them.

While trying to address a concern of less than 2 percent of the population, California is now forcibly violating the rights of the other 98 percent. Many of the parents I have heard from within the last few days have literally pulled their kids out of public schools and have enrolled them in homeschool and private school programs. Ibid

Lesson 31 page 56

FOX NEWS: 11 States Sue Over Obama Administration's Transgender Directive

Feds Order Colleges to Stop Checking Criminal/School Discipline History

The Obama administration has ordered the nation's colleges and universities to stop asking applicants about criminal and school disciplinary history because it discriminates against minorities.

Transgender Teacher Gets \$60k After Co-Workers Won't Call Her 'They' *The Daily Caller News Foundation, 5-25-16 A "transmasculine" teacher at an Oregon elementary school has been awarded \$60,000 by her school district as compensation for harassment she claims to have suffered on the job, including being referred to by the wrong pronoun.*

WND: “Men, You, not the state, must protect your family” *Exclusive: Charl van Wyk stresses, on firearms, 'God's Laws trump human laws!'*

When political leaders and lawmakers make it impossible for us as dutiful husbands and fathers to act, in the biblical sense, as protectors of those whom God has entrusted to our care, then we have no obligation to obey them.

Lesson 32 page 58

MARRIAGE

Genesis 1:27 *God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.*

God created the woman's body to be compatible with the man's and He created her with a female perspective which complimented his male perspective.

So their differences physically and psychologically enabled them to complement one another. What the man lacked, the woman supplied, and what she lacked he supplied.

They say our gender is random; there is a 50/50 chance of being born a boy and the same chance for being born a girl. That may be true from a human perspective but not from God's. He decides whether we will be born a male or a female and our gender is permanent since it is encoded in every cell of our body. So, our biological anatomy reflects which sex God has chosen us to be. People for over six millennia have recognized this truth. But that is changing these days.

THE 1 THING YOU CAN'T CALL GIRLS AT GIRLS' ACADEMY

Term banned because it might cause offense, Bob Unruh 6-24-16

The president of the GSA, Caroline Jordan, was quoted in an interview praising “**gender-neutral** language. *

[“**gender-neutral**” is an oxy-moron, there is no such thing.]

transsexualism – Efforts and actions to try to change one’s sex.

trans spectrum – Degrees of gender ranging between 100% male and 100% female.

Gender Recognition Certificate: *The Gender Recognition Act 2004* is an Act of the Parliament of the United Kingdom that allows transgender people to change their legal gender. It came into effect on 4 April 2005.

Colleges also are faced with demands to open their sex-segregated dorms

1. Marriage is a divine institution that predates any other.
2. Marriage is between one man and one woman united together for life.
3. God created humans to be sexual beings so that husbands and wives could procreate and give and receive pleasure from one another.
4. God condemns any sexual activity outside of marriage.
5. In-laws are not to interfere with the marriages of their children.
6. Wives were designed by God to be a helper to their husbands. A wife is to complete her husband, not compete with him. The term “helper” is not condescending, nor does it imply that the wife is inferior to her husband. The Bible calls God a helper:

Part of having discernment about marriage is recognizing the various things that are detrimental to this divine institution. The first one we will cover is governmental intrusion and interference with marriage.

Government Welfare for Single Moms

There are a few problems we should notice with this right away.

- a. The government has no constitutional authority to dole out money to single moms or to anyone else for that matter.
- b. It must take funds from citizens without their consent to give to others it decides to give it to.
- c. The government stipulates the conditions that must be met in order to qualify for government funds and those conditions couldn't be worse for marriage.
 - 1) A woman must not be living with a man.
 - 2) She cannot have a job

This of course motivates women to not have a husband and to not have a job. Furthermore, the more children these un-married women have, the more money they will get from the government.

[Constitutional rights are not obtained by litigation. The Constitution does not confer rights, God does. The Constitution spells out the few limited powers granted to government and forbids anything that would abridge the God given rights of the people.]

Black Illegitimacy Rate of 75% Due To Politicians, Civil Rights Groups Serving Powerful Interest Groups Rather Than African-Americans, Professor Says:

Walter Williams: "Today the overwhelming majority of black children are raised in single female-headed families. As early as the 1880s, three-quarters of black families were two-parent. In 1925 New York City, 85 percent of black families were two-parent. One study of 19th-century slave families found that in up to three-fourths of the families, all the children had the same mother and father." [Those percentages are now reversed.]

AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN: THE LEGAL HISTORY

Aid to Dependent Children or ADC (later renamed Aid to Families with Dependent Children, AFDC) was Title IV of the Social Security Act of 1935.

After many legal battles, AFDC has come to be seen not as charity but a protected entitlement. [AFDC is now known as TANF – Temporary Aid for Needy Families.]

These single moms also can receive food stamps, Medicaid, housing vouchers, grants for education, child care benefits, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in addition to food stamps to name a few of their benefits.

Huge government bureaucracies' administer these programs and they are rife with fraud costing nearly 60 billion dollars each year.

LESSON 15 (7-18-17)

Lesson 34 page 63

Co-habitation

We now live in a godless society that sees nothing wrong with couples living together without being married. It is totally acceptable, even among many Christians.

The pattern for a large number of young people is to “hang out” (What ever happened to going out on a date?), “hooking up” (fornicating), and then “moving in” (unwed couples live together with no public commitment to lifelong fidelity)

Hebrews 13:4 Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

Galatians 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness,

'The New Normal': Cohabitation on The Rise, Study Finds By JoNel Aleccia, 4-4-13

“Nearly half of women in what researchers call “first unions” with men, 48 percent, moved in with no wedding vows according to interviews conducted between 2006 and 2010, up from 43 percent in 2002 and 34 percent in 1995.

It’s becoming more acceptable to be in a long-term, committed relationship without a legal document,” says Pamela J. Smock, director and research professor at the Population Studies Center at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor.

Cohabiting was a way to make sure they were ready for the daily rewards and challenges of marriage, says Melms, who adds that most of the young women she knows feel the same. “I think it would be weird to me to have a friend who would wait to move in together until after they got married,” she said.

1 Corinthians 7:2 ... because of immoralities, each man is to have his own wife, and each woman is to have her own husband.

1 Corinthians 7:9 But if they do not have self-control, let them marry; for it is better to marry than to burn with passion.

Proverbs 14:12 There is a way which seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.

Matthew 19:5 Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'

Romans 13:13 Let us behave properly as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality,

1 Corinthians 6:18 Flee immorality. Every other sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body.

4 Reasons Shacking Up Before Marriage is a Bad Idea

Cohabitation in the United States has increased by more than 1,500 percent in the past half century. In 1960, about 450,000 unmarried couples lived together. Now the number is more than 7.5 million. Here are a few of the reasons couples cite for cohabitation: 1) hoping it is a step toward a proposal, 2) want to see if they are compatible as roommates, and 3) to save money on rent. Here are 3 reasons shacking up before marriage is a bad idea.

1. **Your relationship will probably end.** An article on *examiner.com* states that 80% of shacking up relationships end before marriage or in divorce after marriage.
2. **Your children will be negatively affected.** To the parents who have children, your kids are three times as likely to be expelled from school or get pregnant, they are five times more likely to live in poverty, and 22 times more likely to be incarcerated.
3. **It makes you lazy.** If you're living with a woman and getting some of the "benefits" of marriage – sex, having someone to help around the house, sharing the bills – why get married?
4. **It's a sin.** This one was not in the article above but should have been. A legitimate marriage consists of a union between a man and woman who have made a covenant and commitment. Shacking up involves neither. Marriage was a union created by God, and is a union God blesses.

Feminists Movement

A Nature Documentary Taught Phyllis Schlafly That Feminists Are the Real Bullies

SUBMITTED BY: Miranda Blue, Thursday 10/16/2014

Phyllis Schlafly, who is promoting her new book, "Who Killed the American Family?" discusses whom she sees as the culprits in the family's demise. Chief among these, of course, are the feminists. "They don't like men, they don't like the family, and if you read their stuff and what they're telling young women is 'we are victims of the patriarchy' and 'we have to get rid of the patriarchy,'" Schlafly said a

lot of us think it's just great to have men around to provide and protect us."

Lesson 35 page 65

Dobson and Passno Mourn that Feminist 'Lies' Have Ruined both Women and Men

Submitted by Brian Tashman on Friday, 9/7/2012

Obama Administration is a Phyllis Schlafly Nightmare: 'Whatever the Feminists Want, the Feminists Get'

Submitted by Brian Tashman on Wednesday, 9/5/2012

Many women regret choosing a career over having children and a family life.

According to Schlafly, "the feminists completely control the Obama administration" and "whatever the feminists want, the feminists get," including endorsements of abortion rights and same-sex marriage.

Progressives always make that argument that to be forward moving is to throw off any of the constraints of the past. Why would we hang on to boundaries, regulations and rules from the past?

Because they work. *Our Constitution has lasted over two centuries; no other country's has done that. When our borders are open people want to come in, they're not trying to get out, I think that's a pretty good test of whether a country is successful or not. We built a great country of great prosperity and enormous freedom and some people don't like that, they want to look to the government for everything.*

Titus 2:3-5 Older women likewise are to be reverent in their behavior, not malicious gossips nor enslaved to much wine, teaching what is good, 4) so that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, 5) to be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be dishonored.

Feminists have had a major negative influence on girls and young women by instilling in them the idea that being submissive to a husband is the same as being a subservient slave. They would have them believe the goal is equality with men when in reality, that goal is taking a step downward, not upward. They tell young impressionable girls that a marriage must be 50/50 with neither one being in charge. That idea is not only stupid, it's unbiblical.

There is a huge difference between being feminine and being a feminist. The feminists have gone a long way in destroying femininity in women. Many, if not most females today, walk, talk, dress, and act as if they were males. Gentle soft spoken ladies are hard to find these days. Many movies have tough hardened females in the leading roles who are rougher and stronger than most males who appear to be afraid of them.

There are women boxers, wrestlers, pastors, soldiers, generals, firemen (firewomen?), Senators, Congresswomen, Governors, policewomen, construction workers, etc. About the only place women have not infiltrated is the NFL.

The feminist movement has caused untold numbers of marriages to break apart. Their anti-male ideology is one reason why so many women no longer respect nor obey their husbands, but compete with them for the headship of the home.

LESSON 16 (7-20-17)

The LGBT Movement

The success of this movement over the past twenty years is almost unbelievable. Just eleven years ago, homosexual activity was against the law and now it is not only accepted by most Americans, it's celebrated.

Lesbianism, Homosexuality, Bi-sexuality, and Transgenderism, are offensive to God and are harmful to marriage. Thousands of marriages have dissolved because either the husband or the wife ran off with someone of the same sex. Think of what that must do the children.

The divine institution of marriage was severely damaged when the SCOTUS decided that there was a constitutional right for two people of the same sex to get married. Of course marriage is as honorable and as important as it ever was, but in the minds of many, it is on the same level as so called same-sex marriage which has cheapened it.

No-Fault Divorce [Not Biblical, not moral, not lawful. A contract is a contract.]

There was a time when a divorce would not be granted unless there were legitimate grounds for it. Either the husband or wife must have been guilty of breaking their wedding vows in some way before a divorce would be granted. That is one reason why there was a stigma

attached to divorce. But no more, today, divorce is as common as peanut butter and jelly sandwiches.

“No-fault divorce is a divorce in which the dissolution of a marriage does not require a showing of wrongdoing by either party. Laws providing for no-fault divorce allow a family court to grant a divorce in response to a petition by either party of the marriage without requiring the petitioner to provide evidence that the defendant has committed a breach of the marital contract.” Wikipedia

The introduction of no-fault divorce led to a six-fold increase in just two years, after a century of rather stable divorce rates.

“Stephen Baskerville, a political scientist at Howard University, argues that no-fault divorce rewards wrongdoers, reduces the need of marital binding agreement contracts at the public's expense, and helps women take custody of their children at the husbands' expense in many cases where the man has done nothing wrong.” *ibid*

Because there are no consequences and no stigma attached to divorce, couples have little incentive to stick it out, to work harder to make it work, or to keep the sacred vows they made when they were married.

Matthew 19:7 They said to Him, "Why then did Moses command to give her a certificate of divorce and send her away?"

Matthew 19:8-9 He said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart Moses permitted you to divorce your wives; but from the beginning it has not been this way.

9) "And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for immorality [Gr. PORNEIA: adultery, fornication], and marries another woman commits adultery."

Our Manipulative Media and our Sex Saturated Society

"Television, movies and the Internet are having an effect on mankind that would have been unimaginable even a century ago. The media—print and electronic—shape our lives and our minds in ways that most fail to realize, and with sobering effects!" *Tomorrows World, How the Media Mold the World, by Douglas A. Winnall*

We are witnessing a major cultural revolution that is having an incredible impact on our society. Yet, despite numerous warnings, few seem to understand what is really going on or where this surging wave of social change is taking us! Ibid

Consider these News headlines:

Dems declare war on words 'husband,' 'wife'

Oregon allowing 15-year-olds to get state-subsidized sex-change operations

Toronto to host massive orgy for disabled people

Democrat Congressman 'Fine' with Men Marrying Mules

Prominent Atheist Richard Dawkins Defends 'Mild Pedophilia'

Despite Protest, Public High School Allows Boy To Use Girls Locker Room

California Group Mails Condoms to 12-Year-Olds

College Hosts Sex, Masturbation Tutorial – Inside a Church

Bible Rewritten to Comply With Homosexual Agenda

Top Hollywood Director Believes Incest Is Acceptable

Sweden: Quote Leviticus, Go To Jail - In Sweden, expressing a moral objection to homosexuality is illegal, even on religious grounds, even in church, and a pastor minded to cite the more robust verses of Leviticus would risk four years in jail.

PETA Rebukes White House for 'Flippantly' Dismissing Question on Senate's Vote to Legalize Bestiality in Military- (CNSNews.com) - People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) has written a letter to White House Press Secretary Jay Carney rebuking him for "flippantly" dismissing a question he was asked at Monday's press briefing about last week's Senate vote approving a bill that would repeal the military's ban on bestiality.

The following are the powerful forces we have covered that work to destroy marriage in the 21st century.

Government Welfare for Single Moms

Co-habitation

Feminists Movement

The LGBT Movement

No-Fault Divorce

Our Manipulative Media and our Sex Saturated Society

People who are losers in life are losers in marriage. People who are winners in life are usually winners in marriage as well. Losers blame their failure on everyone else and that is particularly true when their marriage fails.

Most people who get married don't have a clue about what they are doing. They think that getting married will make

them happy. Principle: If you don't have the capacity to be happy, no one nor anything else in life can make you happy.

Marriage can be wonderful but it is not easy. After all, marriage is combining two OSNs together under one roof for life.

“Franklin C. Bailey of Los Angeles is in charge of what he calls “the busiest repair shop in town,” and adds that “just around the corner is the busiest wrecking business. ”The repair shop is the marriage counseling service he runs as counselor of the Conciliation Court of Los Angeles. The wrecking business around the corner is the divorce court. “Mr. Bailey lists as the major complaints from the 10,000 people who have passed through his office, in this order: sex, money, children, and trouble with in-laws. But he says that the real problems are selfishness and greed.” Encyclopedia of 7700 Illustrations: Signs of the Times (Garland, TX: Bible Communications, Inc., 1996), 345–346.

“Excerpts from “You’re Married, Now What?”

Over time, husbands and wives have disagreements about one thing or another that may eventually lead to an impasse. Both of them think they are right and neither one is willing to concede or compromise. Most couples don't know what to do at this point because they lack the skills needed to resolve the situation. So they can easily become frustrated, angry, and tempted to say or do something they might regret later.

Before you know it, seeds of bitterness are planted. Kindness, gentleness, and laughter disappear. No more loving gestures, just cold stares and scorn. Where once they enjoyed lively conversations and a close rapport, there's silence. Neither of

them wanted this to happen yet they feel helpless to stop it. It's as if some monstrous force intruded into their lives and made them enemies. Some couples manage to survive by tiptoeing around sensitive issues, but the awkwardness and discontent is still there.

Just the daily routine of life can take a toll on marriage. Many become disheartened and afraid that life is passing them by. They feel like a prisoner, locked in a mundane existence with a mediocre mate, and think they've fallen out of love, so they want out. Can these relationships be restored? Can these marriages be saved? Absolutely!

The principles in this book can not only save struggling marriages but can also put relationships with friends, family, or associates back into mint condition. So if you're in a relationship that just needs a little tune-up or in one that requires a complete overhaul, turn this page and continue reading.

We all agree changes must be made before a struggling or broken marriage can be repaired. The problem is, most people think it's their spouse that has to change. They say, "If she would just stop _____, everything would be all right," or "If he would just start _____, everything would be fine". WRONG!

You've probably already tried everything to change your spouse and it hasn't worked, has it? Why? Because you can't change others; you can only change yourself. But here is the neat thing. When you change yourself, it produces changes in your spouse. They will find it more and more

difficult to find fault with you or to hate you. Changes in yourself will inspire changes in them.

God never tells us to try to change our spouses. Our job is to obey Him and let Him make the changes in them. Once you realize this, life becomes a whole lot easier with less frustration and fewer confrontations.

A bit of levity:

A man may be a fool and not know it, but not if he is married. — *H. L. Mencken*

My friend Harry was complaining to me recently. He said: “My wife, a registered nurse, once fussed over every pain or mishap that came my way. Recently, however, I got an indication that the honeymoon is over. I was about to fix the attic fan, and as I lifted myself from the ladder into the attic, I scratched my forehead on a crossbeam. Crawling along, I picked up splinters in both hands, and I cut one hand replacing the fan belt. On the way down the ladder, I missed the last two rungs and turned my ankle. When I limped into the kitchen, my wife took one look and said, ‘Are those your good pants?’ ”

LESSON 17 (7-25-17)

The formula for a happy marriage? It’s the same as the one for living in California: when you find a fault, don’t dwell on it.

— *Jay Trachman*

Sign in wallpaper and paint store: “Husbands choosing colors must have note from wives.”

Executive overheard talking to a friend: “My wife tells me I don’t display enough passion. Imagine that! I have a good mind to send her a memo!”

My VISA card was stolen two months ago, but I don’t want to report it. The guy who took it is using it less than my wife.

THE BLAME GAME

Do you accuse your spouse of being more to blame than you? Who cares who’s more to blame? It’s not about blame! There is not one verse in the Bible that tells us to blame or accuse anyone. In fact, it tells us not to judge others. Placing blame on the other person will not solve your problems. You must face this fact. Your marriage will die if you don’t stop blaming your spouse while making excuses for yourself.

So, if you’ve been blaming your misery on your spouse, your family, your kids, your friends, your job, your boss, your circumstances, or anything else, stop it! Quit blaming others for your unhappiness. You are responsible for your own happiness. No one can make you happy but YOU. True happiness is not affected by what other people do or don’t do. Happiness comes from what is in your soul, from what you are thinking.

Excusing yourself and blaming others for your own ugly, bitter, sarcastic, hateful, and revengeful behavior MUST END! Do you honestly think that whining, complaining, judging, accusing, badgering, blaming, or yelling at your spouse is going to make them a better person? Will it cause them to love you more? When has that ever

worked? You can't force someone to change. They've got to want to change, and seeing you making changes in your life will make them more willing to make changes in their life.

COMMUNICATION

Communication is to marriage what oxygen is to breathing. You can't survive without it. Some have described a happy marriage as a long conversation that seems too short. When couples stop talking, they're in trouble. Problems cannot be solved when people don't talk to one another. Giving the other person the silent treatment is exactly what your marriage does not need! That is true for all of your relationships.

Good communication requires not only talking, but listening. I mean really listening. Listening is not waiting for your spouse to stop talking so you can say what you want to say. It's thinking about what the other person says and then responding to it. It's amazing how many couples carry on what they think are conversations and no one is listening. They just take turns blasting away at each other.

James 1:19 . . . This you know, my beloved brethren. But let everyone be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger.

Here is something to remember for those who are in a bad marriage:

GETTING RID OF YOUR SPOUSE IS NOT THE SOLUTION – IT ONLY REPLACES OLD PROBLEMS WITH NEW PROBLEMS! CHANGING ENVIRON-

**MENT NEVER SOLVES PROBLEMS EITHER;
PROBLEMS ARE SOLVED BY APPLYING B.D TO
YOUR SITUATION.**

- ☆ **It would help if people expressed what they would like to see happen rather than focus on what they don't like.**
Droning on and on about what you don't like is negative and tends to bring everybody down. Your spouse is much more likely to listen and not become defensive if you explain what they could do that is pleasing to you rather than complain about what they're doing that displeases you. The idea is to inspire them to do something positive rather than condemn them for doing something negative.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

1. **DON'T AVOID DISPUTES** - Avoiding disputes never resolves anything; it only postpones the inevitable. We must be honest with each other and address issues that come between us. Issues are resolved by talking about them; that is why communication skills are so important.

Proverbs 27:5-6 Better is open rebuke Than love that is concealed. 6) Faithful are the wounds of a friend, But deceitful are the kisses of an enemy.

2. **TIME IT RIGHT** – Wait for a better time if your spouse is in a bad mood, tired, in a hurry, late, preoccupied, or just before bedtime.

3. **ATTACK THE PROBLEM, NOT EACH OTHER!**
Make sure you are in the right frame of mind before

you discuss touchy issues. First pray and then think of the best way to bring up the issue. Remember, how you say something is as important as what you say.

Proverbs 15:1-2 . . . A soft answer turns away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger. 2) The tongue of the wise uses knowledge aright: but the mouth of fools pours out foolishness.

Proverbs 17:14 . . . The beginning of strife is like letting out water, so abandon the quarrel before it breaks out.

4. **FORGET ABOUT WHO'S TO BLAME** – Being successful in placing blame on your spouse does not solve the problem, so why go there?

Proverbs 19:11 . . . A man's discretion makes him slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook a transgression.

5. **CONTROL YOUR ANGER** Anger makes everything worse. It is absolutely imperative that both parties control their emotions. When one loses control, it makes it very difficult for the other one to remain calm.

Proverbs 25:15 . . . By forbearance a ruler may be persuaded, and a soft tongue breaks the bone.

Eph. 4:15 . . . speak the truth in love . . .

6. **DON'T BRING UP THE PAST** – This almost always makes things worse and it's not necessary. Every time someone dredges up the past and holds it over their spouse, they kill any motivation in them to try to do better. You can't change the past but you can change the future.

7. **LISTEN TO YOUR SPOUSE** – Being open-minded makes it much easier to listen to others. Ask for clarification when necessary and don't jump to conclusions and don't interrupt them.

James 1:19 . . . Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.

8. **BE OPEN** – Don't hide anything, say what you really think. Opening up to your spouse makes them feel loved and trusted. True resolution will not occur if someone is hiding something.

9. **BE CONSIDERATE** – Don't be rude, sarcastic, or condescending. It is important to be considerate of the other person's position whether you agree with it or not.

10. **FORGIVE** – Saying, "I told you so!" and "rubbing it in" will usually stall progress in reaching a solution.

Ephesians 4:31-32 . . . Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. 32) And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

11. **COMPROMISE, YES! APPEASEMENT, NO!** - Resolving disputes does not have to be an "I win and you lose" proposition. Usually there is room for compromise on both sides. Husbands should discuss matters with their wives and be willing to compromise, but only if it doesn't require that they sacrifice their principles or go against what they think is best. Appeasing wives to keep the peace is a big mistake!

LESSON 18 (7-27-17)

FAIR FIGHTING RULES:

- 1. No hitting, pushing, scratching, biting, or spitting**
- 2. No name-calling, screaming or yelling**
- 3. Don't interrupt! Listen to what the other one is saying.**
- 4. Do not bring up the past! Deal with the issue at hand.**
- 5. Do not use phrases like, "You always. . ." or "You never. . ."**
- 6. Fight in private. Do not get others involved.**
- 7. State what you want, not what you don't like.**
- 8. Call a temporary time-out to cool off if necessary.**
- 9. Having the last word and stomping off is not allowed. However, if the other person has lost control and is in your face, it's OK to turn and walk away.**
- 10. Come to a conclusion, compromise, agree to disagree, or if necessary, set another time to discuss it, but don't let it go on and on.**

NOTE: These rules are intended to keep the lines of communication flowing when there are disagreements. The fight is not about who will win the argument because it shouldn't be an "I win, you lose" situation. It's about finding the best way to resolve the matter. The husband's decision in the matter is final! Once his decision is made, it's over! No more discussion, no arguing, and no pouting. The Lord will hold him responsible for the decision he makes and hold the wife responsible to abide by it.

MARRIAGE MYTHS

MYTH 1: *If I could only get him/her to change, all will be well.*

MYTH 2: *Proving that my husband/wife is more at fault than I am will motivate him or her to be a better spouse.*

MYTH 3: *People who are different can't get along.* Nonsense. Compatibility is important but we are all different. It's understanding the role God designed for you, and learning biblical principles and communication skills which enable people to get along with one another.

MYTH 4: *Couples who have disagreements have bad marriages that are unstable.* Not so, all marriages have disagreements. Having disagreements doesn't mean you have a bad marriage. It's how you handle the disagreements that determines the stability of your marriage.

MYTH 5: *Conflicts and disagreements are the same.* Not so, disagreements can lead to conflict but they don't have to. If a couple disagrees about something and they agree to disagree, there's no conflict.

FAMILY

***"A unit ordained by God for the comfort and protection of its members. It is usually a group of relatives, but the people of God are also seen as a family"*. Dictionary of Bible Themes: The Accessible and Comprehensive Tool for Topical Studies**

One fact that is very obvious to us is that we don't choose what family we will be born into. We have nothing to do with the place, time, circumstances, or family of our birth. This does not suggest that this all happens willy-nilly or just by chance. God determines all these issues and of course He knows what He is doing.

Families are blessed by association when the head of the family pleases God:

Noah and his family Gen. 7:1

Obed and his family 2 Sam. 6:11

Jonadab and his family Jer. 35:18-19

Zedekiah and his family Jer. 38:17

David and his family 2 Sam. 7:25

Nebuchadnezzar and his family Ezra 6:5

The Philippian jailer Acts 16:31

Families are cursed by association when the head of the family displeases God:

Gideon and his family Judges 8:27

Shemaiah and his family Jer. 29:32

Baasha and his family 1 Kings 16:3& 7

False accusers of Daniel Dan. 6:24

Parent's job is not just to see to it that their children have it better than they did! Their job is to train their children through **enforced humility** (discipline) so they will acquire **genuine humility** which is submission to authority that is not enforced but voluntarily given based on an acquired sense of self-control and a desire to do what is right.

“He is no wise parent who spares the rod when the good of the child requires that chastisement be administered. Gentler methods failing, the undutiful son ought to be chastised. He deserves it. He needs the discipline. It acts wholesomely upon him, awakening conscience, begetting respect for paternal authority, deterring from evil, leading probably to penitence and submission.” H. D. M. Spence-Jones, Deuteronomy, The Pulpit Commentary, p. 162.

Proverbs 13:24 He who withholds his rod hates his son, but he who loves him disciplines him diligently.

Proverbs 22:15 Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child; The rod of discipline will remove it far from him.

Proverbs 23:13-14 Do not hold back discipline from the child, Although you strike him with the rod, he will not die. 14) You shall strike him with the rod and rescue his soul from Sheol.

NEVER DISCIPLINE YOUR CHILD REN IN ANGER!

How can you teach your child to control his emotions if you can't control yours? It changes what could have been a great learning experience to a hostile act of revenge or violence.

Efforts to make your children well behaved will fail if you are not consistent. **CONSISTENCY is absolutely imperative! Your children will ignore your commands if you are not consistent because they will think that there is a good chance that they will get by with it.**

Never give a command or a warning without carrying through with some form of discipline if it is not obeyed. If you will consistently do that, your children will obey you consistently and they will be a joy to be around.

LESSON 19 (8-1-17)

5 Reasons Why Modern-Day Parenting is in Crisis

- 1. A fear of our children**
- 2. A lowered bar**
- 3. We've lost the village**
- 4. A reliance on shortcuts (electronics)**
- 5. Parents put their children's needs ahead of their own**

The Huffington Post, 5 Reasons Modern-Day Parenting Is in Crisis, According to a British Nanny, by Emma Jenner, 7-2-2014

Most families are breaking down and are in crisis because family members are no longer close to each other. How about yours?

Does your family still sit down at the table and have dinner together?

Does your entire family go on vacation together?

Is Mom at home when the kids come home from school with a snack, eager to hear about what happened at school?

Does the entire family go to sporting events, recitals, plays, pageants, etc. of the children?

Does your family have family meetings?

Does your family go to church together?

***“A family can have a variety of compositions—parents and children, a married couple without children, a single parent and children, among others. **Family is not simply people but a spirit of oneness.** It is a spirit produced through loving and longing, laughter and tears, shared joy and sorrow, mutual struggle and respect, faith and joy and sorrow, mutual struggle and respect, faith and faithfulness, and a common pursuit of worthy goals.* Herschel H. Hobbs, *My Favorite Illustrations* (Nashville, TN: Broadman Press, 1990), 98.**

The home is place where there should be:

- 1. Dedication instead of divorce**
- 2. Faith instead of fighting**
- 3. Harmony instead of hatred**
- 4. The Bible instead of a battle**

Roger F. Campbell, *Preach for a Year* (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications, 1997), 217.

Children should take care of their elderly parents.

(NIV) 1 Tim. 5:3-4 Give proper recognition to those widows who are really in need. 4) But if a widow has children or grandchildren, these should learn first of all to put their religion into practice [(NET) fulfill their duty...] by caring for their own family and so repaying their parents and grandparents, for this is pleasing to God.

1 Timothy 5:8 If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

Loyalty to God must always come before loyalty to family.

Matthew 10:34-36 - *"Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. 35) "For I came to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; 36) and a man's enemies will be the members of his household.37) He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.*

LESSON 20 (8-3-17)

Luke 21:16 - *"But you will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. . ."*

Jonathan made a horrible mistake in **1 Sam. 20:42**.

*"Author Phyllis Schlafly explains in her definitive book **Who Killed the American Family?** "The American family was destroyed by a combination of political activists, judges, economic theorists, self-proclaimed experts, and left-wing politicians," all guided by the utopian philosophies of the progressive left. "The goal of the progressives," Schlafly broadly summarizes, "is to break down the American family, destroy parental authority, deny right and wrong, reduce family autonomy, and get as many people as possible dependent on government programs. That's why liberals, especially feminists, wage a persistent attack*

on the institution of marriage and the traditional family structure.” Phyllis Schlafly, *Who Killed the American Family?* (Washington, DC: WND Books, 2014), 5.

Indeed, observes Schlafly, “the wreckage of the American family renders us incapable of having limited government because government must step in to perform tasks formerly done by the nuclear family.” Ibid

We need not despair about all of these insidious evil attacks on our family because they are no match for a family who has a Christian father who sees to it that his family is functioning within the framework of God’s design. His children learn from him, not only from what he says, but from seeing him apply biblical principles to his circumstances. They respect him because he is firm when he needs to be but flexible when he is able to be. He and the mother create an atmosphere in the home of love and encouragement. Their Christian values are undefeatable because they consistently nourish their souls with the Word of God.

FRIENDS

Definition: A person with whom one has a bond of mutual affection, typically one exclusive of sexual or family relations.

A friend is a close companion who you love and trust; who you can be yourself around and in whom you can confide.

Biblical Examples of Good Friends:

David and Jonathan **1 Samuel 18:1-4**

Ruth and Naomi **Ruth 1:16-17**

Friends of a paralyzed man Mark 2:3-4

David and Mephibosheth 2 Samuel chapter 9

Daniel and his three companions Daniel 2:48-49

Paul, Priscilla, and Aquila Romans 16:3-4

A true friend will stand by you when the chips are down:
Proverbs 17:17 *A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.*

Proverbs 18:24 *A man of too many friends comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.*

A true friend will tell you the truth even when the truth is hard to take:

Proverbs 27:5-6 *Better is open rebuke Than love that is concealed. 6) Faithful are the wounds of a friend, but deceitful are the kisses of an enemy.*

Proverbs 28:23 *He who rebukes a man will afterward find more favor than he who flatters with the tongue.*

Matthew 18:15 *If your brother sins, go and show him his fault in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother.*

True friends lift up and encourage rather than being a judgmental stumbling block.

(NIV) Prov. 17:9 *The one who forgives an offense seeks love, but whoever repeats a matter separates close friends.*

Romans 14:13 Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather determine this-- not to put an obstacle or a stumbling block in a brother's way.

(NIV) Proverbs 16:28 A perverse person spreads dissension, and a gossip separates the closest friends.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also are doing.

Friends are important and we suffer when we allow pettiness to come between us and our friends. So many times friendships are shipwrecked because one, or both sides think they are right in a disagreement and that is what is most important to them. Remember this:

**Being kind and longsuffering to your friends is
MORE IMPORTANT THAN BEING RIGHT!**

LESSON 21 (8-8-17)

Be careful of FALSE FRIENDS

***Delilah* was a false friend to *Samson* Judges 16:18–21**

***David* was a false friend to *Uriah* 2 Samuel 11:14-15**

***Ahithophel* was a false friend to *David*: Psa. 55:12-13,**

It is interesting that the phrase “**has lifted up his heel against me**” found in Psalm 41:9, referring to

Ahithophel's betrayal of *David*, is also found in John 13:18, this time referring to *Judas Iscariot* who betrayed *Jesus Christ*.

It is also interesting that after *Ahithophel* carried out his treachery, he went out and hung himself as *Judas* did after he betrayed our Lord (2 Sam. 17:23).

We must remember, even our close friends are fallible and will let us down from time to time.

Jeremiah 17:5 Thus says the LORD: "Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart departs from the LORD.

Psalms 118:8-9 It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man. 9) It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in princes.

This does not mean that we can't trust our friends or depend on them, it means that we are not to trust nor depend on them, instead of God and we are not to be shocked or vengeful when they let us down.

The question is, "ARE YOU JESUS' FRIEND?"

John 15:14 "You are My friends, if^(3^d) you do what I command you.

Anyone who puts their faith alone in Christ alone is born again into God's family and is His child for evermore. Christ loves every believer with an infinite love that never changes. But, not all believers are friends of Christ, that depends on whether one obeys Him or not. Most believers do not obey Him, in fact, they act more like His enemies than His friends. He blesses and rewards children who are His friends but He punishes and disinherits children who remain His enemies.

Friendship with Jesus involves the obligation of brotherly love:

We cannot be friends with Jesus if we hate others, hold a grudge, judge or gossip about other people.

1 John 4:20-21 If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen. 21) And this commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also.

We are to have the same attitude towards others that Christ has toward us which is an attitude of love, kindness, patience, and forgiveness.

So far we have covered discernment towards Religion, Politics, Government, Marriage, Family, and Friends. Now we will cover:

LESSON 22 (8-10-17)

HEALTH

Definition: 1 a. the condition of being sound in body, mind, or spirit; especially: freedom from physical disease or pain Merriam-Webster, Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary (Springfield, MA: Merriam-Webster, 1996).

Not counting eternal salvation and our relationship with our Lord, our family, and our friends, the two most valuable things in this life is good health and time. Isn't it interesting that the most important and valuable things in life are free?

We will organize our discernment of health according into the following three types: Physical Health, Mental Health, and Spiritual Health.

PHYSICAL HEALTH

Some people are born with strong physically fit bodies with good genes and some are not. However, no matter what type of body we are born with, the choices we make and the habits we form have a great deal to do with our overall physical and mental wellbeing.

There are things that we can do to enhance our physical health.

FOOD– Eat healthy nutritious food.

Daniel 1:5-16 – Daniel refused to eat anything but veggies.

Laws concerning the preparation and consumption of different meats and foods were given to the Israelites in order to keep them healthy, ceremonially clean, and to make them distinctly different from the pagan nations.

It is very hard to eat healthy in our society so most people don't. Most Americans don't want to prepare and cook their own meals and that's why the fast food businesses are thriving. Most people buy pre-packaged food and canned food when they go grocery shopping rather than fresh food because it is more convenient and easier to prepare and serve.

Think how easy it is to order from a drive-through window or order food over the phone and have it delivered. It does away with:

- 1. Going to the grocery store to buy groceries**
- 2. Putting those groceries away at home**
- 3. Preparing food by cleaning, peeling, and cutting**
- 4. Cooking them,**
- 5. Setting the table**

6. Putting the food on the table
7. Clearing the table
8. Washing and drying the dishes
9. And then putting them away.

Unfortunately, most of the fresh food people buy today has been artificially fertilized with chemicals that are foreign to the body. It has been treated with poisonous pesticides or even worse, contains GMO (genetically modified organisms) introduced into the seed itself. If all that isn't bad enough, they add artificial coloring, wax, or additives to make it look better. Most of the fruit is picked way before it is ripe which affects its taste and its nutrition value.

EXERCISE

Our great grandparents and grandparents were not concerned about not getting enough exercise. They were exhausted by the end of the day because they worked hard from dawn to dusk. They didn't have washing machines, dryers, dish-washers, refrigerators, riding lawnmowers, weed-eaters, chain saws, electric ovens, food processors, electric power tools, or even running water.

The following figures were taken from the National Center for Health Statistics covering the years (2013-2014):

Percent of adults, age 20 years and over with obesity: 37.9%

Percent of adults, age 20 years and over with overweight, including obesity: 70.7%

**Percent of adolescents age 12-19 years with obesity:
20.6%**

Being physically fit enables a person to serve the Lord to the maximum. The Bible repeatedly refers to able bodied men to carry out the work of the Lord.

Deuteronomy 3:18 I commanded you at that time: "The LORD your God has given you this land to take possession of it. But all your **able-bodied men, armed for battle, must cross over ahead of your brother Israelites.**

Exodus 18:25 And Moses chose **able men out of all Israel, and made them heads over the people,**

Genesis 47:6 if you know any **able men among them, put them in charge of my livestock.**

1 Chronicles 26:8 All these were of the sons of Obed-edom; they and their sons and their relatives were **able men with strength for the service,**

Of course spiritual strength is superior to physical strength.

1 Timothy 4:7-8 Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness; 8) for while bodily training is of some value, **godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.**

2 Chronicles 32:7-8 Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged because of the king of Assyria and the vast army with him, for **there is a greater power**

with us than with him. 8) With him is only the arm of flesh, but with us is the LORD our God to help us and to fight our battles. And the people gained confidence from what Hezekiah the king of Judah said. (Jesus Christ killed 185,000 Assyrians that threatened His people.)

When we lack the strength to fulfill a task, we need to ask the Lord to strengthen us.

Nehemiah 6:9 They were all trying to frighten us, thinking, "Their hands will get too weak for the work, and it will not be completed." But I prayed, "Now strengthen my hands."

Isaiah 35:3 Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way;

We can be strong even when we are old:

2 Corinthians 4:16-17 Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, **yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.** 17) For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.

SLEEP

Getting enough sleep is also very important in maintaining good health: 1. **Better health** 2. **Better sex life** 3. **Less pain** 4. **Lower risk of injury** 5. **Better mood** 6. **Better weight control** 7. **Clearer thinking** 8. **Better memory** 9. **Stronger immunity**

Psalms 127:2 ... Yes, he can provide for those whom he loves even when they sleep.

Believers who know Bible doctrine and apply it to their circumstances are not worried or afraid so they can sleep soundly.

Proverbs 3:21& 24 *Keep sound wisdom and discretion; 24) When you lie down, you will not be afraid; Yes, you will lie down and your sleep will be sweet.*

★ Psalm 4:8 *I will both lie down in peace, and sleep; For You alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.*

Jesus demonstrated this to His disciples:

Matthew 8:24 *And suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with the waves. But He was asleep.*

LESSON 23 (8-31-17)

MENTAL HEALTH

MENTAL HEALTH is a level of psychological well-being, or an absence of mental illness. It is the "psychological state of someone who is functioning at a satisfactory level of emotional and behavioral adjustment" Wikipedia

Millions of Americans live with various types of mental illness and mental health problems, such as social anxiety, obsessive compulsive disorder, drug addiction, and personality disorders.

Mental health disorders affect an estimated 22% of American adults each year.

The word “mentality” and “mental” is not found in the Bible but the word “mind” is used in the NASV seventy five times in the NT an one hundred times in the OT.

MIND, the English translation of various Hebrew and Greek words denoting the human capacity for contemplation, judgement, and intention. Although the Hebrew language had no word for mind, several Hebrew words are sometimes translated as “mind.” The word for HEART frequently means “mind” (Deut. 30:1; Jer. 19:5). The word for SOUL is sometimes used similarly (1 Chr. 28:9).

Four separate Greek words account for nearly all instances of “mind” in the New Testament. They all mean much the same thing: understanding, thought, mind, reason. While today we think of a person’s mind in a morally neutral way, in the New Testament the mind was clearly thought of as either good or evil. Negatively, the mind may be “hardened” (2 Cor. 3:14), “blinded” (2 Cor. 4:4), “corrupt” (2 Tim. 3:8), and “debased” (Rom. 1:28). On the positive side, humans may have minds that are renewed (Rom. 12:2) and pure (2 Pet. 3:1). They may love God with all their minds (Matt. 22:37; Mark 12:30; Luke 10:27) and have God’s laws implanted in their minds (Heb. 8:10). Since Christians have “the mind of Christ” (1 Cor. 2:16), they are instructed to be united in mind (Rom. 12:16; 1 Pet. 3:8). Ronald F. Youngblood, F. F. Bruce, and R. K. Harrison, Thomas Nelson Publishers, eds., *Nelson’s New Illustrated Bible Dictionary* (Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, Inc., 1995).

The fallen human mind is in conflict with the mind of God but it is nevertheless capable of knowing God, and of being changed and renewed by him.

Romans 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but **be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.**

So every believer has the potential and the responsibility to renew his or her mind but very few do. The reason is that it is done over a period of time, in fact, a lifetime. It takes consistency and commitment to put in the time it takes to renew our minds.

The NT uses different words to describe different types of mind.

Right Mind / Sound Mind

The Greek word SOPHRONEO (σωφρονέω) means to be able to think in a sound or sane manner, be of sound mind. To be prudent, with focus on self-control, be reasonable, sensible, serious, keep one's head.

2 Corinthians 5:13 For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are of **sound mind, it is for you.**

Romans 12:3 For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think (PHRONEO φρονέω) more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have **sound judgment (SOPHRONEO σωφρονέω)...**

The Bible speaks of those who are **Double Minded**
James 1:7-8 For that [doubtful] man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, 8) being a **double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.**

It also speaks of the **Fleshly Mind**:

This does not necessarily refer to a sensuous mind but one that is under the influence of the Old Sin Nature (OSN).

Colossians 2:18 *Let no one keep defrauding you of your prize by delighting in self-abasement and the worship of the angels, taking his stand on visions he has seen, inflated without cause by his **fleshly mind**...*

Romans 8:6-7 *For the **mind set on the flesh is DEATH**, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace [prosperity], 7) because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so,*

LESSON 24 (9-5-17)

SEVEN DEATHS

1. Spiritual Death, *Rom. 5:12, 6:23, I Cor. 2:14.*
2. Physical Death, *Matt. 8:22, II Cor. 5:8.*
3. Temporal Death, *Rom. 8:6, Eph. 5:14, I Tim. 5:6.*
4. Positional Death, *Rom.6:6-14, Col. 3:3.*
5. Second Death, *Rev. 20:12-15.*
6. Operational Death, *I Cor. 3:14-15, James 2:26.*
7. Sexual Death, *Rom. 4:17-21, Heb. 11:12.*

Depraved Mind:

DEPRAVED: adjective, marked by corruption or evil; especially: perverted

Romans 1:28 *And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper...*

Depraved, ADOKIMOS (ἀδόκιμος) unqualified, worthless, base. This is a compound word using the alpha negative plus DOKIMOS which means acceptable or pleasing.

“A great danger ... is to become stale, stunted, or stilted in our mental life. We must avoid this at all costs. The only positive and practical way to ensure the freshness and fullness of mental health is to “devour” good books, appreciate great music and art, and interact with people of intellectual ability as well as spiritual maturity.

Concomitant with this is listening to anointed expository preaching and attending institutes and seminars where such preaching is taught and modeled. These mental exercises will not come fortuitously; they must be carefully planned and pursued.” Stephen F. Olford and David L. Olford, Anointed Expository Preaching (Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1998), 54.

Philippians 4:8 *Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.*

LESSON 25 (9-7-17) and **LESSON 26** (9-12-17)

SPIRITUAL HEALTH

Believers have three parts, body, soul, and spirit. We are responsible for the wellbeing of all three, however, it is the spiritual part that is most neglected.

1 Thessalonians 5:23 *Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your **spirit and***

soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

QUIZ

Can unbelievers be spiritual?

Can a person be spiritual if he is spiritually dead?

Can unbelievers understand the things of the Spirit?

1 Cor. 2:14?

If unbelievers cannot understand spiritual phenomena, how can they understand the gospel? Matt, 16:17,

1 Thes. 1:5, John 16:7-8

Can unbelievers become spiritual beings? How?

Are all believers spiritual?

Do religious feelings confirm that one is spiritual?

Can a person be partially spiritual and partially carnal?

1 Cor. 3:1-3

Is every Church Age believer indwelt by the H.S.? (Yes or no?)

How do you know? 1 Cor. 12:13, Romans 8:9. We are never commanded to be indwelt with the Holy Spirit.

Is being indwelt by the H.S. unique to CA bels? (Psa. 51:11) Promise of the indwelling of the H.S. - John 14:16-17

Can a baby believer be spiritual?

Can a mature believer be carnal by grieving (Eph. 4:30) or quenching (1 Thes. 5:19) the H.S.?

Can you tell when a believer is carnal and when he is spiritual?

Can a believer tell if he is carnal or spiritual? Gal. 5:19-23.

Only believers need to be concerned about spiritual health because unbelievers do not have a human spirit.

A human spirit is acquired the moment a person does what? We receive a human spirit when we are born again (regenerated).

We receive a human spirit when we are born again (regenerated). Believers cannot lose their human spirit nor the indwelling of the H.S. We become spiritually dead when we are born physically and we receive a human spirit when we are born again spiritually from above—a generating wrought by the Holy Spirit—though actually now entered by all who are saved, is too often and for want of due consideration almost wholly misapprehended. The conception that regeneration by the Holy Spirit is an indefinite influence for good in the individual’s present life is far below the conception set forth in the New Testament. There it is taught that a new and eternal order of being is created with indissoluble filial relations to the Creator of all things.” Lewis Sperry Chafer, Systematic Theology, vol. 6 (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications, 1993), 107.

The human spirit is the immaterial part of man designed by God so that man can understand spiritual phenomena and have a relationship with Him.

Believers cannot lose their human spirit nor the indwelling of the H.S. We become spiritually dead when we are born physically and we receive a human spirit when we are born again spiritually.

1 Cor. 3:1 - And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to *spiritual* people but as to *carnal*, as to babes in Christ

We are commanded to walk by the Spirit. We could not obey that command without a human spirit. The H.S. communicates with our human spirit and motivates us to think and apply divine viewpoint.

Ephesians 5:18 And do not *be drunk* [v. ppm] with wine, in which is dissipation; but *be filled* [v. ppm] with the Spirit,

***PP* Circles**

LESSON 27 (9-14-17)

***PP* Ministries of the Holy Spirit**

Example of another present passive imperative verb: Ephesians 6:10 Finally, *be strong* [v. ppm] in the Lord, and in the strength of His might.

So how do we obey this command? When we sin we are to acknowledge our sins to God the Father and He will forgive our sins.

1 John 1:9-10 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

PRAYER plays a major role in staying spiritually healthy. It is the place where we fight spiritual battles. Prayer doesn't have to be eloquent, but it does need to be earnest. It doesn't have to be stirring; it has to be honest. It doesn't have to be done with emotion, but it does have to be done with faith.

Colossians 1:9-12 *For this reason also, since the day we heard of it, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you **may be filled** [v. aps of pleroo] with the **knowledge** [epignosis] of His will in all **spiritual** [adj. pneumatikos] **wisdom** [sophia] and **understanding** [sunesis – intelligence] 10) so that you **will walk** [inf. aa] in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, **bearing** [pt. pa] fruit in every good work and **increasing** [pt. pp] in the **knowledge** [epignosis] of God; 11) **strengthened** [pt. pp of dunamoo] with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience; joyously 12) **giving thanks** [pt. pa of eucharisteo] to the Father, who **has qualified** [pt. aa] us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.*

Every believer needs to get their **D4**

Daily Diligent Digestion of Doctrine

LESSON 28 (9-19-17)

may be filled - The passive voice means that we can't take credit for the doctrine we learn; apart from the teaching ministry of the Holy Spirit and Operation Z, we would remain spiritually ignorant.

The subjunctive mood means that acquiring the knowledge of God's will is only a potential. Every believer can acquire spiritual knowledge, but not every

believer will do it. It all depends on their volition. Spiritual limitations are never placed on us by God, we place them on ourselves. If we are not filled with spiritual knowledge, it's our own fault, it's never God's fault.

Clarification on 2 Cor. 5:7 for we walk by faith, not by sight--

“The point at issue is vitally important if the by-faith principle is to be exercised in the believer’s life. It is natural to conclude that, if another than the believer himself undertakes for him the conflict with the world, the flesh, and the devil, the believer must retire from the encounter and become no more than an interested spectator; but there is no retiring from this threefold impact. The trusting Christian remains in the heat of the battle with no immediate consciousness of the presence of the Spirit on whom he depends. However, the presence of the Holy Spirit is made evident by the fact that the will is making choice of that which honors God and by the fact that victory is experienced in place of defeat.”

Lewis Sperry Chafer, Systematic Theology, vol. 6 (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications, 1993), 196.

Every believer wants to be spiritually healthy but few are. Why you ask? The number one reason why the majority of believers are critically ill spiritually is because they are **NOT CONSISTENT in their Intake of Bible Doctrine!**

They have a hit or miss attitude towards studying the Word of God so they miss a lot more than they hit.

Therefore, they are continually confused, scared, unstable, and often angry.

They have a difficult time making or keeping friends because they are hypersensitive and judgmental. They hold grudges and are unforgiving because they live by their emotions rather than by doctrine.

They have little use for such things as impersonal / unconditional love or thinking of others more highly than self. They have little, if any, capacity to love others because they are consumed with self. They are miserable even when things are going their way because they are never satisfied and they never will be until they get their spiritual life back on track.

But most never do, so their life remains a train wreck. Why you ask? You know why – **NO CONSISTENCY!!!**

Learning Bible doctrine and applying it to your circumstances and then seeing it work is very exciting! It is unfortunate that so many believers never find out how thrilling this is and do you know why they don't?

NO CONSISTENCY!!!

LESSON 29 (9-21-17)

Business/Employment

Subjects Covered So Far

Religion	Family
Politics	Friends
Government	Health
Marriage	<u>Business/Employment</u>

God ordained work as the normal routine of living. Every legitimate human task, therefore, is of intrinsic worth, however menial it may seem, and is potentially a means of glorifying God. Martin H. Manser, Dictionary of Bible Themes: The Accessible and Comprehensive Tool for Topical Studies (London: Martin Manser, 2009).

Carrying out a task assigned to us is important but no more than the attitude we have while carrying it out.

“It’s attitude, not aptitude, which determines you altitude.” Zig Zigler, “See You at the Top”.

God ordained and established work from the very beginning with the first man. Adam was assigned a job even before Eve was taken from his rib.

Genesis 2:15 *Then the LORD God took the man and put him into the Garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it.*

God gave Adam a job to do, not to punish him, but to bless him. It enabled him to experience the satisfaction that comes with accomplishing a task and seeing that his work was well done.

God designed us to be self-sufficient and to provide for our own needs. We are commanded to work to support ourselves.

1 Thessalonians 4:11-12... make it your ambition to lead a quiet life and attend to your own business and work with your hands, just as we commanded you; 12) so that you may behave properly toward outsiders and not be in any need.

Ephesians 4:28 Let him who steals steal no longer; but rather let him labor, performing with his own hands what is good, in order that he may have something to share with him who has need.

Work is a blessing, not a punishment.

Psalms 128:2 When you shall eat of the fruit of your hands, You will be happy and it will be well with you.

Ecclesiastes 2:24 There is nothing better for a man than to eat and drink and tell himself that his labor is good. This also I have seen, that it is from the hand of God.

There are people who are physically unable to work and they should be supported by family, friends, the church, or charitable organizations.

Deuteronomy 15:11 For the poor will never cease to be in the land; therefore I command you, saying, 'You shall freely open your hand to your brother, to your needy and poor in your land.'

Proverbs 28:27 He who gives to the poor will never want, But he who shuts his eyes will have many curses.

1 Timothy 6:17-18 Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy. 18) Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, (Hebrews 10:35-36 & Gal. 6:9)

NFL SPECIAL (9-28-17)

Lack of Discernment for Employers and Employees in the NFL Controversy. This controversy has certainly demonstrated a vivid lack of discernment, common sense, and patriotism by all the NFL owners and a considerable number of players.

There has been much said about the First Amendment, the freedom of speech, regarding this controversy which is not relevant because the First Amendment applies to the government, not to private business.

There is already an NFL rule condemning the behavior of players who refused to stand during the playing of our National Anthem, but the owners chose not to enforce it.

The NFL's operations manual: "*During the National Anthem, players on the field and bench area should stand at attention, face the flag, hold helmets in their left hand, and refrain from talking. The home team should ensure that the American flag is in good condition. It should be pointed out to players and*

coaches that we continue to be judged by the public in this area of respect for the flag and our country. Failure to be on the field by the start of the National Anthem may result in discipline, such as fines, suspensions, and/or the forfeiture of draft choice(s) for violations of the above, including first offenses.”

League spokesman Joe Lockhart confirmed, “*There will be no discipline handed down this week for anyone who was not there.*” He said the “*real effort here is to make progress in the community on issues of inequality, and to not get distracted by political attacks or things that don’t help us make progress.*”

- **Since when did it become the job of the NFL to make progress in the community on issues of inequality?**
- **If their effort was to not get distracted by supposed political attacks, they failed miserably.**
- **Their job is to play football to entertain the people who pay \$100 a ticket to watch big guys move an odd shaped ball up and down a field. No one cares about their thoughts about inequality or anything else.**

Football has become politicized and soon basketball and baseball will follow. Sports will never be the same. Will we see American athletes refuse to stand when their national anthem is played?

I blame the owners more than anyone else because they could have stopped it. But they decided to be loyal to the NFL, its coaches and players over loyalty

to their country and the fans who have been loyal to them over many years.

The only thing that supersedes the colossal wealth of the owners, coaches, and many of the players of the NFL is their colossal arrogance. They mistakenly believed that they could insult and offend their bosses (their fans) by disrespecting our flag, refusing to stand during our National Anthem, and insulting our president without experiencing any consequences.

It appears that they miscalculated in thinking that football is more important to the American people than our flag and our National Anthem and the thousands of fellow Americans who died to preserve them.

Our flag is not about our president. It's not about our policemen. It's not about race. It's about our country, our Constitution, and all the people who love it and are willing to sacrifice and even die to keep it free.

The players had a choice to be loyal to their teammates or to be loyal to their country and they disgraced themselves by choosing teammates over country. Shame on them!

[Baltimore Ravens and Oakland Raiders game.]

Many former loyal NFL fans have vowed never to buy another ticket or watch any NFL games. Many believe that they have crossed a line by betraying their country.

How can a nation endure if it is so polarized that large segments of its people are so partisan, self-centered, and unpatriotic that they won't even respect or honor the symbols of their country?

The NFL owners, coaches, and players may recognize that they made a huge mistake and seek forgiveness but that seems doubtful, so far they have doubled down on their treachery.

If they continue to do so, they will pay a price which they indeed deserve in loss of respect and loss of dollars.

LESSON 30 (10-3-17)

When the Israelites harvested their crops and orchards, they were commanded to leave some for the poor and needy.

Leviticus 19:9-10 Now when you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very corners of your field, neither shall you gather the gleanings of your harvest. 10) 'Nor shall you glean your vineyard, nor shall you gather the fallen fruit of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the needy and for the stranger. I am the LORD your God.

The Bible tells us what was to happen to those who were lazy and refused to work to provide for their own needs.

2 Thessalonians 3:10 For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone will not work, neither let him eat. 11) For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies.

Proverbs 14:23 In all labor there is profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty.

The United States now have over 50 million people on food stamps. This means that one out of every six people are now on food stamps. How many of this number could provide for themselves? Think of how many billions of dollars are given every year to people who can support themselves.

Under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, 47 million people have been awarded \$76 billion in benefits. <http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2014/08/22/food-stamp-fraud-rampant-gao-report.html>

The colossal waste and fraud that we are experiencing is to be expected from a country that has a centralized government that is so bloated that no one is held accountable because it is impossible for anyone to know what is going on.

A question that seems no one is asking is, “Where in the Constitution for the United States of America can one find anything that gives the government the right to take money from some people and give it to others? Where is the justification in the Constitution for welfare?”

The other side of the coin is being a work-a-holic.

Proverbs 23:4 Do not wear yourself out to become rich; be wise enough to restrain yourself.

Luke 12:15-21

Hard work is good but too much work without rest is not good. God set the pattern when He restored the earth in six days and then on the seventh day He rested. He didn't rest because He was tired but because His work was completed.

He commanded the Jews to observe the Sabbath by resting on the seventh day. He commanded them not to do any work on the Sabbath. He instituted the seven day week.

France is the only nation in the world concerning which the authentic record survives, that as a nation she lifted her hand in open rebellion against the Author of the universe.

On October 23, 1793, just nine days after Queen Marie-Antoinette was executed, the Republican Calendar was decreed. The French calendar reform was an attempt to de-Christianize the calendar, in keeping with the Revolution's stated goal of promoting Reason as opposed to Religion.

The new calendar bore a striking resemblance to the old Egyptian solar calendar. There were 12 months, each containing 30 days each. The months were broken up into 10-day décades with the final day being a day of rest. This was not a day to worship the God of Heaven. This was merely a day of rest from labor. At the end of the year, following the 12th month of Fructidor, a final five days were added to the calendar.

The 10-day week completely demolished any sanctity for Sunday as a holy day and the most important day of the week. By instituting a 10-day week, the French government exerted power over the Roman Catholic Church in her main area of influence: control of time.

They even established a new clock. In a decree dated October 5, 1793, it was declared: “The day, from midnight to midnight, is divided into ten parts,

In 1798 when, on April 3, the ruling Directory “for the first time, made the observance of the ten-day week mandatory.” The Directory’s main goal was obvious – to pull the entire social and economic life of France outside the sphere of the traditional Christian weekly rhythm, so as to make the latter absolutely irrelevant to daily life. .

Besides being difficult to maintain one method of time-reckoning while all surrounding countries used another, the French Republican calendar fell into disfavor because workers were given one day off in ten rather than the previous system of one day off in seven.

The Republican Calendar was finally abolished by Napoleon a little over 12 years after it was legislated. France returned to the Gregorian calendar January 1, 1806.

LESSON 31 (10-5-17)

Psalm 127:2 It is in vain for you who rise early and sit late, eating the bread of anxious toil, when thus he provides for his beloved in his sleep.

Eccl. 4:6 Better is one handful with some rest than two hands full of toil and chasing the wind.

There is another kind of rest besides physical rest and that is rest in one’s soul. We call this Faith Rest.

People normally react to adversity with anger, fear, and resentment but a mature believer recognizes it as a test and an opportunity to Faith-Rest.

Mental attitude sins short-circuit the application of Bible Doctrine so desperation or retaliation in the face of adversity replaces the Faith-Rest drill.

When Faith-Rest becomes a habit, life is much better. We remain calm, stable and confident. Rather than being rattled or shaken over every little thing, we maintain an RMA no matter what happens.

Psalm 16:8 I have set the LORD continually before me; because He is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

Psalm 55:22 Cast your burden upon the LORD, and He will sustain you; He will never allow the righteous to be shaken.

Psalm 62:5-6 My soul, wait in silence for God only, for my hope is from Him. 6) He only is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold; I shall not be shaken.

We have no dread or foreboding of what might happen in the future.

Proverbs 1:33 ...he who listens to me shall live securely, and shall be at ease from the dread of evil."

Psalm 112:7 He [the mature believer] will not fear evil tidings; His heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

Employers are to treat their employees fairly.

Leviticus 19:13 You shall not cheat your neighbor, nor rob him. The wages of him who is hired shall not remain with you all night until morning.

Deuteronomy 24:14-15 "You shall not oppress a hired servant who is poor and needy, whether one of your brethren or one of the aliens who is in your land within your gates. 15) "Each day you shall give him his wages, and not let the sun go down on it, for he is poor and has set his heart on it; lest he cry out against you to the LORD, and it be sin to you.

Jeremiah 22:13 "Woe to him who builds his house by unrighteousness and his chambers by injustice, who uses his neighbor's service without wages and gives him nothing for his work....

Smart employers don't pay their employees the minimum, they pay them the maximum. They expect a lot from their employees, they get a lot from their employees, and they pay a lot to their employees.

When employers respect their employees and let them know that they appreciate their efforts to go beyond what is expected, most employees will respond by consistently going beyond the call of duty because they know their extra effort is appreciated.

There are basically two types of people who are in charge:

LEADERS and MANAGERS

- 1) Leaders motivate, Managers regulate**
- 2) Leaders encourage, Managers criticize**

- 3) Leaders seek solutions, Managers place blame**
- 4) Leaders incentivize, Managers stick to the book**
- 5) Leaders praise good workers, Managers nick-pic them**
- 6) Leaders delegate authority, Managers micro-manage**
- 7) Leaders take responsibility for blunders, Managers pass the buck**

Good leaders are not necessarily popular. The basis of leadership is virtue, integrity, and objectivity. The basis for popularity is success, personality, personal appeal, or physical attractiveness. People in leadership positions who put popularity above respect, are miserable failures. They fail to correct and/or discipline subordinates when necessary in order to remain popular. This results in chaos and contention in the ranks.

The ability to function well in a position of authority does not come naturally, it is something that must be learned. Unfortunately, most fathers are not training their sons how to be good husbands, fathers, and leaders, and most wives are not training their daughters how to be good wives, mothers, and followers.

LESSON 32 (10-10-17)

Sometimes employers will offer a job to someone and tell them that they will be hired but will start out receiving a lower pay rate until he or she can prove that they can do the job. Don't fall for this trick! If you do the

work, you deserve the pay, and if you can't do the work, the company will let you go.

All Christians work for the same Boss.

Colossians 3:22 Slaves, in all things obey those who are your masters on earth, not with external service [eye-service], as those who merely please men, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord.

We have another verse from Paul from the Epistle to the Ephesians that help explain this phrase.

Ephesians 6:5-8 Slaves, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in the sincerity of your heart, as to Christ; 6) not by way of eye-service, as men-pleasers, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart. 7) With good will render service, as to the Lord, and not to men, 8) knowing that whatever good thing each one does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether slave or free.

We must all decide who we are working for. It shouldn't be just for the person in charge. Everything we do should be done as unto the Lord, to please Him. Believers should have better working habits than anyone else because we are part of the Royal Family in service to the King of kings and Lord of lords.

LESSON 33 (10-12-17)

Because we do everything as unto the Lord. We don't slack off, back off, give up, leave early, or become careless, mediocre, or lazy. We don't nag, drag, or brag even if our boss is a scallywag. We don't goof-off, gab,

gossip, or google on company time. We don't pout, pilfer, or plunder, and we don't conspire, we inspire.

Colossians 3:17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

It's not the kind of job you have or the position that you hold that is most important to God; it's your attitude and commitment in doing the very best you can no matter what job you are doing that matters most.

God is not going to reward you for the amount of work you have done. He will reward you according to your faithfulness to the job that He called you to do. My friend, perhaps God has not called you to do something great for Him, but are you faithful in what He has assigned to you?" J. Vernon McGee, *Thru the Bible Commentary*, electronic ed., vol. 4 (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1997), 107–108.

EDUCATION

Education is useless without the Bible. – Daniel Webster

“One might say education is not to make anything of anybody, but simply to open the minds of everyone—to go from cocksure ignorance to thoughtful uncertainty.” — Pennsylvania School Journal

The quote below comes from the Introduction of the book, “30 Days to Understanding What Christians Believe”

“We live in an age of feelings. Increasingly great value is being placed on whether something makes us feel good. At the same time, there is a decreasing value on knowledge, information, and truth, with many

people believing that truth is relative: “What may be true for you may not be true for me.” This is devastating, however, because if there is no absolute truth, there can be no confidence that God exists. If there is no God, there is no hope. Therefore, Christians must be concerned about preserving knowledge, information, and truth.

“Cold, dead orthodoxy” has no appeal to anyone. There is no virtue in believing something that is barren and meaningless. But the Bible makes claims that, if true, are rich and profoundly meaningful. It makes it clear that if you truly believe the right things, you will experience love, joy, and peace—but only if you believe the right things. The quality of a person’s life depends on what he or she believes, and the destiny of that person’s life depends equally on what he or she believes.

All this is to say that it matters what Christians believe. It matters that Christians be well educated in the Scriptures. It matters that Christians be grounded solidly in the truth. It matters that truth is upheld, preserved, and honored. Otherwise we are vulnerable to lies that deceive and destroy.

Yet, at the same time, we live in a post-Christian era, in which much of the information about Christianity that used to be common knowledge in American culture is no longer common knowledge. Therefore, for upcoming generations, we must make the basic truths of Christianity more accessible.” Max E. Anders and

Max E. Anders, *30 Days to Understanding the Christian Life in 15 Minutes a Day* (Nashville: T. Nelson, 1998), viii–ix.

The Condition of Education In the United States

“Despite higher than average per-pupil expenditures, American 8th graders ranked 19th out of 38 countries on the most recent international mathematics comparison. On the TIMSS 1995 study, which tested 12th graders, American students were ranked 19th out of 21 countries in both math and science general knowledge.”

<https://www.coursehero.com/file/p5cofjr/The-Condition-of-Education-In-the-United-States-Unfortunately-in-the-midst-of/>

Why does the US spend more on education than any other country and yet do such a poor job of educating? The answer in two words – government interference.

The U.S. Department of Education promotes student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access to educational opportunity. To support this mission, the Budget provides \$70.7 billion in discretionary funding for the
The Budget also proposes \$145 billion in new mandatory spending and reforms over the next decade to fund early learning, support teachers, and reform postsecondary education.

The U.S. Department of Education, like most of the other Departments formed under the Executive Branch of our government, are unconstitutional. In 1977, Jimmy Carter promised the school teachers union that he would create a Department of Education if they would support him in his bid for the presidency.

The fiscal control our government has had over public schools has been very effective in shaping the minds of students away from independence, self-reliance, and Christian values and toward dependency, secularism, and liberal progressive ideologies.

We all expect our institutions of higher learning to educate students to be prepared academically and psychologically to be successful in facing the exigencies of life. However, it is unfortunate that most university professors and faculty are progressive and are more interested in making sure that students are PC than they are with preparing them for life. So many universities have become hotbeds of social experimentation and exploitation and have become hostile to Christianity and the Bible.

Now we will focus on the most important education which is being biblically educated. The Bible uses words that have to do with education 504 times.

One may be intelligent, have a PHD, and be financially independent and yet be miserable because he is biblically ignorant. He lacks the wisdom and knowledge about life that can only be found in the Word of God. Does the Bible really have the answers and solutions to man's issues and problems? What does the Bible have to say about it?

***2 Peter 1:2-3 Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.
3) His divine power has given us everything we need for***

life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.

The answers are there but one must have a desire to learn them that is strong enough to stick with it over the long haul.

CONSISTENCY IS THE KEY TO LEARNING!

(ESV) Hebrews 5:13-14 *For everyone who partakes only of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. 14) But solid food is for the mature, who **because of practice** have their senses **trained** [Gr. GUMNAZO part. rp, – to receive training, gymnasium] to **discern** [Gr. DIACRISIS – ability to distinguish and evaluate] good and evil.*

1 Timothy 4:6 *In pointing out these things to the brethren, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, **constantly nourished** [part. pp] on the words of the faith and of the sound doctrine which you **have been following** [v. rai].*

Proverbs 8:33-35 *"Heed instruction and be wise, And do not neglect it. 34) Blessed is the man who listens to me, **watching daily** at my gates, waiting at my doorposts. 35) "For he who finds me [wisdom/doctrine] **finds life, and obtains favor from the LORD.***

LESSON 34 (10-17-17)

Acts 17:11 *Now these [Bereans] were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received*

the word with great eagerness, **examining the Scriptures daily**, to see whether these things were so.

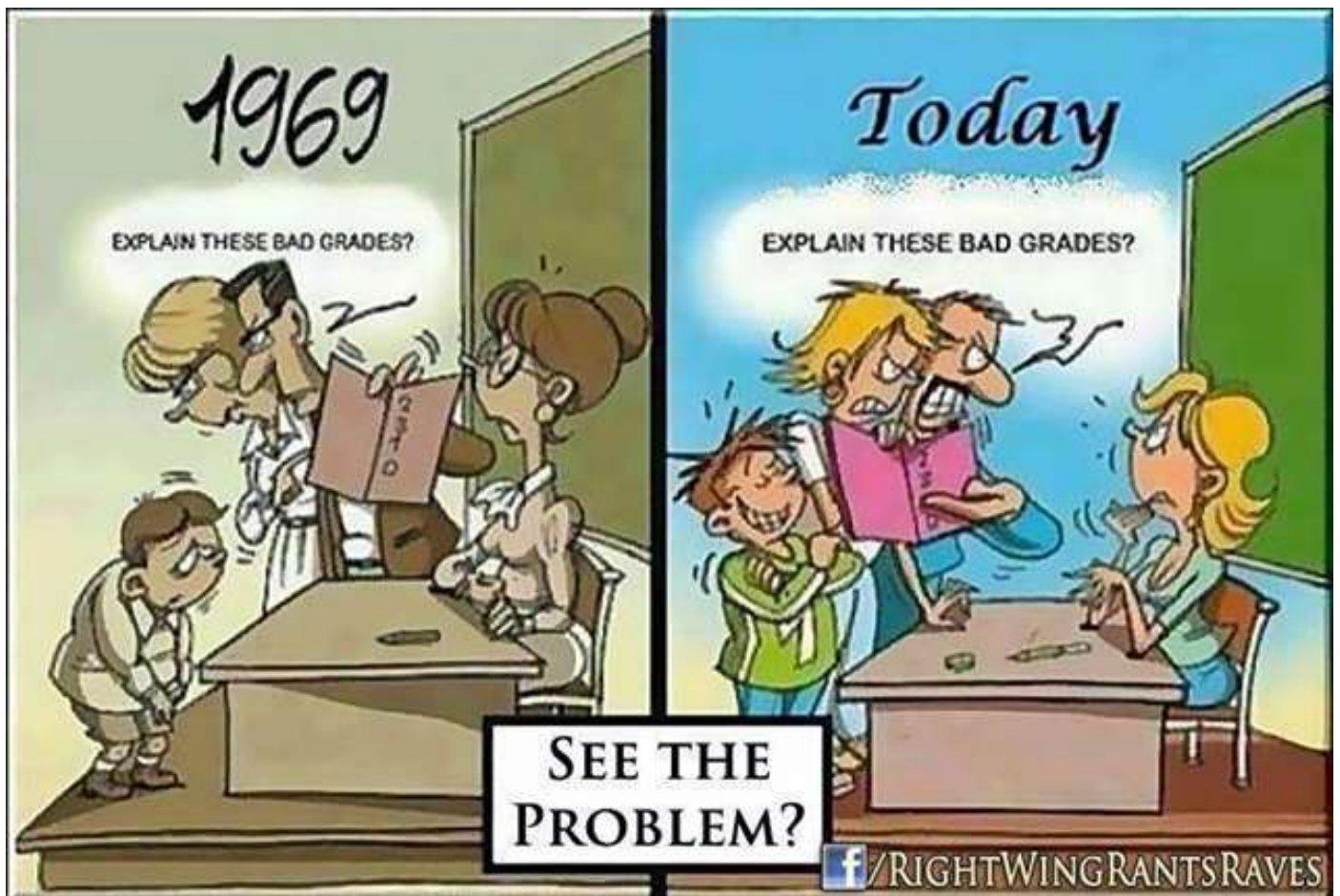
1 Peter 2:2 Like newborn babes, **long for** [v. aam] **the pure milk of the word**, that by it you may grow [v. aps] in respect to salvation,

Read: Psalm 19:7-10

Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Proverbs 12:15 The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man is he who listens to counsel.

Our problem with educating children today:



Teaching kids to count is fine, but teaching them what counts, is far better. *Bob Talbert*

TEACHERS WHO LOVE TEACHING TEACH THEIR STUDENTS TO LOVE LEARNING.

ENTERTAINMENT

When we think of entertainment, we think of Hollywood, movie stars, television, radio, concerts, sports, etc. but the Bible rarely uses it this way. Most of the time it refers to hospitality.

“Hospitality in the ancient world often included putting up a guest overnight or longer. This is hardest to do when experiencing a time of persecution.

The Hebrews would not know whether a guest would prove to be a spy or a fellow believer being pursued.”

John MacArthur Jr., ed., The MacArthur Study Bible, (Nashville, TN: Word Pub., 1997), 1921.

Acts 10:6 ...he (Peter) is *staying* with a certain tanner named Simon, whose house is by the sea."

Acts 10:23 And so he invited them in and *gave them lodging*.

LESSON 35 (10-19-17)

Hebrews 13:2 Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have *entertained* [part. aa] angels without knowing it.

***entertained* – XENIZO (ξενίζω) v. aai, ① to show hospitality, receive as a guest, entertain ② to cause a strong psychological reaction through introduction of**

something new or strange, astonish, surprise William Arndt, Frederick W. Danker, and Walter Bauer, *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000), 684.

The writer mentions that there are those in the Old Testament who “entertained angels unawares.” Abraham was one of them (Gen. 18:1-9), Lot (Gen. 19:1-3).

The basic thought of this verse in the Hebrew epistle is that we are to extend love to strangers by showing hospitality to them. We ought to be careful that our love is exercised with judgment, but we need to recognize that there are folk around us to whom we could be very helpful. We should extend our love to them, and in doing this we might meet some very wonderful people. J. Vernon McGee, *Thru the Bible Commentary*, vol. 5 (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1997), 610.

The way that hospitality is shown varies with different geographical areas and different traditions and cultures but the motivation behind it is the same, at least it should be, which is to go out of your way to look after the needs of others. It is a friendly, generous, and gracious way of showing Christ’s love to family, friends, and sometimes strangers.

Showing hospitality is giving of yourself and your possessions to make others comfortable, to entertain them, or to provide basic needs for them. It is to unselfishly volunteer to take on extra work and spend extra time to show love towards others.

An illustration of how important hospitality was in the ancient world is found in the verses below:

Luke 11:5-8 And He said to them, "Suppose one of you shall have a friend, and shall go to him at midnight, and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves; 6) for a friend of mine has come to me from a journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; 7) and from inside he shall answer and say, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been shut and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' 8) "I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will get up and give him as much as he needs.

1 Peter 4:8-10 Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins. 9) **Be hospitable to one another without complaint. 10) As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.**

There is a tendency for some wives to fail to offer hospitality because they are embarrassed that their house is messy. That should never keep anyone from showing hospitality to someone who is in need or to have fellowship with friends and family. Someone who needs a temporary place to stay or food to eat doesn't care what the house looks like. That is also true for friends or family members that need face to face counseling and encouragement.

Romans 12:10-13 Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; 11) not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; 12) rejoicing in hope,

persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, 13) contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality.

“ If we keep in mind how many journeys we read of in the New Testament, the few references to inns are probably a sign that there were not so many of them. The inns were mostly of dubious character, and more care went into tending donkeys and camels, than into lodging people.” Bruce Malina and Stephan Joubert, *A Time Travel to the World of Jesus* (Halfway House: Orion, 1997).

Travelers depended on friends, or even strangers, for lodging. (In our own history, when people still went on horseback, they often, at dusk, asked for lodging at a farmhouse on their way). But you could not simply travel, like a tramp, from one house to another. There were rules for guests as well as for hosts, and the rules were a safeguard against abuse.

For example, that a stranger who calls himself a fellow-Christian and a preacher is a false prophet if he stays with you for longer than three days.

There is an old saying that fish and visitors start to smell after two or three days.] *ibid*

Customs and traditions vary depending on time and geographical locations, but what does not vary is good manners and common sense.

Dropping in on someone unannounced in most cases is a breach of etiquette, poor judgment, and bad manners. Some people don't mind but most people do. Very close friends and close family members might not

mind, but it is still best to call to make sure they are not busy.

Apart from an emergency or some rare circumstance, just showing up at someone's door shows a lack of thoughtfulness. It's like saying, "I'm here, stop what you're doing and give me your undivided attention." When a male just shows up at a female's front door unannounced, he should receive a scolding rather than a welcome.

Today, things are quite different, entertainment is a huge industry in our country. We are probably the most entertained people ever. It is said that all things should be done in moderation and too much of good thing is not good.

Yes, a moderate amount of entertainment is good, but too much is not.

Entertainment is serious business in the United States, where it's consumers' biggest expenditure after housing, food and health care. In 2004, Americans spent \$705.9 billion on entertainment, a figure equivalent to the entire gross national product of Canada -- or Australia, for that matter. <http://www.marketwatch.com/story/americans-value-entertainment-studies-show>

"The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported in August 2012, the average American spent \$2,504 on entertainment in 2010. [The 2017 figure is \$2,827]. That's \$235 a month. Americans who earned \$100,000 or more spent an average of \$5,500 on different types of entertainment. That's \$458 a month."

<http://budgeting.thenest.com/much-money-average-american-spend-entertainment-year-26018.html>

You may be surprised at how much Television the average American watches:

“The average American spends more than 34 hours a week watching live television, says a new Nielsen report — plus another three to six hours watching taped programs. [That’s nearly six hours a day. (5.7)] The survey was taken in 2012.” *ibid*

Political correctness, immorality, vulgarity, the emasculation of men and the DE feminization of women, the promotion of homo-sexuality and all things that are unbiblical pervades the small screen as well as movies and plays. There are a few exceptions but they are hard to find.

Comedy that is actually funny and wholesome is nearly nonexistent. Like nearly every other aspect of broadcasting these days, comedy has become crude, base, vulgar and of course very politically correct..

Once movies actually had good crisp dialog and a script that was edifying and inspiring. Movies like “The African Queen” with Humphrey Bogart and Catherine Hepburn, “Gone With the Wind”, “Ben Her”, “The Big Country”, “Zulu”, and “Seabiscuit” taught virtue and ended motivating us to be better people. Most movies today have little, if any, meaningful dialog and depend more on explosions, gratuitous vulgarity, profanity, violence, and sex to sell tickets.

Sports is a huge form of entertainment that has its problems as well. It has been elevated to a place where

it has become a religion for many. Many people have an undying allegiance to their favorite football team, baseball team, basketball team, or racecar driver. They may not know who their children's school teacher or Sunday school teacher is, but they know everything there is to know about their favorite team and their favorite athlete.

Sports have become so important to many that they have eclipsed the spiritual life of many believers. School sports and Little League now schedule games on Sunday mornings during church time. So many Christian parents miss church so that their child won't miss a game. Shame on them! They are teaching their children the wrong priorities, i.e. Social life and or sports are more important than spiritual life.

It is unfortunate that an element of politics has developed in sports that makes it much less enjoyable to watch. It is yet another place where people have become more polarized and it will no doubt take a toll on the sports industry if the trend continues.

LESSON 36 (10-24-17)

MONEY

Matthew 6:19-21 *"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20) "But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; 21) for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.*

The point of these verses is not to minimize working to provide for ourselves and our families which the Bible commands. This verse presents a comparison between focusing on the material advantages of this life with the spiritual advantages of the next.

Matthew 19:29 And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or farms for My name's sake, shall receive many times as much, and *shall inherit eternal life.*

“A careful reading of the New Testament data indicates that eternal life is viewed from two different perspectives. Every time eternal life is presented as an acquisition in the future (15 times, 44%), it is always based on works. When eternal life is presented as an acquisition in the present (19 times, 56%), faith alone is the only condition mentioned. The fact that almost half the time (44 %) the acquisition of eternal life conditioned on works surely signifies that the two different aspects of eternal life are in view: its initial acquisition by faith alone, and an enhanced experience of eternal life subsequent to its initial acquisition conditioned on faith plus obedience. The former relates to gaining life and the latter living it, leading to an abundant inheritance in the future.

Earl D. Radmacher, Ronald Barclay Allen, and H. Wayne House, The Nelson Study Bible: New King James Version Ro 2:7.

Examples of verses where “eternal life” is not salvific:

Mark 10:17 And as He was setting out on a journey, a man ran up to Him and knelt before Him, and began

asking Him, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to **inherit eternal life**?"

John 6:26-27 Jesus answered them and said, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate of the loaves, and were filled. 27) Do not labor for the [physical] food that perishes [after we eat we are soon hungry again], but [labor] for **the** [spiritual] **food** [B.D.] **that endures to** [results in] **eternal life** [an abundant dynamic life], which the Son of Man will give to you.

Romans 2:7 to those who by perseverance in doing good seek for glory and honor and immortality, **eternal life**;

Galatians 6:8 For the one who sows to his own flesh shall from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit shall from the Spirit reap **eternal life**.

Titus 3:7 that being justified by His grace we might be made heirs according to the **hope of eternal life**.

1 Timothy 6:10-12 For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith, and pierced themselves with many a pang. 11) But flee from these things, you man of God; and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance and gentleness. 12) Fight the good fight of faith; **take hold of the eternal life** to which you were called,

1 Timothy 6:18-19 Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, 19) storing up for themselves the treasure of a good

foundation for the future, so that they may *take hold of that which is life indeed.*

1 John 3:15 Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer; and you know that no murderer has *eternal life abiding in him.*

Jude 1:20-21 But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith; praying in the Holy Spirit; 21 keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting anxiously for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ *to eternal life.*

LESSON 37 (10-26-17)

Those who base their security on money aren't very wise.

Proverbs 23:4-5 Do not weary yourself to gain wealth, Cease from your consideration of it. 5) When you set your eyes on it, it is gone. For wealth certainly makes itself wings, like an eagle that flies toward the heavens.

Proverbs 28:20 A faithful man will abound with blessings, but he who makes haste to be rich will not go unpunished.

Money and Happiness?

Keith Nicholson won \$426,495 in the British soccer pool. His wife announced that he was going to “spend, spend, spend.” But look what happened to the money and the Nicholsons.

They bought a luxury home for \$47,600. (Before they hit the jackpot, they had rented city housing for \$5.43 a week.) They gave parties almost every night. In four years they managed to spend \$196,000. “We had oodles of money,” reported Mrs. Nicholson, “but we

lost our friends. The people we had known in the old days, and whom we really wanted to see, never came along.”

In 1966, Nicholson was killed in a crash in the \$5,600 car bought out of his winnings, from the jackpot money, \$107,113 went to the government in death taxes. The remainder was invested, half in trust for the three children, and half to give Mrs. Nicholson \$25-a-week income. Paul Lee Tan, *Encyclopedia of 7700 Illustrations: Signs of the Times* (Garland, TX: Bible Communications, Inc., 1996), 826.

John Jacob Astor left five million, but had been martyr to dyspepsia and melancholy. He said, “I am the most miserable man on earth.”

Henry Ford, the automobile king, said, “Work is the only pleasure. It is only work that keeps me alive and makes life worth living. I was happier when doing a mechanic’s job.”

Andrew Carnegie, the multi-millionaire, said, “Millionaires seldom smile.” —A. Naismith *Ibid* 827.

“Money never made a man happy yet, nor will it. There is nothing in its nature to produce happiness. The more a man has, the more he wants. Instead of its filling a vacuum, it makes one. If it satisfies one want, it doubles and trebles that want another way. That was a true proverb of the wise man; rely upon it: “Better is little with the fear of the Lord, than great treasure, and trouble therewith.” —Benjamin Franklin *ibid*

- **Money will buy a fine dog, but only love will make him wag his tail.**

- *The poorest man I know is the man who has nothing but money. —John D. Rockefeller, Jr.*
- *The late Robert Horton said the greatest lesson he learned from life was that people who set their minds and hearts on money are equally disappointed whether they get it or whether they don't.*

Money Will Buy:

*A bed BUT NOT sleep.
 Books BUT NOT brains.
 Food BUT NOT appetite.
 Finery BUT NOT beauty.
 A house BUT NOT a home.
 Medicine BUT NOT health.
 Luxuries BUT NOT culture.
 Amusement BUT NOT happiness.
 A crucifix BUT NOT a Savior.
 A church-pew BUT NOT heaven.*

Read: Ecclesiastes 2:1-26 and 5:10-20

LESSON 38 (10-31-17)

Now we come to our last category of Discernment:

Religion

Health

Politics

Business/Employment

Government

Education

Marriage

Entertainment

Family

Money

Friends

Clothes

CLOTHES

This subject might seem somewhat superficial compared to the other subjects we've covered but when you think about it, clothes play a major role in everyone's life.

It should be obvious that they play a larger role in women's lives than men's, but all of us have to deal with clothes. Just think about how often we change our clothes every day.

Clothes are expensive. In 2010, the average American family spent \$680 on clothes per person. That's \$2,740 for a family of four. Of course there are families who can make it on half that amount and those who spend two or three times that amount.

After analyzing the statistics, it appears that women spend about twice as much on clothes as do men. One reason for that is that women's clothes cost more than men's. Fashion has a large part to play as well.

An average price of a casual dress is about \$50-\$80, a dress for church \$70-\$100. A pair of slacks \$60, a good pair of women's jeans \$80. A blouse \$40-\$70. A skirt \$75. A belt \$20-\$40. Shoes \$30-\$50, high heels \$40-\$60.

So the average cost of a woman's apparel going to church would be about \$150 to \$250 and that is not counting jewelry, accessories, or make-up.

There is an old saying, "Clothes make the man." but the truth is, clothes can make a man look better, but they certainly do not make the man. However, what a person wears does have a psychological effect on people.

We characterize people's social status by using a clothes metaphor, "blue collar workers" referring to those who work with their hands, as opposed to "white collar workers" who work with their minds.

People who wear uniforms seem to automatically receive more respect than those who don't, regardless of the uniform. Policemen, firemen, those in the military, night watchmen, pilots, flight attendants, chefs, postmen, nurses, waiters, ushers, medical workers, umpires, and referees.

The Bible makes a big deal out of clothes. The NASB uses "clothes" and in its different forms (clothing, clothed, etc.) 274 times. Let's take a look at the different types of clothes mentioned in the Bible.

SWADDLING CLOTHES

MOURNING CLOTHES

WEDDING GARMENTS

Read: ***Matthew 22:1-14***

LESSON 39 (11-2-17)

Profile of Judge Roy Moore by Pat Buchanan and verse by verse analysis of Matthew 22:1-14 concerning the wedding feast.

LESSON 40 (11-7-17)

The Bible teaches us to be discerning in the clothes we wear. Women should dress like women and men should dress like men.

Deuteronomy 22:5 "A woman shall not wear man's clothing, nor shall a man put on a woman's clothing;

for whoever does these things is an abomination to the LORD your God.

Our culture has degenerated to the point to where there is a concerted effort on the part of many people to pretend that there is no difference between males and females. It can be easily seen in the fashion of women's clothes.

Females have to be more careful about the clothes they wear in order not to attract any unwanted attention from males. Parents have to be very careful about the clothes their daughters wear because they don't realize how dangerous it can be to wear clothes that are too revealing.

1 Timothy 2:9-10 *Likewise, I want women to adorn themselves with proper clothing, modestly and discreetly, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly garments; 10) but rather by means of good works, as befits women making a claim to godliness.*

There is a type of clothing for women that is more important and more beautiful than the most expensive clothes that are made of the most valuable materials.

Proverbs 31:25 *Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she smiles at the future.*

Clothing is an important part of our lives but we need to keep things in their proper perspective.

Matthew 6:25 *For this reason I say to you, do not be anxious for your life, as to what you shall eat, or what you shall drink; nor for your body, as to what you shall*

put on. Is not life more than food, and the body than clothing?

The Lord's clothes described:

Psalm 93:1 The LORD reigns, He is clothed with majesty; The LORD has clothed and girded Himself with strength;

Psalm 104:1-2 Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, Thou art very great; Thou art clothed with splendor and majesty, 2) Covering Thyself with light as with a cloak, Stretching out heaven like a tent curtain.

When He returns at the 2nd Advent:

Revelation 19:13-16

Isaiah 63:1-3

Clothing of the believer described:

Isaiah 61:10 I will rejoice greatly in the LORD, My soul will exult in my God; For He has clothed me with garments of salvation, He has wrapped me with a robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

Psalm 30:11 Thou hast turned for me my mourning into dancing; Thou hast loosed my sackcloth and girded me with gladness;

Psalm 18:39 For Thou hast girded me with strength for battle; Thou hast subdued under me those who rose up against me.