

THE ORIGIN OF SIN, THE NATURE OF SIN,
FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE, THE ABUSE OF POWER,
RELIGIOUS LAWS AND THE MARK OF THE BEAST LAW



**What you need to know
before the
“Mark of the Beast” law.**



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Is religion the cause of the world's conflicts?

Throughout time religion has been the cause of many conflicts. And irreligious love to bring up that fact. A lot of blood has been shared. A closer look, however, reveal the origin of the conflict was not the Judean-Christian religion in itself but an ever-existing dilemma that humans struggle to solve. How can you create peace when there is a difference of opinion of what constitutes peace? The source of all conflicts is the belief that you can create a utopia by forcing someone else's conscience to be aligned with your own. The desperate need for unity and control has caused humans to do a lot of harm for what they think of as the common good. To sacrifice a minority to save a majority, in some cases even the other way around. It was even the excuse the religious leaders used when they were about to arrest Jesus to have Him executed. The high priest said: «Nor consider that it is expedient for us, that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not» (Joh.11:50).

The idea that sacrificing the ones who are different to prevent chaos and for a common good is not a trait especially of religious but of atheists alike. In countries that viewed religion as the problem and then attempted to remove or subdue religion as a solution towards peace and harmony, you see the same behavior conduct. This was seen during the French Revolution when Bibles were burnt, faith made illegal and Christians were killed or subdued. It was seen during the Soviet Union where Christians, Jews, and Muslims were targeted and suppressed. Or modern-day China where human rights do not seem to apply to the religious and they are persecuted just for having a different worldview

than what is accepted. And the same goes for North Korea or any other country where this idea of an irreligious Utopia has been played with. The same conduct is used. The same idea that you can change people to think differently by forcing, suppressing, or bullying them into submission. Even if you can get everyone to obey you there is still not inner peace or love inside their hearts for you.

And as time has shown us, whatever society we visit the history of, if it's Hinduism, Buddhism, tribe people, Christian, Muslims, Jews or agnostics and atheists, the idea of force does not work without causing suffering. However, the more alike people are in thinking the more peaceful they do co-exist and this inspires the continuation of these methods of pressuring similarity.

The scary part? In spite of the many attempts throughout the centuries to force people into a similarity of thinking which has failed every time, we continue the circle anyway. It won't stop and the idea continues into modern concepts of Utopia.

The division seen in the USA is a good example of how it goes. The country has long been a Christian nation. The fast-growing irreligious communities feel that religion has taken from them the freedoms they want, but upon growing in power and number they now want to force people of faith to act and think as they do. They felt condemned by the Christian moral but now they condemn others themselves. Rather than accepting freedom for themselves, they want to force their idea of freedom on someone else. But the moment something is forced upon someone it is no longer freedom. And so in our world, the concept of freedom is not tied to an ideology, freedom is more complex than that. If you are bullied, pressured, or suppressed to go against your values, your conscience, and your beliefs, then it is not freedom no matter who you are and what you believe.

Material gain.

Although we are here dealing with the use of force as part of the reason for conflicts, and if or how religion is causing strife and war, it should

be mentioned that greed is rarely blamed but often the reason behind conflicts. Not just greed but also a battle for resources.

Paul said: “For the love of money is the root of all evil” (1Ti 6:10) A good example of this is the drug war in Mexico which has nothing to do with religion. Neither can those behind sex trade, drug trade, slave industry, organized crime be called religious. They are clearly driven by the want of money and little else. Yet they are causing great pain and conflict. They are not living to protect their faith or the lack of it, they live to gain riches and status. Not to mention how hard it is to create a world of peace with the existence of incest, rape, bullying, segregation, and more.

World Health Organization (WHO) says that close to 800 000 people die due to suicide every year, one person every 40 seconds. They say for every person who does commit suicide, another 20 people try but fail. Many studies show those who are religious are less likely to try or commit suicide and so this can not be blamed on religion either. The cause is often related to ecumenical loss, but perhaps more loss of hope. The Leading Cause of Death in the world is not even war but related to food. We eat ourselves to death. Heart disease and stroke are at the top. Is this caused by religion? Most religions encourage against gluttony. The Biblical God even forbids the use of animal fat which is a major cause behind the leading cause of death.

In the Bible God constantly tell His country to take care of the fatherless. Today, in the western world, around half of everyone who gets married also gets a divorce. Many lose contact with their father and it has created a new wave of fatherlessness. Is there any consequence for anyone except you if you leave your wife and start a new family with someone else? According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 19.5 million children, more than 1 in 4, live without a father in the home. In a US study, we see 85 % who are in prison grew up in a fatherless home. 7 out of 10 youth in state-operated correctional facilities are from fatherless homes. They are twice as likely to drop out of school. Studies show that girls in fatherless homes are 100% more likely to be obese. 44% of single-mother households live in poverty. 75% of rapists are motivated by displaced anger connected with abandonment by their father. 85% of all children with some type of behavioral disorder, 63% of youth

suicides and they are 279% more likely to deal drugs or carry firearms. Those abandoned experience 48 % pregnancy loss. (<https://lifeisbeautiful.org/statistics-on-fatherless-homes/>) Between 2015 and 2019 there were 73 million abortions per year. Most because of sex outside marriage. The unborn unique genetic human child is sacrificed because of their parents chase after happiness or because they are not in a stable relationship or for economical reasons. Only 1% of abortions are linked to rape and 0,5% linked to incest. (<https://www.guttmacher.org/fact-sheet/induced-abortion-worldwide#> <https://eu.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2019/05/24/rape-and-incest-account-few-abortion-so-why-all-attention/1211175001/>)

So God wanted couples to stay together, was that wrong? If you worry about being entrapped in a loveless marriage perhaps God's advice in finding the right spouse, one who loved the Lord and had good principles, was a good one.

In an American study, people who follow the Judean-Christian God have lower divorce rates than Americans of other religious backgrounds. (*Institute for family studies: Religion and the risk of divorce*)

The chase to satisfy self does suppress more than any government ever could. When humanity is at war with itself it is strange to blame religion. When the God of the bible told them to care for the fatherless and stay with their spouse unless they had an affair was not to take away from people the right to be happy, it was to help society from all the pain and misery that followed if they did not.

In a world where people push each other out of the way to increase their status and riches, people's everyday life is more about mastering life and fulfilling needs than it is the worship of a deity.

Society has seen a rise in violence and broken-up homes after people rejected God in both the US and Europe, and so all this has to be taken into consideration. Would you have a utopia without a God, would it change people to be good towards each other? Would it give them hope? Would it make them stop going after their lusts? Would people magically stop killing and stealing, raping, and selling drugs just because someone told them there is no God? Of course not. Most who do these things do not care about a God as it is. As long as these needs exist in mankind, strife will continue even if your neighbor went to church or a mosque or not. The more crimes the more the world needs strong governments and the more those governments need to decide on

a common ground for people to walk. This is where religious persecution usually comes in, whether if it's from a non-religious or from a religious point of view. It is a need for common ground because people misbehave towards each other in society. People disagree on what that common ground should be. How can you get people to behave?

Most suffering in the world today is actually rooted in people's desires and not in their religion. But it is easier to blame an ideology than ourselves. Easier to blame a God than our own behavior. While religion and atheism are responsible for large-scale persecutions in the past and now, the suffering and deaths of those victims of the crimes just mentioned are still far greater.

In the Bible, God claims the root of the conflict is the rejection of His moral law, sin (Isa 24:4-6). The lying, the stealing, the coveting, the sexual immorality, the killing, and the disrespect to the older generation. Also, the moral law says to only follow one God.

So God claim the religious division was caused because the world rejected to follow the one and only God and created thousands of others in His place dividing people into thousands of fractions with just as many different moral standards. And this causes the different fractions to collide with each other. The first four commandments in God's moral law was for the sake of world peace and the six others to avoid man conflicting with each other. And so God's ten commandments, in theory, can solve the conflicts if people would follow them. At the same time they can not solve anything if forced upon unwilling participants. In this book we will look at this dilemma.

So while humans blame God for their misery, God blames man. That is a hard pill for some to swallow. God tries to tell man over and over again in the Bible the cause of strife lies within them. He also claims those who do not know God take the lead in much of the violence:

*"The LORD hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, nor mercy, **nor knowledge of God in the land.** By swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery, they break out, and blood toucheth blood.*

Therefore shall the land mourn, and every one that dwelleth therein shall languish, with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven; yea, the fishes of the sea also shall be taken away" (Hos 4:1-3)

“Freedom is the ability to think and choose for yourself”.

Now this concept of freedom in religious matters was understood when the American constitution was made. It was a completely new idea never seen before in world history.

Although some empires had tolerated different beliefs, they had never offered complete equality of rights. The state had always favored one above the other, and also tolerance is not absolute freedom, it is condensation. You do not want to be tolerated by society, you want to be viewed as an equal. If not, you will always feel like a guest or stranger in your own country all dependant on how you are treated.

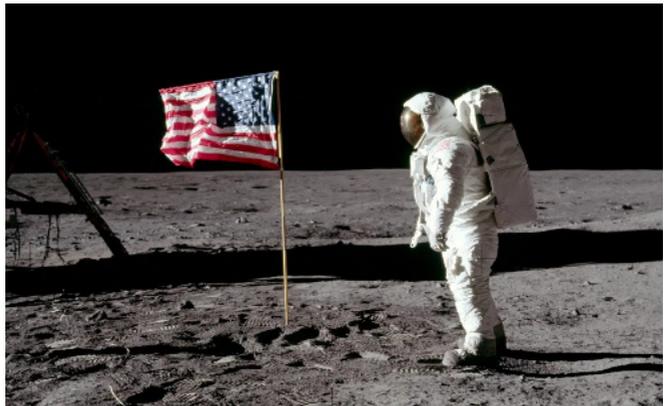
Although those creating the American constitution were all mostly Christian from different denominations, they realized that forcing people from the competing church to act according to their understanding would not lead to harmony and peace, it would lead to suppression and conflict. And even if they believed they possessed the truth and their worldview was the best, they understood that even something good forced upon someone would not create a good result. With the suppression of the English church and the Catholic Church in Europe as an example not to follow, they decided to give people the right to follow their conscience in religious matters. The government was not allowed to favor one above the other. They gave people the right to free speech, to practice their faith after their conscience. They could open debate their difference of belief and try to turn each other over to their side, by use of arguments, logic, and respect. But never by force. One church could not be silenced for the sake of the other. One would not receive funding

and acknowledgment before another. And in this constitution, it was written that the government would not take sides in religious matters.

This very thing, this very concept of freedom, had so long been feared by religious as well as irreligious all over the world throughout time. The fear of losing control if someone who thought differently grew in number was always the reason for governments to side with religious or atheistic beliefs. If they did not take control the others would. Any government who has ever used force in religious/irreligious matters has had the idea that the State or government has to be people's religious conscience in order for society to not go out of control.

If the side that disagrees is not suppressed they feel chaos would be the result. But the USA did not go into chaos when they decided the state was not to be people's religious conscience. Instead, from the moment the declaration of independence was written with these values it immediately became the land of opportunity growing rapidly into a superpower. A dark spot on the development was the use of slaves in the south, which broke with these principles, and so the real growth into a superpower really started after the civil war and the abolishment of slavery.

People with different beliefs all felt it was equally "their country". Not just Christians and Jews sought refuge in the USA but suppressed people from all over the world. Here they could be themselves. Here they would not just be tolerated in society, they would be equal. Here the greatest inventions of our times were made, here were the people to first walk on the moon. Freedom of conscience, of choice, did not lead to the disaster feared for so long, instead, the oppo-





The Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial in France. Here many of the American soldiers that came to free Europe are buried. Americas did undeniably come to a suppressed Europe's rescue, but not without the loss of lives.

site happened. The land prospered. Rather than building a society where everyone was forced to think alike, they used the difference of opinion as their strength to grow.

The USA even came to their brothers in Europe's rescue and helped saved the continent from becoming the united states of Hitler and his comrades and ensuring their future freedom.

The USA had at the start of its republic made the realization that it was not religion that was the cause of strife, but people's fears and need to force others to take on their understanding. The Soviet Union chose a different approach. They blamed religion and wanted to create an atheist socialist state where morality was state-controlled. If the state could be the people's religious conscience instead of religion, they were sure a superior society would be the result. The tragic stories of religious per-

secution and suppression in the Soviet Union are well known. It is said that 12 to 20 million Christians became a victim of the state. 106,300 Russian clergymen were executed during the Great Purge alone. The atheist state realized along with many other states throughout history that if people have a higher authority they look to in addition to the state, they can never have full control over the people. A realization even the Papacy made in their day and therefore only allowing people to have a relationship with God through the church as a way to prevent this conflict. They thought that if the State and God represented the same authority it would solve everything. They said the Pope was Christ's representative on earth, therefore, people had to seek God's will and moral from him.

The Soviet Union hoped to remove the belief in a God to solve the same problem of the people following two authorities.

Later, Russia allowed religion back as religion could never be defeated in their region but now Putin has decided to not allow the influence from any other church than the Orthodox, hoping this will get things under

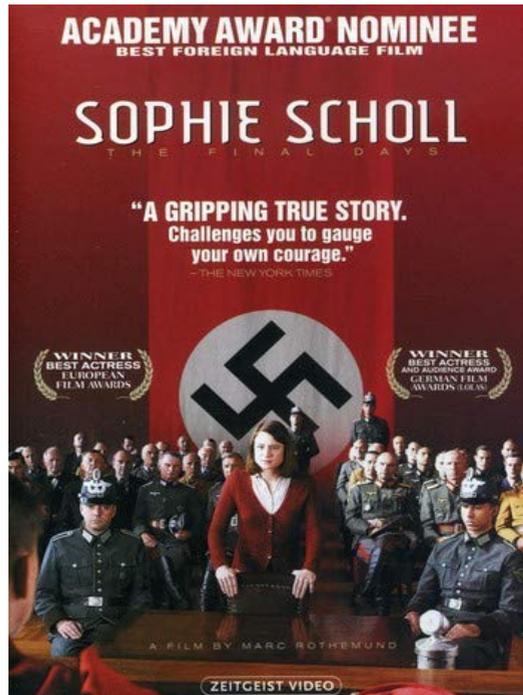


The Soviet Union had the idea that if only religion could be removed their society would grow and flourish like none other. But The Soviet Union never became the Utopia they had hoped for, ecumenical or morally. And the prosperity of their competition in the west made many question if the road to success really was tied to the abolishment of religion.

more control.

In any society where there is suppression of others, there will be those who see a wonderful state-solution, because they are not the ones afflicted. One example is Hitler's Germany. People often forget to tell of all the good that was given to the Germans who were accepted in society. They got free education, jobs, and many benefits. After the first world war, depression and economical crisis followed and Hitler became a savior who raised their quality of life and gave them opportunities they otherwise would not get. The chosen citizen had a good life and great opportunities under Hitler.

Any society that discriminates against groups of people will also have people praising the same society. Those praising are the ones who are given the benefits while others are suffering. So you will still see Russians with pictures of Stalin and Lenin on their walls and others who crumble just hearing the name of them. If we lived during World War 2 and the holocaust was not yet known and you interviewed two different Germans, one persecuted and one living with their free education and health care, to give an evaluation of their country's leadership, you would get two completely different answers.



In the movie Sophie Scholl we can see an enactment of the real conversations at the interrogation of her right before her execution.

Here the interrogator questions her opposition by reminding her that the government had given her the chance of an education and provided her and millions of other Germans the opportunity to prosper.

The principle of the American constitution was to not discriminate and they wanted to create a society where one group was not favored above another. Everyone was to have equal rights to prosper and to succeed in life.

After the second world war, a dramatic shift slowly started to emerge. The USA was now so sure that it had gotten the way of ruling a land perfectly that they felt it was time to put pressure on other countries to implement the same principles. The US army started the concept of having the responsibility to save the suppressed and helping those fighting for freedom elsewhere. Their successes in helping to save Europe

Many forget to tell why so many Germans praised Hitler and that it came in large part because he at first saved the country from economical depression.

from Hitler and bringing an end to World War 2 inspired them to take on a new role in the world as a democracy “super-hero” coming to the rescue. They saw their interference in countries’ inner conflicts as their personal duty for the world to progress in the right direction for the common good of everyone. They wanted equality of rights to be the law in other countries feeling they had created the best principle of any constitution and that everyone should adopt them. The Soviet Union represented a conflicting idea they feared and they needed the American way to win grounds before «the Soviet way» did, which led the two nations into a cold war.

As an example, their involvement in the wars in Korea and Vietnam was to help the one side wanting freedom and democracy against the growing communist party there.

Later, the USA slowly became a power to influence and even overthrow governments that did not act according to the «freedom» they wanted them to practice. Moving up until our own day, in many places the interference of the USA was and is unwanted. A train of suffering and a destroyed infrastructure is the result of their warfare, and many innocent has lost their lives in the process. These lives are seen as a necessary sacrifice for the cause. The USA has participated in over 20 wars after



Many question the United States' motives for going to war in Islamic countries. It seems to many to be motivated to protect Israel and to ensure themselves resources and power. The US forces have left a blood bath and ruined many infrastructures in these countries, while they seem unconcerned by the great internal conflicts in their own neighboring countries. Other countries committing greater crimes against humanity, like China, is left alone because of trade deals. This causes many to question the US motives for where and when they interfere in other countries' matters.

the second world war. They have 800 military bases in more than 70 countries and few want to get in conflict with them. Together with allies they also place economic sanctions on whole countries to pressure them. Hundreds of thousands of lives were lost because of the last Iraq and Afghanistan war which was even instigated based on a lie. To many, it was justified because they believed the Islamic states suppressed the people and that the lives lost were worth it. But to others, the USA was acting more and more like “a beast” than a rescuer.

By this very act of using force, not on their own people, but on other people in other lands, they fell for the same old way of thinking. That people can be forced into what they think is the right thing. Would everything spin out of control without the interference of the USA?



Is the American way the right to not choose the American way?

Although the USA offered freedom and would not use the government to force people's conscience, many groups of people preferred a dominant leadership telling them what to think, dress and how to act. So they just found leaders outside the government institution to dictate them instead. Many do not want complete freedom of thought and seek dominant leadership. Within closed communities in the USA, there are many people following leaders that within the community suppress their freedom of speech, thought, and life.

Examples are the closed Orthodox Jewish communities, the Amish, the Mennonite, Mormons, LDS, and even non-religious hippie cults or others such as Heaven's gate. Within these communities, they chose a life of suppression in the "land of the free". If the state would take from them the right to have a dominant leadership then you would do to them what they do to each other and there is no win-win situation, they will be subdued either way. Sometimes you have to accept that people want to live within a controlled environment and that they do not want your version of freedom. And they are even willing to fight to keep their freedom to be suppressed.

The weakness of the American constitution

Could the principles of the American constitution work anywhere and at all times? Before the USA became a nation of war, the irreligious movements in the USA were rapidly growing. The freedom of choice would change the USA when the morals of the people changed.

John Adams was the United States' first wise president and also the second president. He said about the constitution they had created:

«Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other». Very strong words, but were they true? Was the constitution not going to work for the coming irreligious society? And was the idea behind the constitution not really total freedom after all, did people still have to have at least common moral ground rules for it to work?

The idea was different than both the irreligious and papal. The atheist government believed that you can not have two authorities, one divine and one on earth, without causing confusion and conflict.

The pope saw the same problem but solved it by trying to make it appear as the church and God was the same thing. But here John Adams said the American way needed the people to have a higher

spiritual authority next to the State. He said they needed both, they even encouraged both. The principle of the governments of old was that the government had to be a god to the people. Therefore in Egypt,



Second US president John Adams

Babylon, Greece, and Rome alike it was very important to depict the leaders as someone receiving their authority from the gods. They chose the same route as the Catholic Church did later. The Egyptian pharaoh said he was the incarnation of the god. The Roman leaders claimed to be sons of the gods and given authority from them. The greek leaders depicted themselves as the gods.

You see these are all ways of trying to solve what is seen as a problem. People can not have peace with two or more conflicting authorities in their lives. This might reveal why God in His first commandment in His moral law wrote to have only one God. All societies seem to, by their behavior, understand the logic in God's command and the need for it but instead of yielding to God, they want to be that God. So the leaders of ancient as well as many modern try to make the state "the god" of the people. When the atheist wants to remove the concept of a God it is to prevent people from having to choose their loyalty between a God and a state in matters of conflict. In this



Above: Egypt solved the two-master problem by claiming the leader was the god reincarnated.

Below: The papacy chose a similar approach by saying the Pope was Christ's voice on earth directing people only to the church head to inform them of their obligations.



way they have done the same as those before, eliminating the competition so that they can be the people's god instead.

The US-way however said the State was not to be a god, but servants of the people. They placed the authority on the people, the moral responsibility on the people. The state leaders were to fear and honor the people's wishes and carry them out instead of the people fearing and honoring a "god-like state". And so in many ways, in the historical aspect, the American way was unique. Their state was no longer competing with "a God" because it was not seen as a god or the replacement of a god. They were just there to serve the people in organizing society and punishing crimes, and if they ever tried to be the "god" of the people the constitution told them to get their guns ready to fight the government.

What do you do when people have two authorities, a government on earth and a god or gods in heaven? How do you bring the rule only through the earthly ruler? This has been the ever struggle of human governments when trying to solve the problem with people having a divided loyalty. As long as people believe in a higher authority they will never have full controll.

John Adams saw that if the people did not have a matching set of moral standards they would not be able to find harmony in their diversity and conflicts would arise. The situation would be that the state at one point would feel pressure to choose sides causing the collapse of the American bill of rights and the birth of another religious or irreligious government as in the rest of the world.

Has there never existed any example of a government that has succeeded in creating a well-functioning society where there are different moral beliefs among the citizens? Is it even possible to create? This is a great human dilemma. So far in known world history, the closest a society has ever been to equal rights in spite of the difference of opinion is the United States of America. But now this country's moral is being torn to pieces by its own people.

John Adam's thesis was that spite the constitution not favoring any religion or forcing upon anyone any, it only worked if people had the moral of the Judean-Christian God (There were no large number of Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, dominant atheism, etc in the USA when the constitution was made). For, as they saw it, the Judean-Christian was not a threat rather it helped people to be aware of their own actions and correct them. The constitution's problem wasn't with religion itself, but the idea of forcing others with different beliefs to act against their own conscience because of fear of chaos. But the moment America would be filled with others with completely different backgrounds and morals the US would have to face the same dilemmas as nations before them had. When people start crashing into each other, how do you solve the problems?

Now the words of John Adams would come to its first real test when the irreligious grew in number and started taking control of the teaching facilities, governmental positions, media and all other important positions in society. Another difference that would challenge the constitution was the mass immigration of people with a wider range of beliefs and morals than had previously been seen in the country. America was rapidly changing, would the constitution still work and survive?

The irreligious view religion as the cause of all problems and want to slowly remove the influence of Christian morality from society. Their idea of Utopia had already been tested elsewhere in socialist and communist countries, but they wanted to now mix the great principles of the American state with an irreligious worldview. Europe had in part already taken that route with seeming success. In northern Europe, most Christians are silenced and have accepted that outwardly professing faith will cause society to question your sanity, lead to discrimination, sabotage your job opportunities and is probably not a good idea. In the USA, the irreligious think that when suppressing religion it will be the final great step into creating a society in harmony so long sought for but never been able to achieve before. But was John Adams right, or can the American constitution not be the foundation of an atheistic government and people? A good example of the irreligious ideology is John

Lennon's song «Imagine» perfectly representing the dream of a social utopia where there is «no heaven above us, no hell below us», meaning no divine authority in anyone's lives. Meaning, the removal of Judean-Christian morals from society. John Lennon's concept was that if people do not feel an obligation to a God that they carry out in their everyday life the problems in this world will end. Lennon was not the inventor of this belief, John Lennon was just singing the words that he had been taught from the growing irreligious movements in the USA over the past two



John Lennon imagined an atheist utopia and won awards. "And I am not the only one" was the most truthful statement of the song.

The irreligious government utopia is based on the same fundamental idea as the pagan religious states, the Papal state, and some protestant church governments.

decades. This idea was the opposite of that proposed by John Adams and the makers of the American constitution. They needed people to be godly for it to work, the irreligious utopia needed people not to be godly in order for their concept to work.

The atheist thinks that shaping people's inner conscience by governmental legislations work, and so the irreligious hope of government has the same base as all other pagan religious states along with the Catholic and some protestant governments. The concept is not new or progressive at all.

From a Biblical perspective, it is this: Does a state compete with God for power, does it think it is a god or does it cooperate with God's principles? For if a God is working on people's conscience then any attempts of making the state replace Him or compete with him will prove useless and impossible. The irony of it all is how people see God as unreasonable for writing in His ten commandment law that they need

to worship only one God while they all try and force the same principle upon each other through earthly governments. In the Bible, worshipping God and following His rule of law is the same thing. And so the worldly critic against God while attempting the same principle shows a double standard.

Could it be done by a worldly irreligious government? If the “state” is the only authority people follow? Why had not other irreligious societies been able to create utopia without creating hell for others? Why was there always a group of people that could not be persuaded to think differently? For the irreligious people, the problem is in people’s minds, they have to coach people to think differently in order to make it work. They do not believe in a God and so they think the problem is found in how people are raised by their family and their society. Many irreligious-socialists became teachers and adored any profession where they could and can implement on children from an early age the ideology of the superiority of an irreligious society.

Not understanding the concept behind the American constitution, and how it was made by religious or moral people, the irreligious movements would soon see that the freedoms written within it were incompatible with their goals. They just did not harmonize and they could not reach their goals with it. For the constitution actually protected religious rights and did not preach against them.

The irreligious movement in the United States resurrected the same cycle of how to bring utopia to a society: silencing the opposition. If they could just suppress, force, bully the religious to not think religious a new utopia would be the result. Silencing the debate and controlling what can and cannot be said would in the long run limit what people are influenced by. If their voice is the only one heard no matter where people turned, then surely people are more likely to follow it. Taking over teaching facilities, media was one way. Uplifting public figures, musicians, actors, and others who shared their ideology was a very powerful tool as well. Calling music speaking of God in a nice way religious and hindering their success, while music that spoke against God in the lyrics was ‘popular music’ that “could safely” be played on radio, TV and films. In fact, if you sang songs of praises to the devil it would still not

be categorized as religious like those praising God would, and they could get radio time as standard music. You could ridicule God in movies and it would be played at theaters. If you spoke in His favor it was called «a Christian movie» and viewed as propaganda which should preferably only be available to a minority. And so they created a society of segregation against a positive view of God and His moral standards. The more irreligious joined the more influence they got. Only a negative approach to the God-question would receive funding, praise, and be served the public. That is where the money was placed. When the government started speaking their cause it was not seen as the government siding in a religious conflict and therefore it continued unnoticed as unconstitutional. The state was now picking sides, not between churches but between the church and the irreligious ideology. The irreligious idea was that religion is taught and suppressed upon people at an early age by their parents and that everyone, like themselves, will be blessed



'Without books there is no knowledge, without knowledge there is no communism' (1929). In February 1918, an article in Communist Party newspaper Pravda entitled 'The Forgotten Weapon', the author, children's writer L. Kormchii, argued that books 'crystallize in children's souls, creating subsoil that nourishes and gives root to future convictions and beliefs' and went on to assert that, 'we must seize these weapons from enemy hands'. By the late 1920s and early 1930s, when discussion around children's books had developed into an important area of pedagogy, texts directly advocated the use of children's literature to create socialist citizens. Today these similar methods are used in Scandinavia. The God of the Bible requires His followers to teach them His ways from childhood too. See Deut. 6:5-9; Deut. 4:9-10; Deut. 11:19; Pro. 22:6. Those who influence the children will also influence the future.



The religious in the USA is refusing to give up their land and are fighting back. The movement call it “the seven mountains” of influence which they need to re-claim to save the country. However if they succeed they might have to follow in the path of the Catholic Church in Europe during the Middle Ages and enforce laws favoritising religion to rid themselves of the just as aggressive irreligious societies. Will they then just continue the negative circle? Both sides in the USA see that those who control the following, wins their country’s future: Media, government, education, economy, family, religion, and celebration (arts and entertainment).

Claimed prophets say God want His people to claim these areas back from the irreligious. But did God really send this message? They elected Trump because he promised he would help them. But did God send this message?

to be freed from it. Part of the irreligious-socialist thinking is therefore to break up the families, bring the children out of the homes as much as possible, and be in charge of their education. This had worked in the Soviet Union where the religious observance of Jews, Christians, and Muslims had decreased drastically by these same methods and by indoctrination through the school system at an early age. However, a

great remnant was left to be persecuted and to suffer for not changing their beliefs. In the USA spite of several decades of pressure, a large part of the country would not turn from their religious beliefs. Instead many felt silenced and discriminated against. And if they chose to be openly Christian they would have fewer opportunities in many professions compared to non-religious. This had already happened in most North-European countries where Christians, Jews, and Muslims had over several decades learned to be quiet in the public room to prevent discrimination. They did not even fight back.

The USA was perhaps the last of the protestant nations to openly be religious, where politicians could gain from having a religious background and where it was socially acceptable to have a faith in a higher power. Here you could mention God and prayer without being looked upon as crazy, stupid or untrustworthy. God was part of the cultural language and for a long time this verbal culture saved religious from being discriminated. The USA is now going down the same path as Europe has gone as irreligious thinking more and more take over.

Unlike Europe, the religious USA decided to fight back because their religion was so closely connected to the principles of the constitution they felt fighting for their rights was fighting for the country's survival. Northern Europe had not even noticed the change because it happened slowly over several decades and they had been silenced before even noticing. When they realized the stigma of speaking against the irreligious-socialist ideas was so great, few dared to do it. The religious in America were taught that their freedom of thought was something that they had to fight for and they were not going to sit back and quietly allow the change like their European brothers and sisters.

The discrimination against Christians was not first by legislation but it started as the "law of the jungle". Then by rules and legislations, the following of the moral of the Bible meant that you would struggle in a majority of professions. Can you be a therapist if forced to give therapy against your conscience? Can you be a teacher when forced to teach against your conscience? Can you be a doctor if you are pressured to act against your conscience? Would you even graduate if you did not discredit the Biblical God in some of your test answers? If you do not want to dishonor Him as the creator? Even bakers were attacked for not

going against their conscience. By placing the moral of the irreligious society inside every important profession as well as smaller ones they could take over the state through the back-doors. Only Christians and religious that compromised their belief would survive and the others were by their conscience forced to leave their professions.

This is discrimination, but for the irreligious, it was a progressive way to eliminate competition and control the direction the country took. TV shows and books would help the aggressive approach by depicting how awful a society with Christian moral people would be and why it is important to fight it. Those sacrificed had themselves to blame for not surrendering. Although not always physical persecution, this showed a good example of how a society can pretend to be tolerant and claim to give people equal rights while in fact, it is not. The lack of equality is claimed to be the choice of one party rather than the result of discrimination.

The question is, once the government favored atheism could that be consid-

To the right: Another Soviet propaganda showing how, if a child could choose, they would want communism over Christianity. The mean woman is trying to force the child by pulling her hair. Many felt they were saving children from being suppressed in their religious families.



Christians and other religious feel pressured to fight back. But what are Biblical methods and what are not?

ered the breaking of the first amendment or not?

If only those who excepted the new irreligious morals get acceptance in society then by it the principle of the constitution has been broken without it being recognized as such.

The bill of rights read: “The First Amendment provides that Congress make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting its free exercise. It protects freedom of speech, the press, assembly, and the right to petition the Government for a redress of grievances”.

The point of the law was to give people equal rights spite their background. The changes in society favoring an atheist origin story now prevented equality of opportunity and the principles of the first amendment were no longer practiced in full.

Some conservatives think the solution is to reverse the oppression by using the same method as they do. They call it the seven mountains of influence: Media, Government, Education, Economy, Religion, Family, and Celebration/Arts. Only by taking them back they can prevent current suppression and prevent future persecution. It is not paranoia, many reports show christians as the most persecuted in the world. (<https://adfindernational.org/news/christians-most-persecuted-religious-group-in-the-world/>). Many Christians in the USA feel it is necessary to fight back in the early stages to protect the bill of rights and their own future. They do not want to wait until it is too late.

Now they are faced with the same challenge. If the American constitution can be used against the religious rather than protecting them as intended, must they too work against it to save themselves and their rights? Must they play dirty too?

The result is the country is now divided. And in this way, the “land of the free” has been forced into the ever same dilemmas as any nation before them. The country that once broke free from the cycles is now re-entering it.

The idea of both irreligious and religious that they are «helping» others by forcing them to change view is old. And it will never work. And the reason it will never work is tied to a principle created by God as we will now look into.

Humans are created to be free.

Humans were created to have the ability to reason, evaluate, to personally approach difficult as well as simple questions and solve them. God knew that the moment He created intelligent beings they would be suppressed if they were deprived the freedom of choice. With intellect comes the strong need to be able to make your own decisions. If you can reason but not act according to it, you will be mentally imprisoned, our suppressed. When suppressed, you will at one point rebel or you will end in apathy. It is a very easy concept once we understand it.

When people are not free to make their own decisions and be in charge of their own destiny they become unhappy and lose the meaning of existence. This principle can be exploited but it can not be removed. God created us that way. No humans can remove it and so conflicts will remain whether people create a forced religious society or a forced ir-religious society.

If a Christian forces a Muslim to convert or a Muslim forces a Christian to convert, it creates the same problem. No ideology, not even the truth, can bring peace unless it is an intellectual and conscious decision on the receiving party. This is a part of human nature as designed by God and is therefore present in all humans no matter what they believe or where they live. The reason behind religious conflicts at any time or any place is therefore always the use of force or suppression, not religion or the lack of it.

Humans that have intellect and ability to reason and who are not given the freedom of choice can be physically suppressed or even silenced, but in time at one point they will either fight back or lose the meaning

of life and become apathetic and repressed. Their soul will crumble. Not just in society but in private family homes where there is abuse this is the result among the suppressed family members. In any authoritative closed groups where there is suppression, we see the same behavior results. Created to be free, humans cannot help to react to suppression, whether mental suppression or physical. Therefore any attempt to create peace with these means will always fail. And if peace seemed to for a moment to be obtained, it will not last. The human intellect makes us constantly evaluating and researching our surroundings, and if agreeing at one point we can just as easily disagree later. The brain is not put on pause, it is constantly evaluating its circumstances.

So knowing this principle leaves us with the question, should humans not take control over each other and allow people to act out their bad sides in peace? How do we balance the need to control those who «go too far» without suppressing the freedom of choice and how the human mind and nature works? This is the dilemma of human development within a society throughout time.



Some christian think if muslims are forced to become christian they will be happier. Atheists think that if christians are forced to abandon their faith they will be happier. But can you really be happy if someone else make your choices for you, if you are forced to follow someone elses concience?

God'S Dilemma

This was also God's dilemma when creating intelligent beings. He knew that once a person can think and reason, they may very well think wrong and make wrong decisions. Especially if their action is determined by lust and instinct rather than reason. Now unlike many people today, God did not fear creating intelligent beings even knowing they might become a threat, because there is a consequence of not creating intelligent beings as well. God loves diversity and individuality as seen in all His creation. If God had given Adam a robot as a wife would he not still have felt lonely? Intelligent beings love contact with other intelligent beings, life without would not be good. And so God *“created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them» (Gen 1:27)*



Would you be less lonely if your only companions were beings you had programmed? Would you be able to grow as a person?

What a daring thing to do, yet God said after He did it: *«And God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good» (Gen.1,31)*

Now many criticize God for not only knowing there would be a rebellion but also for creating Satan. Was the creator responsible for the direction an intelligent created being took? God could only be responsible for Satan's action if God had programmed him. But God created free beings with the ability to think and choose. This was also given God's cherub, Lucifer (Satan). It shows that God did not fear to have intelligent beings as His closest workers or giving them great responsibility and trust. In fact, God's relation to Satan was based on trust and Satans relation to God was built on trust as well.

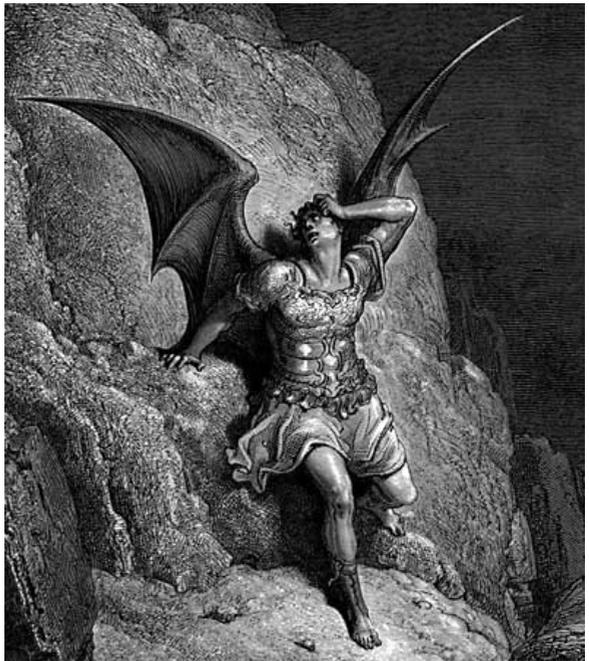
God made everyone responsible for what they did with the gift of life, and with the gift of intellect came the duty of responsibility, and with responsibility came accountability.

The moment Satan questioned God and shared his ideas with other angels, God could have removed Satan, but He did not. He allowed Satan to speak freely and to spread his lies. The same at the Garden of Eden. Satan was not silenced but God allowed him to tempt Eve. God placed the responsibility on Eve for her own decisions because she was an intelligent being free to make her own choices. God had given her knowledge to make the right decision, but He would not make the decision for her.

So why did God allow it? If God had instantly removed any controversy by force, God would not have created peace. He knew it was impossible to obtain peace that way. The act of immediate force would only bring more controversy and resistance. This was the consequence of creating intelligent beings, the moment He did, God could not just act as He please without consequence. And so God could not use immediate force, he had to allow crimes to show themselves as crimes so they could be evaluated intellectually not only by Him but also by other beings. If not, God would lose the support of the other beings and then He would either be in constant war or He would have to take away from beings the ability to think and reason on their own. God knew from

the very beginning that He had to either be alone, have a universe of animal-like creatures, or robots, or He could create intelligent beings but with it, He had to deal with possible conflicts and have to be a judge among them. Nobody wants to be a judge, we want people to behave. This was the case with God as well. As long as beings were good He was happy not having to take upon the role of judge. While knowing He might have to, He still chose to create intelligent beings. And in all of God's rulings, as seen in heaven and recorded in the Bible, God never judges without many elders and witnesses participating. Because God is not alone, although all-powerful, He has chosen to have all His judgments examined by intelligent beings. Not just examined, He gives even humans trust in participating in the judgment against their own kind (Dan 7:9-10; Rev 4:4; Rev 4:4). God has the power to judge alone, but out of respect for His intelligent beings and for the sake of future peace, He asks for their participation. God knew the moment He created intelligent beings, all of His decisions and judgments would be evaluated. He invites beings into the process and even allows His judgments to be examined by all who wish to look into them. Even though this is revealed in the Bible, many do not know this about God. The lies about God are have damaged His reputation among man.

Lucifer was a beautiful being given the honorable task of protecting God's seat of authority. Instead of protecting, he attacked Him and caused many to doubt God and His intentions. Once doubt spread God had no other choice than to allow things to play out or intelligent beings could not understand His judgments and rebel too.



The Origin Of Sin

Many believe the origin of sin was Eve eating the fruit on the forbidden tree. But the real origin of sin and the following rebellion started before Eve even ate. It started inside Eve's mind when she was lead to disbelieve that God had her best intentions at heart and then she acted on that doubt. Satan said to her: *«Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil»* (Gen 3:4-5). When Satan suggested God did not make decisions based on their best interest but His own, it birthed distrust in God. The thought that God could not be trusted lead her to reject His leadership and eat against His law. And so her action was the visible result of her choosing to distrust God. This is the origin of sin and rebellion and what every falling away from God starts with. This is also the origin of chaos. We do not trust God and therefore we do not trust His leadership or law and thereby we feel the need to seek a different authority to take His place. Not agreeing on common ground, everyone ends up trying to make their own god-like governments. For some reason, people tend to trust themselves to take a god-like position, but they do not trust God to do it. The result of rejecting God's government is the constant battle for power as seen on earth. Everyone thinks they know best but in the end, someone always gets hurt. What they did to God, others do to them. They lose trust and new leaders want to take their place and then they lose trust and then another. There is not a want for someone who wants to lead. Have you ever considered why there are countries and borders in the first place? There was no such thing in the beginning because God was the government of all. They were to have the same national holy days,

the same judge, the same standard and so the need for countries was not there. The reason for countries and borders are people choosing different leaders representing different ideologies and then borders are there to protect the leadership of the group(land). During history, sometimes a country is divided into two or more fractions creating new borders because the groups do not wish to follow the government.

It is seen in modern times too. An example is when Sudan was split in two. The Christians did not want the Muslim rulers and the territory were divided between north and south and then south finally becoming their own country. This is how it has always been. Those suppressed sometimes seek help from another group and they come and take over the land to help them, or countries divide after internal conflicts. This pattern was seen for thousands of years all over the world. In the beginning, people could just move and find a new piece of land to start over with their chosen leadership. But as the world got more and more populated, there was no were to go and people were left to fight for their rights where they were instead. These problems were attempted to solve by having the people within a border being able to choose between different parties and having everyone agreeing on accepting the vote of the majority. Where there were democracy and the freedom to follow your own faith at the same time, the need to divide up land stabilized and borders remained. However in order to keep as much unity as possible leaders know it is essential to strengthening the sense of “us” and “them” by culture, language, national pride, and ethnicity. If there is a strong feeling of group identity the land is saved from division and less likely to be easily conquered. Now that there are borders all over the world you can not move freely or choose. You have to accept belonging to the land within the borders you were born. Many hate where they are from and want the opportunity and rule offered in other countries. Many want prosperity but not the culture there and this causes conflict between immigrants and natives. The immigration of people with different cultures and the difference of religion within the countries are therefore seen as a threat in most countries. It is not just in the west. You have Buddhists fighting Muslims, you have Hindus and Muslims fighting Christians, atheists fighting religion, all over. We have Africans who hate immigration from other African countries. Asians that hate

immigration from other Asians. Even Jews in Israel who hate immigration from Ethiopian jews. It happens in all parts of the world, from Asia to Africa, to Europe, and to the USA. Strong nationalists will always feel threatened by the growth of a different culture or thinking among them. The point of it all is, nothing is really solved, it is only restrained. People are still suppressed within their countries.

Peace is still far away and the battle of resources and stability remains. And so every conflict is, in part, tied to the rejection of God's government on earth.

The origins of sin is God loosing trust as leader. Satans rebellion in heaven was also caused by his thought that God's leadership was in His own interest and Satan felt a reform into his leadership ideas was better. The more Satan fed on his suspicion that God had alternate reasons for leading the way He did the more true it became in his head. Once he chose to believe his train of thoughts before God's own explanation, Satan began to do the first acts of sin. By presenting his ideas to other angels, causing suspicion and confusion, he slowly made them distrust God until it developed into an open rebellion.

If you lose faith in your leadership you will wish to overthrow it or have it submit to you.

God can only lead by trust. There are only two choices, either you lead by trust or you lead by force. God chooses to lead by trust and therefore in order to secure the future of His kingdom to be one of peace He had to regain trust. However God did not lose trust because He did something wrong, He lost it because Satan decided to trust his suspicion based on his own train of thoughts before God and present his suspicion as the truth to the angels.

Whenever Satan wants to make God's people fall away from God and into sin he uses the same approach. It starts with the questioning if God can be trusted and if He has their best interest at heart. He tempts them to become suspicious of Him. If people are to change leadership they have to distrust their current leadership.



Satan had hoped to discourage Jesus by tempting Him to doubt God's words to Him.

When Satan tempted Jesus in the wilderness he chooses the same approach. God had just told Jesus that He was His son and that He was loved and accepted yet Satan challenged God's words not long after and wanted Jesus to question if it was really true. When he leads Eve to question God in her mind, her hand reached out to the fruit and she ate. She provided her own need in the suspicion that God was not the leader she had thought He was. Now Satan leads Jesus to question God and to try to save himself to test if what God had said was true.

But Jesus knew that if He for even a moment questioned if He could trust God the thought would be born in His head which would lead Him to sin.

Satan had disguised himself as a serpent who had apparently become intelligent by eating or being in the tree of the forbidden fruit when causing Eve to doubt. He could in that way present himself, an intelligent serpent, as the evidence of what he was saying to Eve was the truth. The serpent was not dead from being in the tree and enjoying the fruit, it had become intelligent and so what he said about God's reasons to forbid her from eating seemed to be true at the time. The serpent was "the evidence". Should Eve had rejected the apparent "evidence" and trusted God instead? Most people trust their senses over God. Often our perception and interpretation of the evidence are wrong.

When Satan tempted Jesus He immediately knew from the devil's words who was speaking to him. For He knew that Satan had to break His trust in God first in order to make Him sin. Had Jesus turned stone

into bread it would not serve as evidence of what Satan claimed. Jesus was able to know who was speaking to him and reject anything he suggested Jesus do based on this distrust. In this way Jesus conquered temptations. His trust in God would not be rocked.

The Israelites in the wilderness always ended up sinning after being tempted to distrust God and the same with anyone throughout Bible history. If we are distrustful towards God as a leader it will cause us to reject His leadership and take the control in our own hands or give it to another we feel we can trust to lead us instead.

When an individual does not trust God they prevent Him from leading them. One example was when Jesus left the city of Nazareth saying: «And they were offended in him. But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honor, save in his own country, and in his own house. And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief» (Mat 13:57-58)

Jesus could not do much for them without trust. If they did not believe what He said was true they would not follow His lead or even come to Him and He could do little for them. And so Jesus could not be their leader or healer.

The base of God's kingdom is that we have to willingly choose Him, trust Him, and when we do that a natural consequence is that we follow His lead or command as a result of this trust.

Imagine you are in a desperate situation and there are two paths in front of you, on both paths is someone to lead you through. Which one do you choose? The one you seem most trustworthy right?

Many Christians only follow God to a certain point, when they are at peace and prosper. The moment God asks something they do not understand they are tempted to question if He has their best interest at heart. This insecurity leads them to take the reins in their own hands and choose a different path than that presented. And so God can never lead perfectly even His own people with only partial trust as the passages that demand complete faith in Him are never crossed and by it,

the reward never achieved or the destination never entered. If Eve had trusted God even though the serpent confused her by speaking intelligence, God would have cleared up everything to her and it would have strengthened her trust in God. If we feel the need to “eat of the tree” every time we are tempted to question God’s motives we do not really trust God.

Israel failed as a nation because they did not trust Him and as a consequence, they changed His laws to make them fit better with the time they lived and after their desires.

The fall of man started with the «mind» distrusting God and the «hand, action» eating the forbidden fruit (sin).

The salvation of man as presented through the gospel starts the same way. The mind has to regain trust in God and that God loves them, and the result will be a surrender to His will (obedience to His leadership). We choose His government.



Because the word for trust has been abused in the modern concept of what faith is, many lose this important part of the origin of sin and our salvation. Faith and trust in God is really the same thing.

Faith is not just to believe Jesus existed or that He died for us. Faith is to have faith in God as our leader and healer. Faith always comes before choice.

Either we have faith in God and the fruit is that we follow His lead, or we distrust Him and try and save ourselves by our own means and by creating our own moral laws. Everyone has rules. Even in criminal groups, gangs and lawless communities there are rules. Man can not co-

exist without. Even those who want anarchy have rules for the anarchy they want. Thinking the choice is between having laws or not having them is self-deceptive. It has always been about who gets to be the law-giver. God wants us to choose Him.

God can not lead us if we want to take the lead ourselves. God cannot lead a nation that does not trust Him and God cannot lead a world that does not trust Him. Man's salvation is to regain trust in the only one who can save them and then give Him the reins so He can navigate us back to His kingdom. In God's kingdom, we are all part of the human race, we are all family. It is not them versus us, it is not about skin color or difference in traditions. It is about having a set of ground rules and then all are in a family with each other and can live in peace. One leader, one law for all. We can still be different, we can still pursue different professions and passions. God created the world diverse. Just look at the diversity in nature, in animals, and in how they live, look, and what eat. Another one of Satan's lies is that we will all appear the same and do the same in God's kingdom. People are lead to think He wants to strip us of our individuality and make us a soldier-like figure where you cannot tell one apart from the other. To make us all act and think the same. But God's creation is a witness that God loves diversity. And if He had not, He would not have created man to be intelligent, able to reason and choose, and with different talents. Science has shown us that not one person is the same. Our eyes, our fingerprints, our DNA. Even twins have separate minds and think for themselves and their DNA mutates differently over time. No person is identical to another. He created us as different because He loves diversity and individuality. With all of that comes the potential of conflict and thereby the need for ground rules.

So our salvation is trust and faith in Him. Then the works will follow based upon this trust.

When Jesus explained the plan of salvation to Nicodemus He said: *«For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life» (Joh 3:16)* In this famous verse lies the secret to faith. We have to believe God loves us and want the best for us. That His intention towards us is

good. If we understand this, God's provision for our salvation will also save us.

Mind and hand always go together, and so in order for us to receive salvation our mind has to choose to believe first.

So what caused the fall of man was distrust (mind), the action was going against God's rule (hand).

The restoration is to trust God (mind) and then our natural choice based of this trust is to act (hand) according to our faith.

Why God can never give up His position.

Now as many might know, after the fall of man, we see Adam start blaming God for creating the woman, rather than blaming himself for making a bad decision (Gen. 3:11-12). Although humans are intelligent beings, when we make a stupid decision we feel a desire to blame someone else. We want to be the victim so we can escape responsibility for our actions. However, God holds us accountable for our actions because He views us as intelligent beings. With intellect comes accountability. When we blame someone else for our mistakes we in reality credit ourselves with less intelligence than God does. We tell God we are stupid and He tells us we are not.

Now if you have children you know that you can impress and teach them your values but still, one or more might chose a different path than what you believe is right. They are individuals and they act accordingly. While some might regret having children the majority are still happy they had them and know, if they treated them right, are not to blame for the decisions they make as adults.

God system, like President John Adams said about the American constitution, only works if man does not violate certain moral principles. In the Bible, the breaking of God's moral principles is called sin. Sin is related to our morality towards our Creator and fellow man. The moral is this, if our freedom and expression forces another, suppresses another, destroys the opportunities of others, we destroy God's principles for a good healthy society. We violate the laws of man's mental health and human behavioral patterns.

This is why God's law does not contain thousands of different laws about your everyday life but rather consists of a set of morals as a base for living. God is then dependant that you do not make His laws grievous by adding your own laws in addition to them. Unfortunately, that is what most who follow the Judean-Christian God does, they add many laws making life seem unbearable. The jews added a whole book of direction as a supplement, which Jesus criticized greatly. Christians and Muslims have done the same. And when God's command ended up competing with their own they started to remove some of Gods' to make room for them.

God had instructed: "What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it" (Deu.12:32). If too many laws were added people would become suppressed and if some were removed people would suppress. Both adding and removing destroyed the balance and the perfectness of God's law. Religious add to or change God's law because they want or feel the need to control others, but that permission is not found in the law and so they have to add to it.

Now with the freedom God has given man comes the need of a judge if the peace is disrupted, and being the creator and origin of life this belongs to God.

Why God? Why does He have to be the one and only superior judge? This is one of Satan's accusations and questions. But the answer is simple. If bad takes over the universe, only He has the power to stop it all. If we destroy, only God is capable to restore. Because of this, He has to remain in position and in existence. He can not quit or retire because someone questions Him because there is no one to take His place who can do what He can. Being the only one who can create life from Himself, He is the only safety, the security, the universe has. All is dependent on His decisions. With such a position God has a huge responsibility to protect His own position for everyone's sake. But not only that, to remain good. If God gives up on His good principles in the position He is in, everything and everyone will be in danger. If God puts Himself in danger, everyone



Do we really understand what would happen to us if we even could remove God from His position?

else is in danger too. And so God has to stand by what is good and right, and He has to maintain His power. Some think that makes God a dictator, but in reality, it is what makes God great. Not just because He is the origin of life, but because He has chosen to be good. He too has freedom of choice, but all life is dependent on Him being absolute good in every way and every decision He makes. **So God is holy, He has chosen to remain undefiled no matter what and that is life's salvation and security.** The universe needs Him to be holy and stay holy. He does not accept bribes, He does not make decisions to gain favor, He does not change sides after who flatters Him, He does not cause instability by changing His opinions or make decisions based on a sudden emotion of anger or fear. He is always rational and fair. He can not let anyone shake His righteousness for any reason. He chose to be for everyone's sake. He asks us to choose to be like that too. What He asks us to do He does Himself.

God should be praised for that decision, not condemned. And if we condemn Him we condemn ourselves and life sustainability. Attacking God is ultimately self-destructive. Creation is like a child inside their

mother's womb. If the mother is harmed or perish, so do it. If the mother is good the child lives and thrives and if she is not good the child will suffer, so the baby in the womb is desperately dependent on the mother's decision to be good. And if the mother harms herself she also knows she does harm to the child, and so she chooses to protect herself which is ultimately the salvation of the child she carries. And for the love of it.



That is why God is His law, He has to be, and even He has to protect and maintain the principle of the first four commandments in His honor. The four commandments say that there is no other God, no one can take His place. If the originator and the life-giver are destroyed or removed life perish and can not be restored. The second is to prevent anyone from creating a false representation of Him to others claiming it is Him, the third and fourth demand respect for God's position and identity. We need to know the origin of life and understand the condition of life's continuance existence: God. And part of God's moral responsibility for His creation and for everything common good is to also protect Himself. The thought that God asks for respect for His position is tied to God being big-headed is a lie planted by an envious enemy. Satan seemed to at first not understand that if he had been able to wipe out God he would cease to exist himself. Life would die out and he, Satan, did not have the power to restore it all. Satan's plan was therefore to use God to serve his ideas, but God could not do that and remain good. God could not hand over His throne in heaven to Satan and remain good, the majority did not even want Satan's rule. Here on earth, we know how he rules very well and it is not good. He then inspires humans to blame God for his and their mess. Satan was allowed in part to rule on earth because man chose his rule (Luk 4:5). In reality, it was a coup, but by man's invitation.

One word used on God in the Bible is Elohim, a word meaning “a judge”. But God is also a father, the father of all beings. The first four commandments of the ten commandment law are about respecting the highest authority in existence. Four simple rules are all God asks for Himself from us.

The next six commandments are about humans not violating other’s rights to exist, to be respected, to not be used and disregarded, to own, to build, to be happy. If your expression of freedom violates another’s freedom, God does not agree with you what you are doing is «freedom» and He is forced to judge you with His law.



An example is the ninth commandment. If you witness falsly about someone else you sabotage their life and opportunities. And so this is not allowed to do and is called a «sin». A law break (1Jn.3:4). You can not elevate in life by

King David openly admitted that God was the real king and that the acceptance of His laws brought them under His kingship. This thought made David sing of joy. He never viewed God as a competition to his power.

ruining someone else's and expect God to look away. It was the breaking of this commandment that caused so many angels to follow Satan. This is how he got beings to doubt God. Breaking this law can have a massive effect on families, society, and politics. The moment you have sowed the seed of doubt about another it is almost impossible for them to be completely free of suspicion.

All the six last commandments of the ten commandments are tied to morality. The key to true peace in a greater society is inner morale, not force. You have to choose this morale yourself in order for it to work. But you are also dependent on others to follow it. If someone can lie about you, steal from you, deceive you then you will not prosper even if you follow this moral yourself. And so God's commandments only works to bring peace if it applies for everyone.

Just like Americans and others consider their constitutional laws as their liberty and pride, God's laws were to be viewed the same. They were to be laws of liberty, laws to bring happiness and peace. They were to create belonging and identity to God's kingdom. (Jer 31:33)

David wrote: "The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes" (Psalm 19:8)

"Your testimonies are my heritage forever, for they are the joy of my heart. I incline my heart to perform your statutes forever, to the end" (Psalm 119: 111–12).

Why no one can serve God by force.

The reason for wars and conflict is that humans were originally created with intellect in a sin-free world, where humans had inner responsibility for the well-being of others and understood the importance of God's position in their lives. We are created to be free but at the same time, God asks us to use our intellect to understand and choose to live by a set of moral codes to be able to keep it. If not, there will be no freedom. Not because God wants to be difficult but because freedom can not exist without certain ground rules that are maintained for everyone. For humans, the misunderstood idea of freedom tends to suppress and ruin other people's lives. And so a moral ground rule on the practice of freedom has to be respected by choice by all for it to actually work. Can it work without our moral responsibility towards our creator? No, because we need Him to live and there is a need for someone to hold us accountable as everyone's security. Someone greater than us, someone good, someone who loves us but at the same time is absolutely fair. In such a world, intellect and choice can be used for good, to build, to prosper, to learn to grow in the right direction. Within this frame, having the freedom of mind and choice is unproblematic. And as we see in Eden, the Lord Himself came to talk with His beings in person when the world was in that state (Gen 3:8). There was no separation. He was enjoying the company of His intelligent created beings. He was enjoying conversation with them.

This was God's design. But the moment sin came into the world human intellect was subdued under lust. Instead of trusting God to provide our needs, we trust ourselves to provide them. Our bodies became our new

leader and its desires our command. And the intellect was used to find a way to serve the command from our lusts. This is what the Bible calls to serve «flesh». God did not design us that way and identify the problem as the second cause of all sin and conflict in the world. The first being not trusting and choosing Him and the second to give the rule to our lust instead.

God had already created beings that lived by instinct and feelings. The animal world lives by flesh. But humans were to make decisions based on morals and intellect, not lust and instinct. These emotions were to be a bodily self-reward system for doing good things. Some were part of the bodily «warning» system. However, it was turned around. Man sought pleasure and fulfillment in life by feeding their desires. And the more it was fed the stronger and more demanding it got. It was never satisfied. Rather than flesh serving the mind, the mind was now serving the flesh. Rather than flesh responding to our good choices, we made decisions based on how to obtain gratification and rewards from our bodies. The Bible explains that humans degraded themselves when their shift of focus changed. The moment you live to serve your “flesh” whatever comes in the way becomes a threat. Because like animals, you will start to live by instinct. This makes way for inter-human strife and conflict. Many Christians think living by «flesh» only talk about sexual desires and appetite. But us being controlled by flesh is more than that. Among our bodily instincts is also fear, anxiety, suspicion, aggression, and so on. Perhaps the biggest of them all is fear. Fear has no patience. It’s a bodily reaction that tells us to fight or flight. It acts in haste and irrationally, it makes enemies of friends, it creates apathy and depression where “fight or flight” is not an option. Fear is one of the greatest of human problems after «flesh» was made superior to mind. It can not love or reason, it can only act. When mind becomes the servant of fear bad things happen. And the result is seen on a daily basis in people’s lives, choices, and is a major factor behind most conflicts. Many view those who conquer their fears as heroic because of the strong power it has over us. It is also fear that causes people to not seek change or to hold on to traditions that go against any common sense. There are more ways than one the change of God’s system crippled and handicapped

man's intellect. Although man did not first seek to be controlled by their negative impulses, rather just chasing pleasure, by teaching the mind to become servants of their bodies, they had entrapped themselves and struggled to regain control. And even that which was first sought as pleasure became their ruler and dominant in their decision making. To escape responsibility they claimed to be born that way, that it was their identity, that they were forced by circumstance to do what they did, and that it could not be helped. To justify their actions they claim to have no choice. So God said, in this way, we put ourselves in prison.

In the Bible we see God telling them stop doing the wrong things only to get the following reply: "And they said, There is no hope: but we will walk after our own devices, and we will every one do the imagination of his evil heart" (Jer 18:12). God would never have asked them to change or turn from their ways if it was not possible to do. They would not listen and they would not take responsibility. They refused to agree that they had a choice. By their own argumentation God said they had become a servant or slave of their bodies as they claimed to not have a free will anymore.

Jesus said: «Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin» He then continued to say He had power to free them from this degenerating entrapment that prevented man to reach his full potential: «If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed. (Joh 8:34 & 36) They had a choice, they just had to believe it and choose it.

Many think it is the body that needs to be freed from the mind and continue to work for its release. The body, however, will continue to demand more and more and we will never reach a goal and our character will just get worse as the appetite for pleasure grows. This typical behavior is even detected by non-religious who study human behavior. Jesus want to release our mind from our body and give us control back.

Children learn from they are born to follow the same pattern of serving the body and the bad cycle continues. Children are lead to believe that the only way to happiness is making choices based on their feelings and that their feelings determine their identity. However, feelings are mostly affected by circumstances, how others respond to us, our fears

and should not be in charge of long-term decisions of where we want to go or end up. Children are thereby robbed of the opportunity to plan life with their intellect. This is also the reason why society seems to keep changing morals and ideology with new generations.

God saw that the constant chase to satisfy flesh was crippling mankind and created a society where the fittest prospered and the weak perished. A society of using and to be used, ruling or to be ruled, oppression or suppression, constant ongoing envy, and strife. God said that when Israel rejected His leadership they were left with leaders who rationalize like children: «And I will give children to be their princes, and babes shall rule over them» (Isa 3:4) And «As for my people, children are their oppressors ...O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths.» (Isa 3:12)

The freedom of choice was used for doing bad things when humans went against the principle that intelligence is to be superior to urges. The body was designed to be the servant, not the ruler. This became first very apparent when Cain slew his brother Abel and buried him because of jealousy and the feeling of shame. A life was lost, a brother lost his freedom because of the impulses on the other part. Right before Cain committed his crime God had tried to warn him: “Then the Lord said to Cain, “Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it.” (Gen.4:6-7) God told Cain straight forward that he must rule over his emotions and think about what he is doing before he ends up acting upon them. Cain did not want to listen and when he saw Abel his anger took over the control of his body just as God had warned. God approached Cain intellectually but Cain reduced his own intellect and let his instincts make his decision.

Reason, logic, and understanding were not what determined Cain’s decision, but lust and passion. He did not take control of it, but let it control him. This created great grief for his parents and possibly other female siblings. Every act of sin man does is somehow tied to lust and it will harm others.



Did God spare Cain's life after he killed Abel for Adam and Eve's sake? They undoubtedly loved their firstborn and his death in addition to having lost Abel would just cause harm in an already intense situation. God let Cain live and mankind had to themselves see the consequences of it. Cain's influence over his descendants made each generation take the rebellion a step further. One of Cain's descendants was the first to get multiple wives and by it suppress women, also, he justified murder: «for I have slain a man to my wounding, and a young man to my

hurt» A savage and cruel society was the result. God spared Cain, but Cain's descendant would not even spare a man that insulted him. The result was that all of society was full of violence before the flood. Withholding punishment for those who did not repent just made the sinners more confident and violent in his ways. After the flood one of the first things God told Noah was that from now on, if someone committed murder they had to be punished straight away. (Gen 9:6).

God did create us with the ability to desire, sense, and feel. But all of this was meant to be in harmony with a peaceful loving mind. Desires are not intelligent, it is a bodily reaction and so they need guidance in the same way a child does. The more controlled by them we are the less of our intellect is used in our decision making. So why did God create us with the ability to, for instance, become angry? Anger is a natural God-given emotion but it can be used in a good way. If you want that coconut at the top of the tree and it does not come when you shake the tree, healthy anger under the control of the mind will give you adrenalin

to keep trying or to try a more difficult solution to reach your goal. Like climbing the tree, building a ladder, or finding any solution and carrying it out to achieve your goal. If an animal is stuck in the mud, anger over the situation can give you adrenalin to save it. When the mind controls the body all of the bodily emotions we have can be used as a strength. It is our «super-powers». We were created with emotions and God said after creating man that way that “it was good”. It’s like a knife. You can use it to butter your bread or to create something useful. But you can also use it to kill and wound. The knife itself is neither good nor bad. Why forbid the existence of knives when you can do so much good with it and it raises the quality of life? The responsibility is with the one holding it. God created us with emotions and instincts but He holds us accountable for what we do with them. If you stand trial for a murder no judge is going to accept that your hand did it all on its own and thereby acquit you. Or if you rape a woman, can you blame your desires forcing you to do it? You will still be judged and go to prison. God does not let us off the hook either if we claim what we do is our body’s fault. We understand this logic in our own courtrooms but when God tells us the same we call Him unreasonable.

Just like the American constitution was said to not work in an immoral world, neither did intelligent man created with intellect, emotions, and instinct work very well in a world of sin.

God was then faced with the same dilemma smaller and greater societies have faced on our planet later on. What do you do when people choose wrong or when they think wrong? Take away their free will? Take away their right to choose?

Throughout time people have chosen force and suppression towards those who act and think differently.

Being our creator God knew how we are designed. He could instantly have decided that intelligent beings are too great a risk and eliminated them all. But God loves intelligent beings because He Himself is intelligent. The second thing He could do was to let intelligent beings remain but take away their freedom of choice. But God knew that this is impossible. You can not have intelligent people able to reason without giving

them choice and freedom, or they would either hate Him and rebel or become deeply depressed in apathy. Neither would He have their trust. It does not work, it can not be done, to separate the freedom of choice from intellect. God knows that. Brainwashing is not an option either for the body and mind will be in conflict when you brainwash. And most who have undergone such treatment in our world, intentionally or unintentionally, lose their sanity and become at war with themselves.

And so when the world fell in sin, God chose to speak to man's intellect. Throughout the Bible we see God talking to man directly or through a chosen people. One point God says straight out: «Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool» (Isa 1:18)

“Come, let us reason together”. The consequence of creating intelligent beings is that you can only get them to love you and trust you by approaching them intellectually.

God does not want to create a society based on force. He says He will recreate the world, but those who refuse to reason will not be invited to this event or to live there.

God offers forgiveness. He offers new chances to make new choices, but He does not offer the new earth to everyone. The principle is, that peace and true freedom can only exist if people have made a conscious choice or decision to make God's standard their own. To respect and understand God's position as the existence of life and their moral obligation to their fellow beings. They can not become the «god» of another person, this position belongs to God. The moment God brings in one person to His «new Jerusalem» that are not there by choice and trust, by intellect and desire, there will be no peace. It is very difficult to sin without including another person into it. The conflicts we now struggle with on this planet will continue there.

So instead of forcing people to turn from the path they are on, God tries to reason with them and show the end of the road they are walking. He talk to them through His Spirit, through His children, through

nature, science, or anything good representing His standard. He allows them to make mistakes and to see the consequences of them so they can understand the nature of sin and with their intellect understand why it is wrong. Usually, some consequences take generations to show properly and so God is dependent on us learning history in order to get a clear picture and by it make our own decisions. This is the purpose of retelling history in the Bible, a place where you can see the result of sin over many generations at once. For instance, Solomon believed he was good when he participated in all kinds of religious observance but the result of his example was not fully seen before generations later. He was liked at first but then he was disliked. In a world of sin, when you try to please everyone you end up pleasing no one. The idol practices ended up taking over in society and none of the kings that came after was able to completely reverse the bad influence. And so through the Bible God has the opportunity to let us see the long-term consequences of sin and not just the short-term consequences in our own lives. Sometimes a whole nation sins, sometimes just a person. Both have a long-term effect. By learning from other people's mistakes we can add understanding and knowledge that would take many more years to learn in our present life. A decision made by Sarah and Abraham to bring another woman into their marriage and the conflicts that arose because of it is still seen today thousands of years later. Although Abraham was a man of faith, for a moment he was led to distrust God, and this led to this decision causing him pain, his wife pain, the maid pain, his son pain, and many others. All because of distrust. Later, when he had learned his lessons, he became an example of one who had complete trust in God.

The idea shared by many evangelicals that Christ will create a Millennium where pagans are subdued or even ruled by force has missed out on the whole point of the coming God's kingdom. This theory is an idea planted by Satan first to the Jews, then to the Catholics, and then now to the Protestants. The lie is based on Satan's misrepresentation of God. That God would have pleasure in ruling over unwilling recipients. If this was the case God would have ruled over man by force from the beginning. He would not have placed the tree in the Garden of Eden either.

Happiness and force do not go together, intelligent people and the use of force do not work together. You can not gain someone's trust by force and suppression. And so Jesus said His kingdom starts «within us» (Luk.17:21). It is not just an intellectual choice but it has to spring out of love for the Creator and His principles. We have to trust that He works for our best interest. «For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end» (Jer 29:11).

One of the great principles we need to understand is that God can not detach Himself from His moral law or life itself will be in danger. God has to be good and steadfast for the sake of all life. He is the only security life has, He can not go on vacation or take a break from being good. He can not experiment with sin. And this acknowledgment has to spring from our hearts. Our salvation is not to change Him but to accept Him. And so God wants us to understand Him, love Him, respect Him and choose Him. The opportunity for man to get a second chance was not created by abolishing the law but by gifting humans with a way to redeem themselves, an atonement.

God sent His Son to be born as a man and take the penalty for man's sin. The condition was that they had to be spiritually "born again", meaning reverse back to God's original plan and stop living by the flesh or lust. But because of human degeneration and weak nature in a world of sin God knew He had to add another gift with His invitation or man would not have the strength to turn from his ways. For thousands of years, mankind had for the most part lived by the flesh. The gift was the power of His spirit. When invited in, through it we would get the moral strength to reverse the law of sin if we wanted (Rom 7 & 8). The law of sin was that lust and flesh control our actions and thoughts. Our emotions and urges controlling and crippling our intellect and by it reducing us to live more like animals do than in the image God created us in. The law of the spirit would again bring man under the control of a moral mind and bring us in harmony with God's moral laws. With the added strength of the spirit, people could get the help they needed. The more mind and spirit educated the flesh and took rule over it, the less flesh would be dominant in our lives. And in the end, the flesh would be com-

pletely under the rule of the mind and spirit as God had intended and work for our happiness. We would be restored in the image God created us in, His own image where the intellect is superior.

But the spirit was only received by invitation, God would not force it upon anyone. It was not a brain-washer taking away our intellect or right to make our own decisions. It could only be given to those choosing its presence with their intellect and reason. It was given to help navigate, to bring a wider understanding of right and wrong, to help detect deceptions presented as solutions to problems, and to strengthen the human's own spirit to stand by their good decisions. (Joh 16:13) The spirit would simply guide man, not take over. God maintained His great respect for man's independence and intellect.

In the Bible, we learn that Satan's spirits do possess and take over when invited in. They do not respect people's right to choose. Once invited in they dominate and control the individual by fear and force. In these principles, the difference between God's respect for human choice and Satan's disrespect for it, it is easy to see what spirit a person is controlled by. When God sends His spirit an individual can at any point choose to not accept its guidance and push it away. Satans spirit does not leave once invited in. This is why Jesus said it takes fasting and prayer to rid yourself of these spirits (Mat.17:21). God has to Himself rescue such a person as they can not liberate themselves after inviting these spirits in. God then asks through his spirit if they want to be liberated and if they cling to it He lets them keep it as their chosen companion.

Among God's people there can have been spirit-filled men with great works to show for whom can later choose wrong. Because God's spirit does not possess once it has been invited it can be just as easily uninvited. The moment we reject its council it withdraws until we seek it again. No Christian is therefore based on their profession to be viewed as unable to make the wrong decision. A profession merely states a chosen spiritual journey but is not a guarantee that they made the right decisions upon it. Unfortunately many Christian do not understand this and think that their emotions and thoughts are controlled by God upon becoming a Christian. They continue living by flesh thinking their flesh is now under the control of the spirit and therefore can be trusted to live

by. So they continue to live by flesh as before only giving the behavior a holy name. And selfish conduct, fear, and anger are now justified in the name of God.

But God guides, He does not take over. Jesus said we will know who is lead by His spirit by their fruits (Mat.7:16) This is why God needs people to read the Bible, to intellectually understand Him and His laws and standards so that they by the help of the spirit choose intellectually the right path. If a Christian does not add knowledge and thinks he can go by the spirit alone the risk of not understanding the difference between desire and truth, spirit and flesh, can become a problem. They can not as easily see the difference between an unclean spirit and God's spirit because they do not have the knowledge to distinguish.

Jesus and Paul state in the Bible that the evidence that it is the Spirit advising is if it's in harmony with God's law (Rom 8; John 14&15).

If the advice and impression push you to violate God's principles it is the flesh and not the spirit. And so knowledge and spirit go together because God does not take over your mind, He only reasons with you. When you see spiritual manifestations in the church where a person's body is shaking uncontrolled and lose control of their body it is not God's spirit evident from the fact that it goes against God's principles. God does not want you to bark like a dog or imitate animals. He wants you to resemble Him and be elevated by it. God does not possess people. His enemy does.

God's way of evangelism is therefore not one of force, because He does not want those who come by force, only those who come by invitation. And when you do invite Him He will still not take over your thoughts or your body. He will be a companion impressing you with the truth, be your teacher and your coach, but not speaking it through your private thoughts in such a way that you feel you do not control your own thoughts. Among people with heavy psychiatric problems, you can see people who are both Christians and non-Christians who have had contact with spirits. Often you see the same effect of "voices talking" in their heads threatening them unless they follow a command. These Christians are unfortunately controlled by spirits that do not come from God. Although professing faith in Christ they have at the same time

rejected His influence and accepted the influence of other spirits. Many wish to be dictated and controlled and seek a religion where they get this. They long for dominance, it makes them feel safe. They are attracted to spirits that use force because it appeals to their «flesh». And so this spirit can preach the Bible and appear from God, but the spirit of force and disrespect for your free will reveal who is really behind it. Not all who profess the Christian faith are under God's spirit. But they walk after lust, the law of the flesh, and seek any spirits that condone that path while God's spirit quietly reminding them of the truth is rejected. In the Bible whenever God speaks directly to man you will notice it says it is by a voice heard from "above" or through an angel, through a prophet, or through His word and not an audible voice in someone's head. "God called to Hagar out of heaven, and said unto her" (Gen.21:17) "Out of heaven he made thee to hear his voice, that he might instruct thee" (Deu.4:36) "And there came a voice from heaven" (Mar.1:11) "Then came there a voice from heaven" (Joh 12,28) "But the voice answered me again from heaven" (Act.11:9) "And this voice which came from heaven we heard" (2.Pe 1:18) "And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven" (Rev.12:10) The voice from God comes usually from the outside, but He impresses people in the heart through His Spirit. If you seek Him He can remind you of Bible verses, He can guide you and impress you. But He is not a voice that takes over your thoughts. Nowhere in the Bible does a prophet say «the voice came from my head». This is part of the reason God gave the human race the Bible. And you can choose not to read it. He does not invade us. You take the words that are in the book and you have to put them in your heart and mind by your own free will. Many of the claimed prophets that are all over the internet right now giving their "messages from God" are in reality giving messages they think are from God because they think the voice in their head is God. While God's true prophets in the Bible actually communicated with God and angels, the Bible reveals that the false prophets are identified by his messages coming from his own thoughts and hearts: "Then the Lord said unto me, "The prophets prophesy lies in My name. I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spoke unto them. They prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought and the deceit of their heart"

(Jer.14,14) Most men that prophecy in God's name today are actually deceived themselves. They really believe that the thought and voices they hear are God. And they are brought in great distress for they see the spirits lie to them. Sometimes it comes true, other times it does not. Satan can not predict the future but he is very good at guessing it. He will get a lot right. The same with us, to a certain degree we too can predict the future by evaluating the things we can see. The false prophets, at least the sincere ones, believe their own presumptions and thoughts are a message from God and are distressed when they are not coming true. And they lose faith in God because of it. They damage themselves and they damage others.

False religions throughout time, even false Christianity, are identified by a spirit forcing man's conscience, violating the God-given human right to receive based on reason. And depriving man to be in charge of his own decisions and by it his own destiny. Those teachers and religious leaders who make you think you are dependent on their relationship with God to know what the truth is is not really speaking on God's behalf. The Bible warns against this mentality and states clearly that no other man is to stand between God and man except Jesus. "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus" (1Ti.2:5) Most narcissistic sect leaders or religious leaders are dependent on their following thinking they need them to be in contact with God and to preach the will of God. They do not want you to think yourself. In this way, it is easy to expose false religious teachers or deceived religious teachers who lead men astray. They often make you afraid that if you leave their church, their assembly, or do not do what they say, you will be lost. And most of them believe what they say is true. And this conviction is the reason people believe them. Most of the time they are just as deceived as they whom they deceive. The people follow them and they follow a "voice in their head" believed to be God. Knowing the Biblical facts regarding God and how He works should help you free yourself from the grip of such religious figures if you have them in your life. And if you have been tricked into thinking your thoughts are God's messages to you, then you might find freedom in the truth.

In Revelation 3 we see Jesus standing outside the door knocking, showing how He is dependent on an invitation from us to be able to save us. He can not save us any other way or His future kingdom will not be peaceful. If He did it any other way He would break His own principles. Jesus said «My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me» (Joh.10:27)

Here God paints the picture of Him going in front taking the lead and not going behind the sheep forcing them forward.

He says He is the “light” in the darkness to help us see where we are walking, He is “the door” that we have to walk through, “a way” we have to choose to walk, “bread” we have to choose to eat, “water” or “wine” that we ourselves have to choose to drink. We enter into a relationship with God through a covenant, an agreement, not by brainwash. Jesus said: “If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (Joh 8:31-32).

The Freedom of Speech

In the American constitution lies the freedom of speech. This was another concept that has been fought against throughout history.

If you can speak freely, you can also influence people with your speech. It is the influence of the speech many governments or people in leading positions fear. It is also feared by those who want to force society to head in a certain direction.

In the USA right now we see how free speech is limited by the liberal forces who want to change the country.

In schools, universities, workplaces, and even churches, liberals try to silence the conservatives and prevent them from speaking. They feel threatened when opinions are expressed that do not align with their feelings and their fears are aroused. Only by controlling what people say, they feel, can they change how people think. And what happens, is that they actually become themselves what they fear the others can become if not controlled by them. So it is a double standard.

Freedom of speech is only given to those who agree with them and influence people in what they believe is the right direction.

It has also given birth to what is now called “cancel culture” where you risk losing your job, your reputation, and future by saying something that is not considered ‘politically correct’, and it is the mob that rules the land.

The Catholic Church during its time of power and influence in Europe did the exact same thing. They wanted to silence the opposition at every opportunity they could see. You could be sentenced to death just for voicing a different opinion than what was accepted by the church. Again, the fear of losing influence over the masses was the reason for this violence. They thought a world where they did not have control would spin out of control. A very grandiose and conceited thought



Why did God give Satan the freedom of speech knowing how it would influence and lead so many to perdition? It is all about God's respect for people to choose for themselves, even the right to choose wrong. Satan did not give God the same respect.

based on the idea that you are more intelligent than everyone else.

How does God view freedom of speech? The Bible shows us that God did not choose the same path that we see the Catholic Church or the irreligious and liberal movements have gone. He allowed Satan the freedom

of speech both in heaven and on earth. Yes, Satan did influence Adam and Eve and many others after him. Bad things did happen. Yet, God still allowed Satan the freedom of expressing himself. God, in His kingdom, did not choose to combat resistance by silencing the opposition. In this way, we can see that the original American constitution actually was in part inspired by God's principles on this point. It gave man the responsibility to think for themselves. And God has given His beings the same responsibility. Silencing the opposition would only create more opposition and more violence. We see in the Bible how Satan came before God and the other angels, and voiced his opinion on why Job was obedient to God (Job.1:6). We also see him accusing us in heaven repeatedly in Revelation 12:10, arguing against our salvation. That is right, Satan was invited by mankind to rule has tried to persuade God many times that we all deserve to die. That it is unfair of God to give us second chances, not considering all the chances he got. He was a backstabber towards God and is according to this verse in the bible a backstabber to mankind as well.

Only when everyone had made their decision to not want to listen to him anymore was he cast out of heaven for good. Here comes the other

side of freedom of speech, it must not violate people's freedom to not hear. So freedom of speech has to be in harmony with others' freedom to choose what they want to hear. When no one wished to hear Satan anymore his right to speak was conflicting with the others' right to decide what they want to listen to and at that moment freedom of speech becomes forceful and is no longer a freedom. In such instances we see God allow the removal of the freedom of speech, but only if it violates someone else's freedom. The second problem is if someone orders a criminal act and the order is carried out then speech is punishable. If I order a murder I will be charged for murder. In God's law, if someone tried to persuade people to perform idol practices it came under the criminal law of the land. A lot of the idol practices violated other people's rights and were illegal. So God does not say we won't be judged by the words we speak, but He allows free discussion.

When is the first time in the Bible story when someone is attacked for speaking their mind, and by whom? It is not God! It is actually what lead to Abel's death. Notice in the story that it says Cain was talking to Abel before he slew him: "And Cain talked with Abel his brother ..Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him." This meant that Abel voiced an opinion contrary to Cain's and he got provoked by it and responded by taking Abel's life. So he was the first to use violence and silencing someone who spoke something he did not like. God then makes this a point when he asks Cain where Abel is. God says: "**the voice** of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground" (Gen.4:10)

The voice he had silenced, was not silenced. God claimed Abel's voice could not be silenced by violence. His murder would forever speak the words Cain had felt offended by. Here comes the great fact; that if you deny someone the freedom of speech you expose something about yourself and you will not have solved anything.

God uses the same expression when speaking about His faithful that has been killed: "I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held: "And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?" (Rev.6:9-10)

This is just an expression that is similar to the one God makes on Abel's blood, they are dead but their death witness of the injustice and confirms the testimony they gave when they were alive. Notice how it says that they were "slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held", meaning they were killed because of the words they spoke not because of something they did.

Although God had allowed Satan and his follower's freedom of speech they did not give the same to God and His followers.

Jesus exposed Satan and called him a liar and a killer: "Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word. Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar and the father of it. And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not" (John 8:43-45).

The most incredible thing about this dialogue was that this was Jesus speaking to people claiming they represented God. But Jesus made it clear that their behavior did not originate from God.

There are many such examples in the Bible, where it is the devil who answers with force and violence and is opposed to any speech that is in God's favor. He might want the freedom to not hear the gospel, but he is denying others the right to hear it, and so he goes against God's principles. Satan does not care about people's rights and his methods should not be used by anyone who follows God. The moment you use violence in return for words you create fear, and others do not dare to express their opinion and your rule becomes that of suppression.

Many of God's prophets who never once tried to physically control anyone, command crimes or take over the government were silenced just for voicing a different path than the one others were pursuing. The prophet Isaiah was stoned in two by the King in his day just for speaking up.

At the time before the destruction of Jerusalem, we see the same two

opposing approaches. Rather than taking control of the city, God tries to reason with them, but He sees that they prefer to listen to the prophets that lie to them. We see that God allowed these prophets to speak: “The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so: and what will ye do in the end thereof?” (Jer 5:31)

They, however, did not give God’s prophet the same opportunities: “Now it came to pass, when Jeremiah had made an end of speaking all that the LORD had commanded him to speak unto all the people, that the priests and the prophets and all the people took him, saying, Thou shalt surely die” (Jer 26:8). When they did not get permission to kill him they silenced him by putting him in the stocks, in prison, and later in a well. All to prevent anyone from hearing what he had to say.

In Nazareth, it was the people who after hearing Jesus speaking some very unpopular words decided to lynch him, and he barely got away from them.

In the end, the reason that was used to justify killing Jesus was that they feared His influence on the minds of the people. They feared the words He spoke would threaten their position. And so they answered by force and violence.

When His disciples preached after Christ death they had their freedom of speech restricted: “And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus” (Act.4:18)

When Stephen, a follower of Christ, voiced his critic of the leadership in Judah it says: “Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, And cast him out of the city, and stoned him” (Act 7:57-58)

They even stopped their ears. In Revelation Jesus says repeatedly: “He that hath an ear, let him hear”. Just as God would not take away the freedom of speech, nor would He take away someones right to choose who they would listen to. Thus, He asks for people to choose for themselves whether or not to listen to what He has to say.

However, God’s enemies will mostly use force in all instances. They will try to force you to hear what you do not wish to hear, to do that which you do not want to do, and to force you into silence. Their



Picture: Jeremiah. God's people have up through history been silenced by the opposition.

double standard is revealed when it only goes one way. For they reserve the right to hear what they want, to speak their opinion, and to do as they please, but they do not give you the same rights.

Not only irreligious, atheists, and liberals hold these opinions, but many Christian congregations also do. Jesus said: "they don't know Him" when they do these things (Joh.15:21). The best example is the Catholic Church during the Middle Ages, but many other congregations do the same today.

One good example is the Jehovah's Witness Watch Tower who dictates to their members who they can listen to and what they can say in the congregation. Their control is dependent on it. In fact, most religious congregations behave like the Jewish leaders did in their day and silence, in one way or another, anyone who dare question their ideas. They do not allow conversation and personal evaluation for they fear people will choose wrong if both sides are heard. We see the same in Jewish communities and in many Muslim countries as well. People fear free speech because words can change people's perspectives and it changes the power dynamic.

It all comes down to the root, which is fear. We think that other peoples' decisions is our responsibility. We fear the unknown. But, it is really presumptuous and arrogant for anyone to think that they ought to think for other people because they are presumably too stupid to think for themselves. Too stupid to make the right decisions, and some probably are. Still, God does not want us to rule over each other, He wants

to hold each person accountable for their own actions. Words can not force anyone to do anything. By using words as a weapon you remain respectful towards the other person's right to choose, to their free will, to hear, and therefore words are the only means to create a society built on trust. Words are powerful but they can only ever be an invitation or a threat. In John 1,1 Jesus is called 'the word made flesh'. Christ's life was in harmony with these principles and He never forced Himself on anyone. He never controlled anyone's arms, feet or brain. Yet His words was, and still is, His weapon: "*and out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword*" (Rev.1:16). Christ was the "word made flesh" but He was also the "word" killed and ressurected.

God's enemies are shown to silence God's people, but they also use speech to entrap people into their ideology: "*And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet*" (Rev.16:30)

God warns us that their words are full of lies and deception, but at the same time we see that God has allowed them to speak these lies and we can still choose to listen to them if we want. God is here not silencing the enemy, and if someone is silencing a religious competition in the end times we know they are most likely not working for God. According to the Book of Revelation, God will permit His enemies the freedom of speech to the very end.

About the "man of sin" Paul writes:

"And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie" (2Th 2:10-11)

These people are lost because they chose to not listen to God and they also chose to listen to someone speaking lies.

God gives us the responsibility.

The history of the world is the greatest evidence, if we believe in God, that God does not take away man's freedom to express his opinion. Everyone is speaking their own truth and many deceive each other, but there is no fire from heaven that devours them. When God destroyed

cities like Sodom and Gomorrah, it was not to silence their words but it was because they were physically forcing others to do as they wanted. It was the inhabitants of Sodom that attacked Lot's freedom to speak when they said they would silence Lot. He was accusing of judging them with his words (Gen 19:9). The men of Sodom did not like it when they felt restricted by words, but they had no problem physically take the freedom away from others.

Jesus warned that in the future many would persecute others for just feeling offended. He said: "And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another" (Mat 24:10).

When people use force, God sometimes has to interfere as force is violation of others' rights. But when they just speak their opinion God usually goes into a dialogue with them if they are open for it. In the book of Revelation, we can see men blaspheme the name of God to the very end. God has not stopped their mouths from doing it (Rev 16:9). God is being mocked daily by people all over the world.

The devil has done all he can to make it seem like God is the one silencing others. At the same time, he uses these methods aggressively. God can handle people questioning Him, while still having a good conscience, knowing that the truth will eventually unfold itself. People will one day learn of the harm they have done by their words.

Satan fears freedom of speech for the same reason, he has nothing to gain from letting things unfold as he is in the wrong. His best approach is therefore to use violence and force straight away to eliminate competition. He also needs you to forget history, because history exposes him for what he really is.

The USA has long been the voice in the world defending the freedom of speech, but this principle is under severe attack as we speak. Just as before those who are silenced are those who speak in harmony with God's laws revealing who is behind it all. God's words are again presented as something 'dangerous' that people need to be protected from. And the hypocrisy is not noticing that fighting against freedom of

speech with force, is becoming what they fear that free speech will lead others to become.

As God says: “Do not preach,” they preach.” And: “is the spirit of the LORD straitened? are these his doings? Do not my words do good to him that walketh uprightly?” (Mik.2:6)

If you do what is right. If you fight the right battles, why do you fear others expressing their opinions? It is force you should fear. If you are a Christian doing this, it is because you do not trust God and think it is your duty to make decisions on behalf of others. When you remove open conversations, you will at the same time remove people’s right to make their own choices. You remove the options and you lead them into a relationship with God that might not last.

This is not helping God but helping yourself to feel safe. Peace can not be obtained that way, it is a deception. God has not given you the job to think or choose on behalf of other people.

A Christian is asked to be an example for someone to feel inspired by, not to rule.

God's earthly kingdom in Israel

God did want to create an earthly haven to be a place for His people to come and find rest in a world in turmoil. God chose the tribes of Israel to create an earthly kingdom. If they followed God's commandments faithfully they were to be an example to the rest of the world and hopefully get them to follow. If the whole world chose God it would change everything (Exo.19:6; 1Ch 16:24; Psalm 105:1, Psa.67:5)

Even the establishment of this nation was done on willingness. At Mount Sinai, God presented His law to the people and asked them if they would want to go into a covenant with Him and let Him be their king. And they all went willingly by oath, agreeing, to represent Him (Exo.24). He did not demand this role, He offered it after they had called upon Him in Egypt and He had saved them according to their wishes and it was established by the consent from the people (Deu 26:7; Exo 24:3). Before God presented them with the opportunity to become His earthly kingdom, He had tried to gain their trust by saving them and providing for their needs showing them His concern for their well-being. He fought their enemies, he fed them, and listen to them.

God did not let them go into this covenant in ignorance, so before any covenant was established between them He informed them of His laws and how He would govern among them. Once they had heard or become acquainted with God's laws in full they were asked if they would willingly go into the covenant and they said yes and the covenant was confirmed. From this moment on the success of this covenant was depended on them trusting Him and obeying Him. No country can survive unless the citizens agree to follow its laws.

And so even here, God asks them to make that choice. He does not choose for them. However the covenant failed because the people did not trust God no matter what He did (Heb.3 & 4). They allowed the seed of distrust to lead them in their choices.



Later, when settled in the land, when the people said they want a human king God said: «Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them.» (1Sa 8:6-7)

God then permits them to get a king.

Why did God have to give up on the theocracy in Israel and withdraw in the end? The very same principle, they did not trust Him and thereby they rejected His rule. They did not accept His laws and they chose to follow the path of the heathens. In the book of Ezekiel, we see a seemingly defeated God leaving His temple and rule, but God is not de-

Even though God permitted them to have a king, the rules of the kingdom were to remain the same. God was to be the higher authority. The king did not rule instead of God or could make his laws contrary to God's. Whenever there was a conflict God was to have the say. The only earthly government God would rule over was such that did not try and make the leader God or God's replacement. When the kings refused to obey God and broke His law for the sake of their own laws customized to the nations around, God spoke against them. In the beginning, those kings who would not compel were rejected, like Saul and many of the Israeli kings. When God no longer had the people's trust and they prefer their earthly ruler and law God decided it was time to withdraw as their leader

feated. He could have ruled by force. He just does not want to continue to rule over a people that have not chosen Him. (Esek.10) When neither the majority of the people or the leadership or even priests would stand by Him, He could not stay. God is not a dictator. If they do not want Him, neither will He lead them.

So God left His throne among them and allowed them to be subdued under heathen kings. God did not want Babylon to torture and kill them. As we can see in the Bible, God is very upset over how Babylon treated them once He withdrew (Isa.47:6). He said Babylon would at the right time be judged for their actions of violence towards them. He did not stop loving them, but He continued His principle to not rule them against their wishes. Now Israel did not reject God completely, they just wanted to make their own laws and then have God sit and rule by their laws instead. But this is impossible for God, far above them all in intellect and position, to reject His own wisdom to rule the land by humans and their ever-changing laws tied to lust and oppression. God could not «reason» with that, and the ultimatum was therefore that if He were to be their King they had to follow His law, or God Himself would be forced to go against His conscience and morals. And if He had, the rule of the universe was in danger. God was the one being who had to remain clean at all times as life itself depended upon it. So when God started the theocracy at Sinai He asked if they would accept His laws first and said the condition of His kingship among them was that they accepted them. When they later rejected His law God could not stay as their leader. If they got to make the rules God would be lead by them and not the other way around. God would have to abandon His character to do so. He had to reverse to the rule of flesh like them. It was not possible. He wanted man to be restored in His image, they wanted God to degrade into the image of the beast.

When Jesus came to earth, born as man, we see He refused even then to give flesh the upper hand. *«For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after*

the Spirit» (Rom 8:3-4) Jesus did the opposite of Adam, and restored man back to the state they were created in. Not in the image of beasts living by instinct and desires but in God's image. Jesus ruled not by flesh but by intelligence, love and trust in God. And He was an example for humans to follow in how it was possible, even in a world degenerated, to be restored in the image we were once created in. When He did this, as a representative of the human family, He lifted again humanity. He was good, but He was hated by those who desired to continue being slaves of their lusts. Jesus said: *«The world cannot hate you; but me it hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil (Joh 7:7).* They hated Him because He exposed them and put them to shame by His example, because He showed another way to live by. Although born in flesh, human just like them, He had a superiority of mind and intellect because of His choices and by fully allowing the Spirit to strengthen Him. The key to his success was to have complete trust in God. When Satan came to tempt Him in the wilderness, every single time Jesus defeated these temptations by putting mind before flesh. Giving God the mind through His trust and only acting upon that trust. John who was Christ apostle and watched him said: *«For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father; but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.» (1Jn 2:16-17)*

Israel had treated God similarly to how kings in Europe were treated after they lost the ability to make laws and govern. They became only status symbols doing charitable work. Today we call it a constitutional monarchy. Where the monarch has to follow the law made by the people and do not govern himself. Some question what the point of the monarchy is then and others want to keep it out of tradition.

God warned them and pleaded with them but did in the end accept they did not want to follow His rule and withdrew His earthly seat of rule, the Ark of the covenant with God's law inside. However, God promised those that loved Him and wanted Him as their king and lawgiver, that He would create a kingdom but that it would not be in the current world



*Top: Queen Elisabeth is a constitutional monarch like the rest of the North-European royals. Judah and Israel was allowed to have Kings if they allowed God to be the legislator and themselves to have a lower position. However, they turned it around and made God more like the modern constitutional monarch. Meaning God was reduced to a mere ceremonial role. God did not agree to this role and would only rule by His laws.
Bottom: The pope did the same when he placed church ordinances over God's laws.*



of sin and chaos. He would create a new world. Today many Christian societies have done what Israel did. They have made God and Christ name their status symbol, the subject of their songs and praise, yet they do not accept His law or rule. Instead, they want God to rule among them by their church ordinances and by the laws of their flesh. Others want God to rule by the rules of the larger society which is constantly changing. Because then they

will be accepted by society. But God cannot. God's identity is His law, His character. Christ is the law made flesh (Joh.1,1). They can not rule without their law. God being one with His principles is life's security. And they can not rule by human laws or church laws. If He did rule by man's laws God would be an accomplice to their sins. The apostle John knew and he said: *«He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him»* (1Jn

2:3-4)

Jesus warned: *“If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also. But all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake, because they know*

not him that sent me” (Joh 15:20-21). Jesus told that His name would be used to force people into church submission, but He said they do it because they don’t know or understand God’s principles. Unfortunately, the act is really done by a different spirit that rejoices in misrepresenting God and is happy these acts are done in Christ’s name.

God’s approach in sharing the gospel, the offer of forgiveness for past transgression and a new life in a new world, was an invitation to trust Him. A feast to the heart. Jesus sacrificed Himself to give us this invitation showing us God’s great love for us and how eager He was to save us. Jesus preached how the Creator views us as His children, He wants

Jesus used a lot of time trying to inspire man’s trust in God

us to succeed, He wants our freedom and our happiness. Most of all, He wants our love and tries to speak and reason with our hearts.

Jesus used a lot of time trying to inspire man’s trust in God and that all He really wanted was their well-being. He talked about how God had even counted the hair on the sparrow and how much more worth we were. He talked about God as a provider who wanted to give us good things like a father gives his son. He spoke of the father and the prodigal son. He spoke of God’s eagerness to forgive. He spoke of God as a loving father and healer. He made clear God’s motives and that they were not what Satan had made them out to be. Jesus was clearing God’s name for all the misrepresentation and lies that had caused people to not trust Him and which lead them to refuse Him. However would people still prefer their flesh to be their god, did they prefer the lies so that they unapologetic could continue seeking ways to satisfy their desires? When realizing God could be trusted was the need to satisfy the flesh still more important in the end?

Now God’s and Christ’s work is ruined when people take His words and apply force making it near impossible to later reach the same people

with the same invitation. Because His words have been given a false association of God's kingdom. This is why Satan is so active working through people that call themselves Christians but who have rejected God's rule. It is sabotage.

The majority of Christians became corrupted just like Jesus said and the gospel became corrupted with it. The institution of the papacy showed the same attitude that made God leave Jerusalem. They wanted Him as their status figure, they wanted His protection and forgiveness but they did not want His rule. They picked and chose what they wanted and rejected what they did not want. They wanted to create their own laws and regulations as they saw fit, changing God's times and the definition of sin. They sold indulgences and made God's salvation a trade. They even changed the memorial of God as the originator of all life and claimed the change of God's rule to their rule was in God's honor.

The Catholic church got it all wrong when they did this and by their actions, they pushed God out of their church and were left with their imagery of God and strange spirits. Through their pictures, they claimed He was still there. Their paintings showed a God approving of them and their rituals. But it was all in their imagination. Not understanding God's law or moral or even how He wanted to rule or the principles of His rule, they started persecuting everyone who had a different opinion or an altered conscience. They attacked those who went against their religious laws, all in Christ's name just as Jesus had predicted. It went so far that they targeted those who continued to keep God's original laws and called them the heretics. The Papacy set up an earthly seat of control Jesus never asked for or took. They claimed their leader ruled in Christ's place, but he did not rule by Christ's law. They forced people to convert, pressured them to go against their conscience and against their reason. Because the Papacy sought worldly control, they wanted to rid themselves of any form of chaos that they in their day viewed as the source of the problems in the world. They forbade people to read the Bible and think for themselves and would rather have people come to church and receive their version of the truth and not question it. By removing anyone teaching differently, by removing the Bible from the hands of the common man, they thought for sure they would be able

to create a Christian utopia. They thought that if everyone thought as they did there would be peace. They controlled governments, education, economy, religion, family and did not permit the opposition to speak. But the peace they thought they could create in this way did not happen. Those suppressed would eventually rise and not be held back. Many chose their religion because of fear, or for the want of position, or the need for control. They followed God by flesh and not by intellect and trust. The rule of sin had become the rule of the church. Even popes were caught in performing the most degrading and immoral acts, priests too. Believing church doctrines made no one holy or free from their passions. People who tried to reform from the same church doctrines were tortured and killed. Jews were also forced to convert. The whole thing became a bloody affair costing more people than can be numbered. And still to this day many Catholics think the problem was those who would not convert and that they still are the problem. The reason the church did not conquer sin was because they did not encourage trust in God. Even the priests looked to themselves and a human leader to trust in and this trust did not lead to victory over flesh for it broke the bond God needed to have with His people to lead them.

Today the irreligious have taken over the same influential positions that the Catholic Church once had in Europe during the middle ages and many evangelicals dream of taking it from the irreligious again. But it has already been done, is done, and people have never been more divided. In the Bible, God named the earthly powers beasts reminding people how they have chosen a government that can never heal the land as long as they are ruled by the laws of the flesh. The beast rule by fear, anger, and lust. And so do these earthly governments. Man's only path to peace is to regain trust in God, to be restored in the image of God, and to respect God as their life-giver.

At creation, God was the authority of man and man was given to rule over beast, but in Daniel and Revelation we see beasts rule over man and man attempting to rule over God. And we will look at God's play with these illustrations as we look into the end time conflict.

The reason of the constant conflict

Any false religion will create conflicts, but also the truth. Jesus said He was the truth, the way, and the life. And if we believe Him we have to also be able to see that many hated Him and stirred up controversy because of how He lived His life (John 14:6).

Truth can be subdued but it can never be destroyed (Dan 8:12). Just like Jesus said He was the truth but was killed, He was also the truth resurrected.

In the Bible, we learn that God has a spirit trying to influence man to choose the principle of morality that comes from God and that humans were created to live by. The more people say «no» to this spirit the more it will go away. The more people say «yes» the more it will come. The spirit is independent of religious membership or your geographical location. All men are God's children and will receive a call from the Spirit. And so man's inner conscience has always felt the influence or calling of the spirit until it is rejected completely. The spirit always preaches God's morals and truth with any tools in hand. Jesus used scriptures but He also used nature and parables. Sometimes He used real events. All to bring peoples attention to the same truth. God's spirit does the same thing.

Paul explained the phenomenon like this: *«For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;»* (Rom 2:14-15)

So no matter who you are, where you are, to what religion you are born into, God will come and visit you with His Spirit to seek an invitation to teach you His ways and principles. And many say «no thank you» but

others are intrigued and love what God shows them and open up their hearts and God gives them more.

Now irreligious do not understand this principle. They think if they take over the school system, governmental institutions, and force people into a scripted mindset from childhood, they can eliminate religion and create a uniform conscience constructed by their morals. But as long as God's spirit remains, as long as people reason with it and invites its teachings, there will be opposition to that which is not of God. The irreligious cannot control the channels God uses to communicate. Every individual controls it themselves. Only when we individually choose to not receive the Spirit's invitation to learning will we shut down the channel God communicates through.

When man first sinned God made the following prophecy: «And I will put enmity between thee [Satan] and the woman, and between thy [Satan's] seed and her seed» (Gen 3:15) Here God makes it clear He will never abandon the human race and there will always be resistance against Satan's rule. Satans followers will never win everyone and so God predicted that conflict would always exist.



The irreligious movements in the USA claim to be a defender of freedom of choice, the celebration of difference of opinion but in real-

Several of the declared atheist governments are also communist in structure. Life there has not become more of a utopia than in other religious countries. The persecution of especially Christians and Muslims is also present in all countries although rarely given attention. This is also the reason christians fear strong socialist countries. The removal of God in society does not bring less crime or make people more good.

ity, its practice has shown to be that of totalitarianism. Just like everyone before them they suppress others, force others to make the changes they seem right. Their freedom is not for everyone, only for those who support their world-view. Christianity is seen as the biggest threat with its moral and is therefore subdued and attacked. They think because they would feel violated by following the moral codes of the Biblical faith that all those who do also feel suppressed by it. They don't understand that to many, following these moral codes brings inner peace, freedom, and happiness.

Many conflicts arise because people are unable to understand that what makes you happy does not automatically make another person happy.

The irreligious belief is that anyone religious is suppressed by religion and has to be freed from it. In this mindset, they attack the religious people in some attempt «to save them from themselves» and if they refuse they aim to save others from them instead.

Forcing a liberal worldview upon a man of faith is an attack on his freedom and conscience. The irreligious belief is that anyone religious is suppressed by religion and has to be freed from it. In this mindset, they attack the religious people in some attempt «to save them from themselves» and if they refuse they aim to save others from them instead. But this is just what the Catholic church did in their day, or the communist countries did, or any society did when suppressing groups of people. You can not save someone who does not wish to be saved or who does not intellectual agree with you. Personal freedom is only achieved by choice.

And if there is one thing the passing of time has taught us all is that every generation that ever lived thought they were in the right while suppressing others in their time. They thought they did the right thing and that they were working on creating a better society, and then a few generations later they are viewed as ignorant and unfair. And the generation of our day is doing the exact same, finding their own truth that

they force upon others.

The irreligious society on the rise today can best be compared to the Roman empire. The moral was similar, sexual immorality was accepted and celebrated. Religious traditions are observed but religion does not affect the overall conscience. Philosophy and theaters were popular then and now. They had diversity under the Empire which consisted of many different groups of people like today. When pure Christianity was on the rise it was hated just like pure Christianity is hated by irreligious today. And they tried to eliminate it then and now. With Rome's every attempt to fight the people's conscience and force them to conform to society the more the Christians grew in number. The more Christians were put on trial and killed the more converted. They could not beat it and in the end, had to incorporate it. Then once the church became powerful in the empire the wind changed and they became the oppressors instead. Then finally the atheists and agnostics had enough and under the French revolution Bibles and religion were forbidden again, yet not many years later they re-accepted it. The suppression and blood flowing did not create the Utopia they had hoped for. They had paraded the streets with a female they claimed represented "reason" yet the people had not become more reasonable at all. You could even say they were unreasonable. Saying you are something and being it is two different things. The land had been filled with violence and immorality and many suffered because of it. History repeats itself over and over again because they do not understand God's principles which they were originally designed to live by in a world where intellect ruled over the flesh. And trust in God as the only supreme leader was the only road to unity and peace.

Peace can never be obtained through the oppression of conscience. And man can not prosper and develop without freedom of choice.

No religious freedom allowed in God's kingdom.

There were many criminal laws in ancient Israel that, to many people today, appear as a suppression of religious freedom as they involved worship. There was even a death penalty for breaking God's moral law that included laws that said to not have any other gods than God. This is mostly problematic because we are accustomed to think of God as a spiritual being and not as a physical king. If we understand the latter is actually the case, we will also understand what we perceive as religious laws might have a different significance. If there is a human king, let us say the King of Sweden. Then logic dictates that you cannot just choose another king yourself in that same country. You can have only one king, the legitimate one, and if you announce another after your own whim it is considered a coup attempt. The word Elohim also means judge. You can't stand before the judge in a country and say that he has no right to judge you because you want another judge who represents another law to do it. We understand this logic in our society yet many refuse to understand this logic when it comes to God.

God does not see Himself as a mythical being but as an actual ruler. And so naturally, the institution of other gods in His kingdom is considered a coup.

So when God had laws against having or creating other gods in His earthly kingdom, in reality, the laws were against attempts to overthrow God's government and authority there. It is a reversal of all other nations problems. They fight God because His authority compete with their authority. In the earthly kingdom God was fighting the authority of the idol worshipers to stay in position as the highest authority. So all this time it has been about governmental power. After Jerusalem was

conquered by Babylon and God withdraws from His earthly kingdom, God shows the Babylonian king the future all the way until the end of time. Here, as revealed by the prophet Daniel, the rulers that people had elected themselves would rule over them until the end. As mentioned, God's ten commandments does



God had been rejected and showed Daniel that the dream prophecized a line of heathen rulers till the restoration of God's kingdom.

not work in society if only a few people keep them. If freedom is to be achieved, all people has to keep God's law. You can be noble, and avoid stealing all you want but if others still steal from you, you'll have no peace nor prosperity. If you follow God but your neighbors worship a pagan god, then you will not enjoy the blessings from a society keeping God's law. For you will be affected by their choices. And when they grow in number they will take over and rule over you.

The witness the ancient states of Israel was supposed to be to the world would only work if they decided to stand together united under God's law. When they failed to do so, the country was divided into two sides, those that followed the religion of Ba'al and the other that chose to follow the Lord. Rather than becoming witnesses of God's future kingdom they became witnesses to how a divided people leads to collapse instead. When there are two gods there will be two conflicting laws. No judge can rule by two conflicting laws, that would be discrimination, and so a natural step in such a society, is to agree on one of the two. The people fought the idol-worshippers because there were only two

options. Let them take over the rule of the land and give up, or keep the ruling position themselves. A good example of this is the story about the golden calf at mount Sinai. When Moses had been gone far longer than they expected, those that were hostile towards God had a golden calf made. They told the people that this was their god and then proclaimed that it would lead them back to Egypt. In reality, it was the new self proclaimed leaders who would lead them back to Egypt in the name of this god. The majority wanted to continue the journey with God. However, these strong men were actually challenging God by trying to take over the people and bring them back to Egypt again. In the end, they were executed for this coup-attempt. If they hadn't been, God would not have been able to lead because they would have taken over. People understand these things in matter of human conflicts, but seem to play ignorant in the matters of God.

To punish those committing these type of crimes was in no way a peaceful affair back in the day. Death penalty was not unusual, not just in ancient Israel, but in other nations as well. In early kingdoms there was no well functioning long-term prison facilities and most who ended up in prison had a slow death. They did not have the ability or willingness to give people "life sentences" in prison. In those days it would not be humane to keep tens of thousands of people in prison, neither morally nor physically. It would also be difficult to have people forced to work to provide for that many imprisoned people without reducing them to poverty. Most men were farmers living off the land. So when there was a major conflict, death penalty was the only option left. It was either kill or be killed. They did not want to work to provide for men who raped their daughters and murdered their sons while being left in want themselves, it just wasn't fair. The ones who committed severe crimes was therefore sentenced to death. Although many oppose sentencing people to death today, we need to understand that the people who committed crimes did actually have a choice not to. And in those days they were well aware of the consequence, and still they chose to do it. In this way, people were held accountable for their own death penalty. When it came to idol practices in those days that were subject to death penalty, we need to remember that part of the practices involved behavior that most of us would consider to be criminal conduct today.

Human sacrifices was still done, which came under God's law against murder. Many had the practice that the young virgins had to be raped at a temple for the gods before being married, this was also against God's moral laws. This is just to mention a few. Therefore, pagan worship and God's law did not go together at all, and was therefore illegal in God's earthly kingdom.

When the idol worshipers were allowed to take over, they did not let the people worship God in peace either. In the Bible we can read about how Elijah had the Ba'al prophets executed, which shocks many (1Ki 18:4). At first glance it seem very harsh and Bible critics paints them as innocent men only wanting to practice a different religion in the kingdom. What few realize, is that they had all of God's prophets killed a good while before they themselves got judged and executed. (1Ki 18:4) When Elijah proved to the people that it was the men of the true God who had been slaughtered, they realized that the Ba'al prophets had massacred many innocent people. That is why these Ba'al prophets were judged and sentenced for murder.

In those days the worship of God and state was unified, not only in Israel but in all the other nations as well. As long as God's throne was in their midst and He was the ruler, what kind of leader would He have been if He had just handed over the scepter to the enemy and allow them to subdue His people? What would you call such a ruler? Would you have trusted such a person to lead your country, or would you want your ruler to stand up for you and defend the people?

In the end God did leave, but not until He was no longer wanted. Elijah had said to God:

“the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away» (1.King.19:10) God answered and said He still had people He was fighting for: *«Yet I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him» (v.18)*

God would not have been a very faithful ruler to His people if He had not fought to keep His rule and to protect His people.

God could not allow religious freedom in His earthly kingdom because that was the same as if people chose different laws in a society today.

If you lived in a country and everyone could pick their own leader and their own law, it would no longer be a single country nor would there be a higher authority.

The difference between God's kingdom and other countries in this respect is that God's kingdom was built upon willingness. Meaning you could choose to leave and join another nation. You can not do that today. So, back in those days, God did not stop people from leaving the kingdom if they wanted, He just didn't allow them to take it over.

When the people that rejected God far outnumbered those following Him, He stepped aside and let them choose their own leaders. In those days you could only have religious tolerance if the religious people themselves agreed on a common law and ruler that was not connected to any religious observance.

The state of Israel however, was a religious state, not a political one. and its existence was initially wholly dependent on their relationship with God. God said: «And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation» (Exo.19:6)

To use a modern example, if you were a Buddhist and moved into the Vatican State and tried to convert the state and take over the leading position there to make it Buddhist and then force the priests to pray to Buddha and keep Buddhist feasts, that would be wrong right? Because they did not choose to be Buddhist and it was their state to begin with. Technically this is what the idol worshipers tried to do with Israel and Judah. At the time of the kings, Israel was the only kingdom in the whole world that worshiped God. If idol worshipers could just take over the land, there would be none. Those who followed God would have no where to do it in peace and without discrimination. God wanted this one place where people could seek the original plan for mankind under the real Creator.

God fought for his kingdom for a long time, for as long as there were people calling for Him to rule and protect them. The moment they chose God as their ruler, His responsibility was also to defend His government, and to prevent a takeover and to protect and defend the people of His country.

The United States of America created religious freedom because they found a common ground. They were either Christians, theists or agnos-

tic, but they still roughly kept the same traditions and had for the most part the same moral standards, which is why it worked. When the moral foundation changed between them and they got many new religious directions, the land itself became less peaceful. The great tug of war ended up being between the atheistic and the religious people and not between the religious. As we can see today, the country is now torn in mainly two sides.

Israel was also torn in two because of difference of belief. If God was to have an earthly state to work in peace, He had to have the law say to follow only one God. In the end, it does not work any other way.

This is what governments throughout time has realized as well, which is why they try to force or to pressure one religious or irreligious direction upon the people. Yet, they still do not have peace because force and pressure does not work to create peace, and someone will always end up being suppressed depending on who is larger in number or who has the most influence. God does not want that in His kingdom, He wants suffering to end. He wants equal rights and opportunities. Therefore, God's solution as He presents it, is that people have to choose Him with their hearts, with love, with mutual understanding. That is the only way you can have both peace and one government at the same time.

In His new coming kingdom, the New Jerusalem, there will not be religious freedom, you cannot make yourself a god in the New Jerusalem and tell everyone to follow that god instead. You cannot make yourself a god and tell people to follow your set of laws instead. This would only cause chaos to re-emerge again. This is part of the reason for the first four commandments in the Ten Commandments. To protect God's right as «the government». We know very well after living some years on this planet that those who think they would make the best leaders are usually also the least qualified character-wise. God has to be seen as a governmental power to be understood in the correct light. Any conflicting law or god is a governmental issue. God's law does not bring peace unless all agree upon it, and so God cannot create a paradise if not all the participants that come there agree upon following it. He does not want to suppress one group of people over another. And so He made this condition for man to enter His kingdom of heaven, that they had choose Him. By choosing Him comes the benefit of having the Creator as your King.

He can heal, He can restore, He can do all these things Satan and human leaders cannot give us. He will even create fruit that ensure they do not have to die: *«Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city» (Rev 22:14)*

This is also why God needed Israel to agree upon following His law, and to not have any other gods before establishing the earthly kingdom. God had great plans for the earthly kingdom as well. Being all powerful He would remove illnesses among them, protect the pregnant, the babies, the animals, their crops. He said that if anyone attacked them or their land, He would scare them away and the enemies would have to flee. He said he would protect them from drought, he would protect their stored food, prevent them from becoming indebted to other nations, and he would make sure they would not be suppressed by other people. He said those who died a 100 years old, would be considered young because their strength and health would be so good compared to others. All these promises He said He would fulfill if they chose Him to be their king in the earthly kingdom. The condition was: *«And thou shalt not go aside from any of the words which I command thee this day, to the right hand, or to the left, to go after other gods to serve them» (Deut.28:14; Isa.65:20, Exo 15:26, Deut.28)*

These were some really amazing promises! Who would not want to live in a country with such benefits? But they ended up choosing other leaders instead, even other gods, and God could not fulfill His promises to them because of that choice. God could never leave His position in heaven for many reasons. He could, however, leave His throne on earth. By leaving His seat of reign on earth, heaven became witnesses for what would have happened if God had or could leave His position in heaven. It was not good.

It is important to understand the difference between being forced to worship a deity and making a covenant with a deity. God does not force people to live a life they do not want. If they choose to follow Him He would protect them as a King should. This involves not allowing a coup. When God did not have a people backing Him up, He left them to themselves. He never decided to raise his throne in the midst of a

people that did not want Him and then demanded they worship Him and follow His rules. We just need to understand this difference, because many religious country today do force people to worshipping certain gods or leaders, and this is not God's way.

God has allowed people to follow the leaders they choose, the religion they choose, and the ideology they choose on this planet until judgment day.

He has given them a chance to prove their thesis that their ideas, leaders are better than Him. They critic God and claim they can make better laws. Can they succeed in the impossible task of uniting a divided people without suppressing, discriminating, or allowing evil?

But He cannot allow the same to happen in Heaven or on the New Earth that He has said He will make. In heaven God is not only needed, He is chosen.

God left His earthly kingdom, but His new kingdom would not be in this world as it is, as God would have to rule by force to make it happen. Jesus talks about the future home of His people: *«In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you» (John 14:2)*. To be a part of His kingdom, Jesus tells us to first enter into a covenant with Him. He used the symbols in the Lord's supper, or Passover, as symbols of entering into the covenant with Him. By drinking the wine and eating the bread we accept Him as both savior and Lord. Jesus called it the «blood of the new covenant» (Mark.14:24). And Paul states Christ ratified the new covenant on the cross (Heb. 9). Therefore, the new kingdom is also built on an agreement between Christ and the people for Him to be their leader. Because we have been sentenced to death for the rebellion against God's government, we cannot just agree on God being our ruler, we also need to pay the price for our crimes. Not being able to join God's kingdom without it, us not being able to pay without losing our lives, Christ paid the penalty for us. This is an extremely generous offer from God. It witnesses that God was not after revenge, but that He actually wants us to live.

It might be hard to understand for some that religious freedom is not the answer in God's kingdom, but there is no other way to create peace. Because God cannot rule without His moral law, He can not allow

religious freedom in His kingdom. For God is a king, a ruler, not an idol made of wood, rock or gold. Worshiping God in the Bible is always tied to obedience to His law because He is a leader not a made-up make-believe figure. And so, where God is king there is no room for another god. The modern concept of gods is that they are just spiritual beings that comes in and bless or curse and needs to be 'satisfied' in some way or another, and so God is not understood properly.

God has allowed people to choose who they want to follow on this earth, but as mentioned He can not allow it in His kingdom. God is responsible for more created beings then just us, and life depends on Him staying in position. No rebel will be allowed access, it is God's home and He is entitled to invite whoever He wants. If you had worked and paid for a house, got married, and had children, you would not allow a stranger to one day come in and be in charge of the home, your money, your things, and make the rules you and your children are to follow. You would quickly kick the man out and call the police.

Modern Israel

Is modern Israel God's state? The answer is simply no. They gathered in the country because they were related, had been persecuted for a long time, and wanted to practice their traditions that was inspired from God's laws. Modern Israel is not a theocracy, God is not their ruler, for they have their own law they rule by.

In ancient Israel, they were to rule by God's law and God's spiritual court was, in part, the temple. Here the people would receive atonement from God after having broken the law. For Him to remain as their ruler despite their previous rebellion, they had to reconcile and renew the covenant at God's court. People would fall into temptation, they would fail to keep His law and so God had provided a way to atone for their sins. This was not an open rebellion or take-over, it was just the people failing to keep the law at times, but still wanting to do the right thing. Coming to the temple represented an admission of guilt and a desire to still follow God. By admitting their crimes against God's law, they showed that they respected God as the lawgiver, and that they also respected the validity of His law. In this way, God could continue as their King even when they sinned against Him. If they did not make this

admission or seek to change, sin would stop being an abnormality or exception and eventually become the rule. And once it became the rule, God's rule was subdued and abandoned. This is what God did not allow. If they were in constant conflict with Him as lawbreakers demanding the right to sin, God would be forced to rule over unjust people if He stayed. Only when God was accepted and the temple was present could God rule as their King.

In modern Israel the sins are many and great, of both state and the people, but God has not given them a new temple.

When there is a competing law and no temple God can not be their earthly ruler.

Because of this, modern Israel is not a theocracy and it is not God's kingdom on earth. They have to enter the same covenant as anyone else in order to get access to the New Jerusalem where God will be the leader. Their only hope of restoration now lies with the atonement provided by Christ. This is the only way for them to re-enter a covenant with God.

Should the Unites States of America unite religion and state to save the country?

The Christians in the United States are facing the fact that their country is going from being christian to becoming in favor of the religion of atheism. The word religion comes from the Latin word ligare: to join, or link. And atheism has linked their ideology with their origin story just like religions has to theirs. An evolutionary story that cannot be proven and therefore is a myth or a belief and thereby a sort of religion. Remember, from God's perspective, who knows these are lies, it is a religion, an alternative belief system making mankind the supreme beings. They worship each other. With the atheist or non-religious world view comes the natural resistance to the moral standard of the Judaeo-Christian God and the Bible. Their belief system is that it goes against their desires and thereby, rather than their desire being the problem, as Jesus said, they make God's morals the problem instead. If you feel condemned you will feel shame and not feel free, so they view the Christian moral system as spiritual suppression. It is clear that the country is headed in a direction that will lead to Christians being persecuted

once again if nothing changes.

When God is not the king of the land by the people's own choice and support, God's people have no right to force His rule upon anyone. There is a difference of God ruling in His own name and us trying to rule in God's name for His sake. The first is legit the second is not. Laws against false witness, stealing and murder is already in place. Part of God's laws are already part of the countries criminal laws for logical reasons. The laws that are not part of the criminal laws are those that require honoring and worshiping God.

There is a difference of God ruling in His own name and us trying to rule in God's name for His sake.

This, for the very fact that God will not accept people to be worshiped by force, is not possible. In ancient Israel He was a ruler and forbade idol practices but He did not force anyone to come to the temple or to worship Him. Any attempts to force worship upon others is not God's way. Any country today is therefore actually best served to have religious freedom until God Himself establishes His kingdom that is based on the people's own choice. If the Christians in the United States make religious laws «to save the country», in reality they will tear up the country even more and that without God's blessing. They will only copy the behavior of the Catholic Church in the Middle Ages, which we know for a fact did not work.

Another reason why Christians should not try and enforce any religious laws is that they do not even follow God's laws themselves. The religious laws they want to push on people are mostly church ordinances or human laws created «in God's honor», not God's law. God's laws can only work if all agree to keep them and if they are the real authentic ones. If they are forced upon people, they break because of their nature and they will not work nor bring any blessings.

To combat the problems the Christians are facing right now there is only one right solution. They cannot bring the country back to God through legislation, because the country was not a theocracy in the first place. They can not force God into a theocracy, neither can they use God as a

galleon figure for their own laws and ideas.

God's ten commandments are peculiar for they are not depended on a human government to be kept. You can keep them yourself now. Therefore the Christians need to turn away from their own church laws and ordinances and go back to God's law themselves. It will be their personal covenant with God. Once they have chosen God as their King by respecting His laws they will receive atonement by the virtue of Christ sacrifice, the High Priest in the temple in heaven. These two combinations re-establishes God as your King. Just like this combination once established old Israel as God's kingdom. With it you are granted to be under God's rule, but still in enemy territory. God has not promised you to live in paradise here on earth for He will



In the vision on the coming kingdoms, God explained that after God's earthly rule ended heathen rulers would take over until His kingdom would be restored. A very important message came with the vision "And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed ... Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver; and the gold.." (Dan.2:44-45)

The kingdom of God will not be established by human "hands". Meaning it is not given to God's people to establish an earthly kingdom on God's behalf. He will do it Himself at His chosen time and His chosen way.

not force the worship of Him. The best thing Christians who fear their future should do is go back to God's rules themselves and then pray God for deliverance. The moment you place yourself under His protection and care, He will help fight your battles. If the Christians in the Unites States fight to incorporate worship into the state to protect themselves, they have not helped God nor themselves. Catastrophe will be the result. The persecutions of the Middle Ages will return. The situation of the Christians in America can in part be compared to the situation of Israel before the promised land. When God called on them to enter the land they did



What and tares together. Jesus gave a parable story with an important lesson for His people. They were not to divide the tares and the wheat, representing the children of the world and God's people. He told them to leave this job to Jesus when He returned and angels would help carry out the work. Again, God's people are warned not to take rule in the world in His name. He said it is not a task entrusted to them (Mat 13:28-30; Mat 13:41).

not do it. When God told them He would not go with them without their trust they answered by going into Canaan anyway to prove to God their willingness. But they were defeated because they still did not let God lead them. When they refused they disobeyed and when they went they still disobeyed. Both instances was disobedience, both was taking the matter in their own hands and trying to drag God along with them. And so what appears as obedience and alliance with God is not when the people go by their own rules

The same took place when Israel later fought the Philistines. The Philistines was their long standing enemy who constantly came into their lands and suppressed them. Israel was loosing the battle but decided to bring the Ark of the Covenant with them into the war representing God's authority and presence. They were cheering and were so happy when it came in to the camp, sure of it bringing them victory. Instead

they were beaten once again and the Ark was taken from them. You can not force God into a war He does not want to participate in, by bringing «His name» or even «law». Those who carried the Ark, as well as the people, were just as bad as those they were fighting. Many Christians see the symptoms of sin but they do not see the cause of it. Often they, by misrepresenting God, actually cause sin and rebellion.

At one time the people in Judea wanted to crown Jesus as king: *«When the people saw the sign that Jesus had performed, they began to say, “Truly this is the Prophet who is to come into the world.” Then Jesus, realizing that they were about to come and make Him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by Himself.»* (John 6:14-16)

That is right, Christ would not accept kingship in His honor when they were based on the wrong principles. Jesus would not be the kind of Messiah they wanted, He was trying to be the Messiah they needed. No Christians in the United States of America can force Christ to rule there either. Some Christians who say they need to take the USA back quotes Jesus saying: “Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence” (Joh 18:36). But as we just saw, they did try and force crown Him as king at one time. Jesus said they did not want what He represented, His law. They did want Him if He could heal and provide and do as they wanted. Jesus needed them to accept Him on His terms, that they would not.

So, for Christians in the United States who are mostly in need of conversion themselves, who break God’s law to follow their own ordinances, who think they will be victorious bringing God into the battle field, will be very disappointed with the end result when finding out that God did not go with them. Jesus said false Christ’s would appear in the end times, and surely if Christ will not go with them they might just choose a false Christ who do what they want instead. In Judea’s case this lead to their ruin. They did not accept Christ, but later when another Messiah-figure appeared, they followed him. This lead to the rebellion which caused the Roman army to destroy both them and the city. If Christians do not turn from their ways they will end up with a false Christ that leads them into destruction as well. The difference is to know and

understand God's principles. By knowing Christ's character we will know if it is really Him for He would never accept a crown from people on their terms. The salvation of the believer is to turn to God and accept that God's kingdom will not be in this world as long as He is not voluntarily elected, and with Him, also His law. And it will not be established by "human hands".

When men of sin take over

In Bible history we learn that suppression by the enemy is a result of God's peoples falling away. It was when Israel fell away from God that He allowed the Philistines to subdue them, it was when they rejected His rule that God allowed Babylon to conquer them.

Every time a different ruler takes over, it is the result of God's people not being in the right relationship with God. How can God defend one over another if they both equally do the same bad things?

How can God defend us if we are not repentant without at the same time aiding us in doing harm?

In 2.Thessalonians 2:3, we learn the "man of sin" comes after a falling away: *"except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition"* Many think this is talking of the «others» falling away, but the Bible has already given the answer in God's dealing with His people in the past. The others had already fallen away from the time of Babel, Paul is speaking about the fall of God's people. Suppressive rule comes because God's people fall away. It is when we leave God or live in violation of God's moral law, when we become worldly, unrighteous, unkind, unloving, misrepresenting Him, that is when the way is paved for our suppression because God withdraws His protection from us.

The Christians in Europe and in the Unites States lost control because the majority partook in the evil, they fell away from the truth. When God called them to turn back to Him and His law they would not. They wanted to keep their own traditions and create their own suppressive leaders. They chose greedy leaders promising them prosperity in worldly things. They did not care for the weak among them, they discriminated. They did not love and welcome the stranger, instead their

lives was about finding ways to please their own self. Their behavior is in many way the same as everyone else in the world, it is hard to see the difference. Their pursuits are the same, their traditions are the same, their pleasures are the same. When the majority of Christians stopped reforming and instead became one with the world, they had a falling away. This leads to the same situation as it has in the past, God's spirit withdraws, and suppressive leaders take advantage of the situation and take over. Their only way of salvation is to go back to God with a whole heart, not to try and overthrow the government. History is repeating itself.

In the time of the Roman empire the Christians got persecuted for not taking part in Roman sins. After a while they adjusted, and persecution slowed down and after a while they had more freedom. When they started falling away from the truth, and their traditions and purpose unified in large part with the pagan state, they took control over the government and ended up with the pope. This was a man that claimed to rule in Christ stead, but he became an oppressor. This oppression lasted a really long time. What the Christians should have done instead of pushing for a pope and a governmental position, was to turn back to God and God's law.

In the past, when God's people turned and renewed their covenant with Him, He came to their rescue. If they had done it this way God would still have been their leader, but instead of this they chose an earthly leadership. They rejected God as king and selected their own. Just like with Israel, the Christians ended up with a long line of Saul's. Saul fought against Israels enemies but he also refused to follow God's rules when he disagreed, and ended up killing God's priests and persecuted God's anointed.

The majority of Christians in the United States need to realize that they are not as holy as they think they are, that they have fallen away, that they have not listened to the prophets that was sent to them. Instead they have chosen to follow false prophets and leaders who have lead them astray. They went by what itched in their ears and they have not turned back to Gods law and rule. The result is that the enemy has gained ground and have gotten in a position where they can, in part, subdue Christians. If they choose the same path the Christians under the

Roman Empire did, they will just repeat their mistakes and end up with something that is christian in name only.

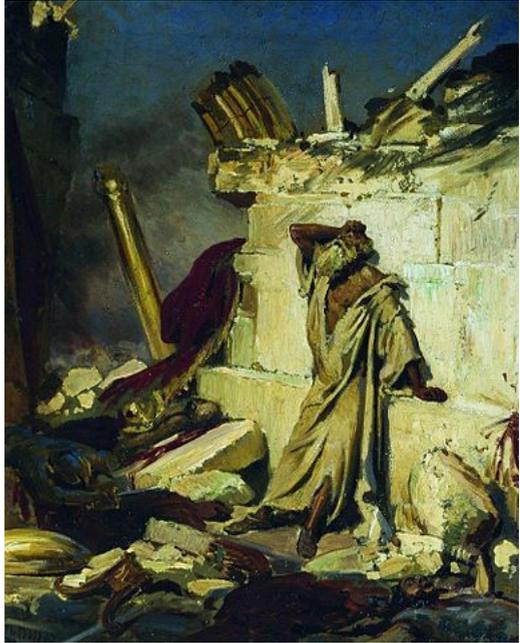
The reason of the irreligious takeover is that the Christians have had a falling away. By their own conduct they paved the way for it. The solution lies not in fighting the result but in dealing with the cause.

Many Christians feel they only want to secure the Bill of rights, but as we can see it does not work if everyone does not agree on the common ground rules. Now that the country has changed it has come to the point where it will be in conflict no matter who gets to rule it. Another alternative is to declare atheism a religion and the evolution theory a belief and give it the same conditions and limitations as other religions. Only then can they have the hope of equal rights again. They should not combat it by forcing God upon the land.

As long as evangelicals and protestants in the USA still follow the papal laws they are under papal rule. Meaning they still have not placed themselves under God's rule. When all their holy days have been created by the Pope, when the day they go to church has been established by the Pope, when in large part their traditions are from the Papal institution, they have chosen him as their ruler before God. The pope got most of the traditions from the pagan religions which then in turn place them under «the rule of the dragon». This can not bring the kingdom of peace God promised nor did it bring an earthly utopia when it was enforced in the Middle Ages or under the pagan Roman empire.

This is what Christians in the United States need to turn from. If God is to lead them, they have to choose His laws above human ordinances. If they do not choose His laws He will not rule over them even if they put an image of Him on a pedestal. He does still advise and invite people to follow Him individually, just like He did with the Israelites and Jews. The situation with the Christians in the United States can also be compared to Jerusalem before it was destroyed by the Babylonians. They believed to be God's people but they were following pagan practices, and were just as ungodly as the people around them. God even said they were worse (2Ch 33:9). God said He would not rule over them anymore but sent His prophets to warn them of what not to do and advise them on what to do instead. The prophet Jeremiah was sent with the message that they had to yield to the Babylonian government, for if they fought

them they would be destroyed. God told them that He would not side with them in a battle, He was withdrawing. And so God's advice to them was that they should accept the take-over as best they could, because they were just not strong enough to protect themselves against them. The priests and people in Jeremiah's day was angry with Jeremiah and refused to believe that God would not protect them anymore. Therefore, they got their leader to agree to punish Jeremiah and rebel against Babylon's suppression. They listened to their false prophets and persecuted the one who told them the truth. It was their own rebellion against God which caused Babylon to besiege the city and destroy it. Their leader was taken prisoner, his sons and people were killed, and the city was left in ruins. God did not want this to happen, but this is what happens when we go to battle when He is not leading. The same goes for the majority of the Christians in the United States today. God will not go together with them when they fight the irreligious power. He will not lead them when they do not follow His law. Babylon was judged by God for their actions, and so will anyone who suppress and force others to deny God or follow other gods. Their punishment will come for what they have



God was withdrawing but sent Jeremiah to tell them not to fight the Babylonians. If they did, they would get in trouble for He was not in their government and would not fight with them for their independence. The people and priests refused to believe God would send them such a message and claimed God was with them and wanted them to fight. They could not believe God would not want them to fight. Jeremiah was put in prison for treason for bringing them the messages.

done, for their crimes against humanity. God will not let the irreligious off the hook.

Many Christians will not accept the message of not trying to establish a earthly kingdom for God today. They prefer to listen to the prophets that tells them to fight, to take over, and that God is with them. They want to believe that they still have God's blessing. God still cares about them, which is why He warns them and calls upon them. God did not want the people in Jerusalem to be killed and become slaves. He still wanted to help them as best He could under the circumstances, but it was dependent on them receiving His prophet and understand the seriousness of their situation.

God does not pick sides in a conflict, because He represents His own government and will always choose His own side. That is why it has to start with us turning to Him: *«Therefore say thou unto them, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Turn ye unto me, saith the LORD of hosts, and I will turn unto you, saith the LORD of hosts» (Zac.1:3)*

Before taking the city of Jericho Joshua asked the angel of the Lord if He was with them or the enemies, and the leader if the heavenly host answered by saying he was neither. *«And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, Art thou for us, or for our adversaries? And he said, Nay; but as captain of the host of the LORD am I now come.» (Jos.5:13-14)* He was not sent to be on someones side but to fight the Lord's battle. If they were on the Lord's side they fought with God and not the other way around.

Why did God participate in war?

Is war necessary? Many accuse God of wars that He seems to have initiated in the Bible. And it is true, God does war. Using the American civil war as an example we can see how war is sometimes necessary. When the south states built up their wealth on the back of slaves and inhumanity, they realized that the principle of the constitution was abused for profit.

Perhaps on the kindergarten level, if you are good you do not get into a war, and if you do you are bad. But this is not a morally good concept. Sometimes you have to fight for the oppressed and you have to fight oppressors. Slavery happened in the USA and the suffering was their responsibility. The civil war was necessary when the south refused to let go of their slaves. Likewise, Europe needed the USA when Germany

went on its rampage. They were too strong for them to handle on their own. Germany thought they had a noble cause, that everyone would benefit from being part of the German society. They dreamed that the result of their actions would be a



Utopia, but it was far from it. Most countries did not want them or their ideology. Most certainly the Jews did not appreciate Hitler's concept of Utopia. The USA helping was at that time very needed. If they had not, the world might have looked very different today.

Very few understand the principles of ruling a land by choice and freedom and at the same time partake in war does not have to contradict. God's order for Israel to drive out the Canaanites was because of an inhuman and destructive culture that was destroying any good progress in the entire region at the time. God made war on them to save the region. If He had not interfered it would have changed world history in the same way it would have if Hitler had not been stopped. We do not understand why God had to do something about the situation unless we see the bigger picture.

Sometimes God does not judge at once and the results have been seen. God decided to spare Nineveh which He initially saw the need to destroy. He sent His prophet Jonah to warn them. But when they responded to His call by humbling themselves and praying for forgiveness God spared them. If God at that point had carried out the sentencing He would have been seen as unfair and His judgments would not be understood and only caused terror. However, their nature and dangerous ways became evident a few decades later when the King of Niniveh and his soldiers went on a bloody rampage over the entire region in an attempt to create a world kingdom under Niniveh's king's rule. Even Hitler's Germany was more merciful. The Assyrians had before that completely destroyed Israel where Jonah had come from, perhaps even Jonah's relatives. Now an Assyrian king took residence in Niniveh to continue from there. Every Judean city except Jerusalem was conquered. One inscription from a temple in the city of Nimrod records the fate of the leaders of the city of Suru on the Euphrates River "I built a pillar at the city gate and I flayed all the chief men who had revolted and I covered the pillar with their skins; some I walled up inside the pillar, some I impaled upon the pillar on stakes." The Bible says they ripped up the belly of the women with children (2Ki 8:12). And in their own sources about their wars, they brag of how they burnt preteens in numbers. They were known to be especially cruel to their victims and prisoners, many were



Reliefs about the conquest of one of the Judean cities reads: “Sennacherib, the mighty king, king of the country of Assyria, sitting on the throne of judgment, before (or at the entrance of) the city of Lachish (Lakhisha). I give permission for its slaughter”

forced into slavery and they separated families. Some palace relief says they piled up the corpses and enjoyed the torture. (https://www.ancient.eu/Assyrian_Warfare/)

When the King of Nineveh got ready to take Jerusalem and besieged the city where God’s throne was standing he showed no sign of remorse. The throne belonging to the same God who had spared their city when they pleaded with Him. They had now killed His people, destroyed their cities, and were now mocking God. God had enough and sent an angel to carry out the judgment over the soldiers who had all the blood on their hands. If he had not they would have destroyed Jerusalem as well. Even though God does know the future He is depended on people committing crimes before He can punish them or every judgment He will ever make will be doubted and questioned. He will not have trust and there will be no peace. In the instance with the Assyrian king, even his rampage did not first cause people to view them as evil because many of the cities attacked were disliked or viewed as bad as well. And so sometimes it takes time to see who the hero is and who the villain is.

It can be compared to the USA and European countries fighting Islamic countries. Blood flows but most think it is necessary because those countries are run by what they perceive as bad people. So is the USA really the hero or the villain? People still debate it even after all the lives lost. The same was the case with the Assyrian empire or the Babylonian or those after them. Was their wars justified and even needed or were they driven by selfish motives?

Regarding God's war against the Canaanites, it is important to know that they had a choice before they were sentenced. During the civil war in America, the lives of the soldiers of the south and north could have been spared if the south had agreed to stop the slave trade. They were not allowed to use their freedom to suppress another's freedom. If the north did not proceed to go to war slaves would suffer and die. When you are in a situation where you have no choice and acting for the sake of morals and freedom, war is necessary. If you are forced to choose between an oppressor and an oppressed you will most likely choose the oppressed. But what if the oppressed are the bad ones and the oppression is the only way to save the others? These are ever asked questions in a situation of war. This is why God has a moral law He goes by, He can not judge randomly. God often was forced to judge when some people went too far and refused to reason. In the incident of the army surrounding Jerusalem, He was forced to choose either to let them destroy the people and city or for Him to destroy them. There was not other option. If God acted and if God did not act lives would be lost either way, and He would have been responsible either way. So He judged and decided the army was in the wrong and they were judged according to God's law for stealing, killing and so on and sentenced to death right there and then.

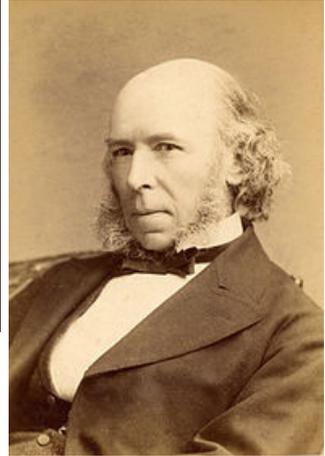
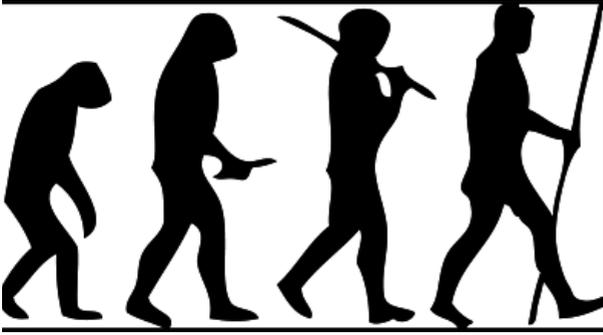
If there is a rapist in your neighborhood and he goes from house to house and you are able to stop him, but only by force, are you a good person if you don't? Would the victim consider you good? And if you stopped him the perpetrator would not perceive you as good towards him. So in matters of sin, you can not please everyone and remain good. And you can not sit back and do nothing and remain good either.

So God can be the defender of freedom but at the same time be a judge. If God does not judge, He is not good. God's principles, His ten commandments, ensure freedom of equality of life, but if they are violated, the freedom the law offers can not be given to everyone. When the violation of the moral law ruins someone else's rights we end in a higher court. And so God is forced to act as a judge when His principles are violated. As long as there is transgression, sin, and violation of human rights we need a judge. But we need a judge with clean hands. A good person sometimes is forced to put people on trial. And just like the judges of our courts do not find enjoyment in seeing criminals stand before them, neither does God. We do not wish for people to get hurt, but if we have to choose between the perpetrator and the victim we are only good if we choose to protect the victim.

The lives of those in Canaan would have been spared if they had left. Everyone had time to leave the area or stop the terrible acts they were doing. We know from the Bible at least some of their transgressions. One was sexual perversion between family members, temple prostitution (often forced on young girls), slavery by force, and human sacrifices. Children were not even safe in their own homes, and their society and life were under the control of fear and desire. Other nations followed their example and the world as a whole was threatened. Their crimes against humanity were most likely a lot more than what the Bible says. For God in the Bible always waits as long as He possibly can before judging. In the case of Canaan, God said He waited hundreds of years before giving them up and having to act (Genesis 15:16). Those hundreds of years showed how reluctant God is to judge and how eager He is to save first.

No war came without warning, and God warned them years ahead of time. And in the end, the city of Jericho was warned an additional seven days before it was conquered. They could all leave. But they chose to stay and fight.

There is a difference between dealing with crime and establishing a kingdom based on an agreement (covenant). Sometimes individuals



Herbert Spencer created the phrase “survival of the fittest” after reading Charles Darwin’s book called ‘On the origin of the species’.

They credited the strongest and most adaptable to change as those to survive and bring us to intelligent man today. In the Bible, however, we are given a different answer. God interfered with the strongest kingdoms when they were playing the “survival of the fittest” game with mankind.

When Egypt was at its greatest and most powerful, God interfered and made it weak promising that He would prevent it from becoming great again. God said: “I will make it so weak that it will never again rule over the nations”

(Ezekiel 29:15) God did the same with many of the powerful kingdoms and empires judging them and taking from them the ability to survive as a kingdom when their cruelty became too much for the rest to bear and when they forced people to follow their mindset. He did the same at Babel. And so it is not the strongest that survived, it is those who were the less cruel as God interfered as a judge throughout history. God did not attack those who did not follow Him, He attacked those who committed great crimes against humanity to save human development and existence and to prevent mankind to become under the rule of savages. What atheist credit nature (natural selection), God did.

commit a crime and you punish them with prison. Sometimes a nation or a whole society commits the crime together. The judgment can not be withheld just because the criminals are great in number. After world war 2 we saw one German soldier after the other standing trial because of the slavery and mass murdering of Jews, gypsies, handicapped and other unfortunates. Their actions were legal under the German rule on German land, but once they had been conquered they were put on trial.

So even in the more modern world, when a society commits a crime against humanity calling it «legal» in their territory, then we often accept it as fair that a bigger force comes in and puts them on trial. Most of these leaders got the death sentence. Few irreligious would call that unfair today, yet they hate on God for doing the same thing. The modern world has even created The International Criminal Court to bring societies that commit massive violations of human rights to justice. Meaning even they see the need to tell countries that they can not do whatever they want just because they are in charge of their own country. Even they see the need for a greater court to deal with large-scale crimes. The wars in the Bible are criticized because unlike the crimes of World War 2, we no longer know and can behold the crimes they committed and are therefore not struck in terror by their action or feel triumphed and relieved by their fall. Nor do we understand what the world would look like if they had been allowed to continue without hindrance.

But if we had lived in their day and been suppressed by these powers and heard the cries and seen the oppression we might have been relieved by God's judgments. When God, in the end, judges spiritual Babylon He says to His people: *“Rejoice over her, thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets; for God hath avenged you on her”* (Rev 18:20) God has brought judgment for His people sake. Why, what had they done to them? Refused to praise God and go to church? No, it explains: *“And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth”* (v.24). So God judges and goes to war against the end-time governments in the large part for the sake of His oppressed.

God does punish humans as we can see many times throughout Bible history, He takes action when cruelty becomes too unbearable. This is not punishment for not singing Him praises, it is a «greater power» coming in and putting a society committing terrible crimes on trial. A heavenly Criminal court so to speak. He steps into their territory and dismisses their unfair laws and sentences them. Just like worldly institutions try and do. But the worldly institutions, unlike God, do not have clean hands. They are operated by people who themselves follow the

rule of the flesh.

God is a judge. And many times in the Bible we can see that God's act of judgment comes because they suppress and treat each other horribly. When God destroyed Sodom He said He had «heard the cry» from the city. He could not watch it any longer without acting. The same He said about Jerusalem at one point in time. He said their hands were full of blood, He had to judge. But no matter who God judges He always tries to reason and communicate with them first. He wants to teach them what is right, but if they do not want to listen there is nothing He can do. For the sake of others He is forced to stop them.

And so God does judge even among man that rejects Him as well as those who profess Him as their God. But judging the ungodly is not the same as forcing them to be citizens in His kingdom. God never forces anyone to obey Him or sing His praises, He doesn't possess their minds. He wants their trust, their love, and devotion. He wants to «reason with them». He invites a conversation, He asks us to invite Him in our hearts to hear Him out. And all of this He does to save man because He loves him and wants him to get a second chance. So that they one day can see God's true paradise. The apostle Paul committed many crimes against God's people and humanity but God saw that he had been confused and was sincere at heart. God managed to turn him around and he ended up as a faithful preacher. God's patience with Paul shows the reason God sometimes waits. Often people do not understand their own behavior. When Jesus was crucified He said about those who had hammered him to the cross: "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do" (Luk.23:34) God does not judge in haste, He will always try to speak to them first, either by His spirit or His representatives.

This is the principle of rule by choice, through a covenant. Christ confirmed that covenant between God and anyone who wanted to be part of His kingdom. He secured the right to it with His blood and calls on us to trust Him to be our leader. But it will not happen in this world. Here God has permitted man to

reject Him and build their own kingdoms.

The reward for those who choose to follow God is God's land. And He invites those who He wants. No humans have rights to it or can claim it. It is a gift He gives to those who wish to live in a land where He is the king. *"Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence"* (Joh.18:36). Jesus is here honest. He says His kingdom is not in this world because He is not chosen by the people. Peter did fight, he drew a sword to save Jesus, but Jesus needed everyone's support.

The antichrist figure in the Bible chooses the opposite approach. It says: "Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God ..with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness" (2Th 2:4,9 & 10). Antichrist wants to rule the world whether you invite him or not. He uses lies and tricks to obtain power over you. But most of all he appeals to your flesh, desires. It says that those who follow him do so because they «had pleasure in unrighteousness» (v.12)

This is one of the ways you can tell a false Christ kingdom from the real Christ kingdom. The false Christ or Christian leader will break the rule of obtaining worship only by invitation. The enemy will always use temptation or force when it comes to religious practice and he will appeal to the laws of the flesh. He will flatter and seduce you so you will want to be in his presence.



Freedom of conscience

The USA and the European countries have for a while had religious freedom where people can follow their conscience and God's spirit without being persecuted. They have not forced people to believe in one ideology, or one way of life, yet they have punished crimes committed against others and which has violated other people's rights.

The difference between the USA and Europe was that the USA did not, because of their constitution, permit any legislation to the advantage of one direction of faith. Although Europe adopted the freedom to follow your conscience, many had for long time state churches and propaganda favoring their chosen church. Now the states favorite the irreligious ideology above Christianity and it makes many people of faith feel like second-class citizens. Especially those who do not follow Papal institutions but keep the Biblical instead.

As irreligion took over the government institutions, the learning facilities, and media, the crimes and hate have been rapidly growing. In the USA, the same principles the Christians had wanted at the constitution was now used against them instead. Many irreligious attacked religious ideology and want to use force so that the religious can no longer follow their conscience on matters where God's morals interfere with theirs. They want to replace the Christian conscience with a new set of moral standards which they call «progressive», but in reality, many of these moral standards were accepted in ancient Greece and Rome before the growth of Christianity. They are re-accuring pagan social laws.

In the “land of the free” many now fight for the right of freedom of speech and the freedom to follow your religious conscience all over



Picture show girls with beatlemania. To many in those days it was shocking how religiously devoted they were to four musicians. This era showed a shift in powers of influence from church to media. The less religious people got the more immorality and violence in society grew. Young people started idolizing musicians, movie stars and other public figures instead of God and by it creating a modern version of the old pagan religions. The imagery was real people instead of stone and wood-figures. From this time on culture and media were the new “religious” teachers pushing forward the new morale.

Before this time being religious was politically correct and sin a shame. Now it is politically correct to sin and shameful to be religious. This dramatic change took place over only a few decades.

again. They fight for the right to believe and practice the moral given in the Bible. The “progressive” movements are now going against the constitution because the constitution allows faith while their dreams of a perfect world involve suppression of religion, or the abolishment of it, or the submission of the religious conscience.

And so to control people they remove the rights of, or bully, or pressure those who speak a different moral to silence. They are not happy with just doing that, they also want to force churches to replace God’s standards with their own. If the churches are willing to do this, they will accept their existence.

If pastors wed gay couples and bless transgenderism, if sexual immorality can be accepted and celebrated, if the creation story is rejected, evangelism stopped, the rule of the flesh allowed to be superior to God's law, they will allow the church to continue to exist. God is allowed to be the God of their desires. He can be their graven image or a legend. The ultimate success of a sinful man is to «convert» God and subdue Him under their rule. Man rule over God. But it is all an illusion.

Those who do not agree to follow these rules will be pressured, put on trial, forced to submission, or rejected by society. They will destroy their livelihood if they can.

Today religious people are only accepted if they give up Biblical morals and convert to the worldly standards of right and wrong.

By destroying the principles of the constitution the irreligious progressive movement is not progressing at all but going back to the ever-existing source of conflict and suppression. They are just repeating, with a restored old ideology, the same tactic and behavior that is assumed as a road to peace and utopia but which in reality never have.

God created man intelligent, with the ability to reason, and never will there be real peace in the world or any society if anyone is denied the right to think, talk and choose. Where there is no happiness there is no peace, where there is submission based on fear there is not freedom. If people are forced to go against their conscience in order to have a livelihood, to receive an education or a job, they will not find true happiness. If they are tolerated but not equal. If they are treated as outcasts of society and silenced there will eventually be conflict. Society might enjoy peace for a while before having to face a new uproar, a new rebellion, and another challenged society. And then it will all be repeated again as it has been throughout history. Whether the winner of the war is irreligious or Christian, conflict will come.

The mark of the beast.

The ending conflict described in Revelation 13 and 14 is the revisiting of these dilemmas mentioned and God's principle. It is a society misrepresenting God but also a society that forces God to judge them for it. It speaks of a mark taken on the forehead and the right hand. This is not a physical mark like many Christians preach today. It is called the Mark of the Beast, but the beast is not a real beast either. This is symbolic language. The Bible explains elsewhere that a beast is a symbol of an irreligious or a religious-political power that oppresses His people. The forehead and hand represent our intellect, reason, decision making, and the hand our choices, our decisions.

God told Israel to put His law on the hand and forehead as a symbolic reminder of the importance of choosing Him by trust and free will and to make sure they with their hands made choices based on this. It was not a mark He forced upon them, it was something He asked them to do willingly as a reminder to who they pledged their loyalty to (Exo.13:9, Deu 11:18). In this way they could be reminded of what caused sin, and to trust God and be obedient to Him as their beloved leader.

In Revelation 13:11-18 we see a second beast, a political power, copying other political powers before Him. From the clues given, we see a republic (no crown), a democracy (the leaders ask for authority from the people for the establishment of their law), it is an established on a new piece of land (out of the earth) and not the "old world" (out of the sea), it appears as a Christian nation at first (lamb-like horns) but it will speak like the dragon (persecute Christ and God's people). It will be a



super-power co-existing and cooperating with a divided Europe (Dan 2:42-43; Rev 13:12). Considering the time of its dominion right before Christ second coming this description can only fit with the USA. The beast it is making an image of is the first beast mentioned in Revelation 13. The power that for 1260 years persecuted people in Christ's name, the papal organization, the one who changed God's times and laws that they forced upon people (Dan 7:25; Rev.13:1-10). And before that we see the dragon, representing Rome executing Jesus and persecuting the first church (Rev.12).

All these powers were influenced by the mentality of God's enemy the moment they chose to, through their governmental institution and influence, fight people's religious conscience and pressure people to go against God's moral standards and law and to accept their rule in religious matters instead. As mentioned, the symbolic language God plays with is fascinating. God had at creation told man that he was to rule over the beast (Gen.1:26) Yet in the end time, in the final battle, beast is said to rule over man. This is a great symbolism to the nature of the beast compared to the nature man was created in. But also to the ever conflict of sin and how a man takes after the beast who lives by the

flesh, constantly seeking to satisfy self.

These governments try to gather people under the wrong principles.

The reason Papal Rome is a beast is that they followed the same pattern of rule. They placed their rule over God (their laws was elevated and chosen before God's), and their flesh ruled over them. The papal institution was gratifying self and not God. "But if they had stood in my counsel, and had caused my people to hear my words, then they should have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their doings" "For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts" (Jer.23:22; Mal 2:7).

To say it frankly, all these beastly governments want you to replace God's morals and law with theirs. They want your choices to be based on their understanding of right and wrong, on their laws and legislation. They feel threatened by God's authority in His law and persecute those who are loyal to Him. They are ready to allow you to continue in your church of preference as long as you go by their rules and make God a King without a crown and without law. This is the real «lawlessness» Jesus and His followers warned against (2 Thessalonians 2:7, Matthew 13:41, Matthew 23:27-28, Matthew 23:27-28) Because if we do not have God's law, He is not really our God, man is, the flesh is. We are told in Revelation 14,12 that those who refuse to change their mindset to adopt an earthly god-like leader (forehead, hand) are the ones who also choose God's law and have the faith of Jesus. The faith of Jesus refers to how Jesus did not live by the law of the flesh, but by His complete trust and faith in God and thereby gained the victory. The people described to not take the «mark of the beast» refuse to give up on their conscience and loyalty to Him even when pressured by governments, or other Christians who believe in the use of force in the matter of conscience. Whether it is a fallen-away protestant nation turned irreligious or Christians who go by their own laws that take over, whoever wins the battle and decides to take God's place in our lives, is a threat to «they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth» (Rev.14.4)



In Revelation 16 we see God fighting against three big powers. One is the dragon, which is said to persecute those who keep God's law and have the faith of Jesus (Rev.12:17) The same is said about the other powers.

The dragon is called "Satan" but was also the Roman Empire, a pagan state playing God and persecuting Christianity. In the end time this dragon is ressurected and stand together with the beast and the false prophet. Today it represents most likely the devil's use of the irreligious governments in the west persecuting God's people and law. The beast is the papacy and the false prophet is fallen protestantism.

In Revelation 14:7 we are told that God in the end times invites the whole world to worship Him as the creator. The mark of the beast law prohibits or pressure people from doing that.

But this time, according to the Bible, will be the last time.

Why now, after it has been done so many times before? It has been done through paganism (Rom). Man has done it in God's and Christ's name (Middle Ages), In the name of «reason» (French revolution, communist countries), in the name of all kinds of gods and religions. So why now? Why the backslidden protestant nation of the USA?

In the Bible, there is a time for everything. God gives people time to repent and a time for judgment. He gave the Canaanites hundreds of years to reform, He gave Israel and Judah several hundred years to reform, He has also give the Catholics hundreds of years to reform, then now lastly He has given «reformed» Christians hundreds of years to reform. The once protestant nation were not just satisfied with their own fall, instead, they corrupted other nations with all their immorality causing the whole world to follow their lead in indulging and sin. Their inventions were used to preach their immorality. The world is suffering under the suppression caused by the chase for desire, lust, money, want of power, and the need to be gods. Everyone thinks their way is the right while stepping on another individual. When the suffering is too great, the apostasy irreversible, and God has pleaded long enough, the time of God's judgment has to come for the sake of the afflicted. There comes a time where the perpetrator by his actions forces God to intervene and judge.

In Revelation we see the “time” for judgment «has come» and when Jesus returns to gather His people. It says: «for the time is come» (Rev.14,15)

God does not have pleasure in anyone's death (Ezek.18,32) His first desire is for us to become better people. He cares for those who reject Him and have tried to give them a good life when they have let Him. His first wish is for us to live, to be saved. And so this is His first aim and the reason it takes time. This involves a lot of work on His side to try and reason with us. He needs to know that a person has understood and made a decision before they are sentenced. Usually, for individuals, the complete rejection of the Spirit speaking to our heart brings the sentencing. Eternal life, citizenship in the new earth that God will make, is a gift, not a right.

Christ's message of peace is very easy. He wants us restored in His image. But before that He needs to deal with the cause of our sin, our distrust in Him. When we have regained our trust in Him He can start to help us reverse back to His design. A God-loving mind will rule the

hand. The person who lives by lust is selfish of nature, for they seek pleasure to themselves in most of the things they do and the choices they make. And they love those who cheer them on and do what they do. When they see someone else live and thrive by being self-absorbed it pleases them because it gives them the courage to do the same. In modern society, the more people elevate themselves the more they are praised.

The beast mark on the forehead and hand is not a computer chip, or a vaccine, or anything of the sort. It is about worship. In the Bible, worship is about obedience, because it explains that you cannot worship God and go against His law and rule at the same time. You can not make your own set of rules and ask God to rule by them. God rules only by His law. He is the greatest scientist who ever existed, His intellect is far above any human can ever hope to achieve. He has seen the beginning till the end. He has seen it all. He also rules another world, a universe. He knows what works and what does not work. He does not need to repeat mistakes or rule as humans rule. He does not accept your alterations or corrections to His law or your new laws to replace it. He did not make mistakes in the law for you to correct. He is not old-fashioned and needs you to modernize His moral laws. Either you accept Him as your king and by it His law which is His nature, or you do not worship Him, and you do not love or understand Him. We can not change God's law because we can not change Him.

Revelation 13 says: «And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast» (Rev 13:12)

Meaning you obey the rules of man over the rules of God. You give your obedience to a “beast”, a human religious-political power over God.

Do not misunderstand, the Bible is not against laws in societies. Even Paul tells us to respect the laws of the land:

«I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all

that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.» (1 Tim.2,1-2)

It is good that we have governments that deal with people committing terrible crimes towards others.

This is not what the Bible is speaking of in Revelation 13. The laws in question and bringing on the final judgement is related to worship. This is a matter that concerns God and His people on earth because it threatens people's religious conscience.

Jesus said: «*Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's and unto God the things that are God's*» (Matt.22,21). Here Christ separates what we can give earthly governments and what we can not give them. The mark of the beast is about what we can not give the state, our obligation to God.

This very thing earthly rules have fought so long to avoid but never could. The same reason ancient rules declared to be God themselves so they would not have this problem, the reason the atheist government tried to removed the belief in God so they would not have this problem, the reason the Catholic Church claimed to be God's representative, so they would not have this problem. They think that if only they can control man's conscience they can have peace, and the only way to get there is to move people's loyalty from God to the state and by it making the state their god. This is how the conflict is tied to worship and a government state at the same time. They don't want you to bow heads, kneel and pray to them. They just want you to obey them in matters where your loyalty is with God. They want to be your moral conscience in some misunderstood attempt to create world peace. They think they need you to make man your god on earth in order for that to be achieved.

Jesus has even permitted pagan and other religious societies to exist as long as they do not destroy other peoples right to choose Him. He even says: «*Your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the un-*

just.» (Matt.5,45) He wishes them to follow Him, He might plead with them through His spirit, or invite them through gospel workers, but He will not force Himself upon them. God has allowed societies that reject Him to exist and have accepted that they do not want to worship Him and allowed them to live their lives free to make their own gods, leaders, and make their choices.

The conflict in revelation is tied to laws forbidding God's people to follow their conscience and to give «unto God the things that are God's». Meaning the favor God has previously given those who reject Him are not returned to His people, and thus God is forced to judge for He has promised to fight for His people's rights.

These laws that the beast represents are an attempt to force you to go against your conscience in your obligation to God. They do it by trying to make you not trust God and what God has said, just like the serpent did in the Garden of Eden. They want you to question God and then act accordingly giving them your trust instead. That they will provide, that they will save. That they will speak on God's behalf or be as a god to you.

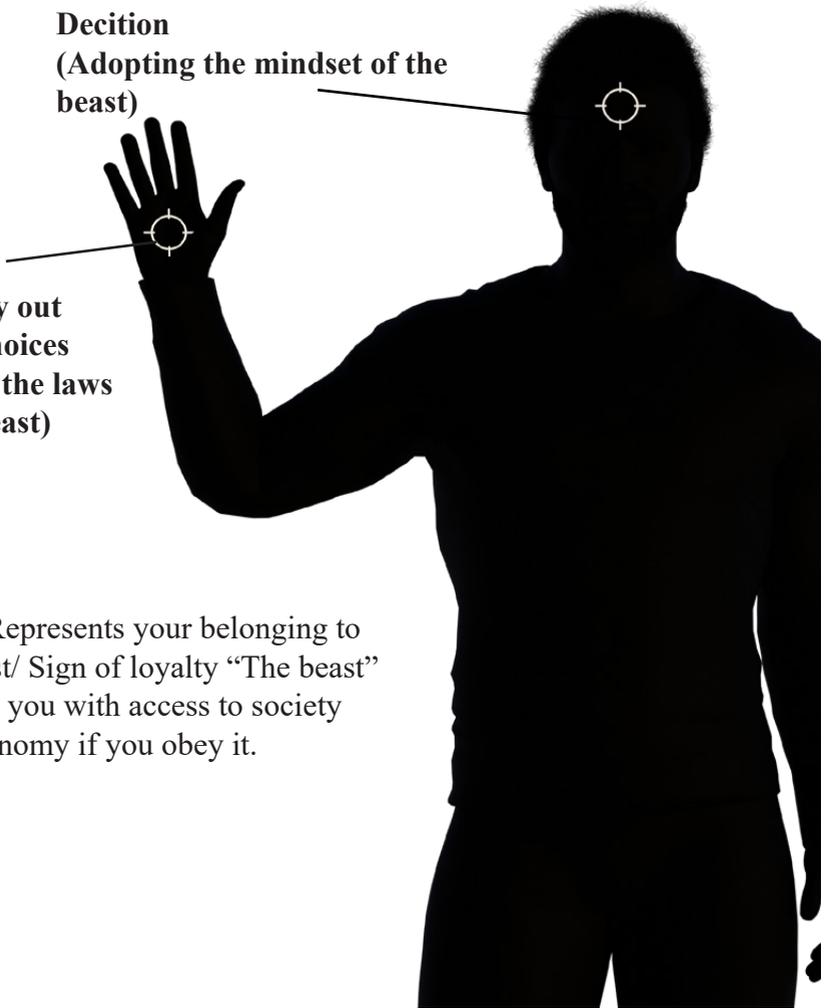
When you make this decision with your intellect, you give them your trust before God and make the decision with your hand, your actions, you risk taking the mark of the beast. The mark of the beast just simply means you follow the authority of the beast in religious matters and give them what you need to give God in order to be saved, your trust (faith).

Revelation 13 tells us that those who do not choose what the earthly government wants will be denied the right to buy or sell, some even will be denied the right to live. This is pressure beyond and many might choose to go against their conscience to secure themselves a good life in this life. God has little good to say to those who do, for their decision to save themselves will increase the pressure and persecution of those who choose to remain faithful.

It also says you can take the «name of the beast». In the Bible, a name is always something that speaks of someone's mission, character, or be-

Decition
(Adopting the mindset of the
beast)

The carry out
of your choices
(Obedient to the laws
of the beast)



Mark: Represents your belonging to the beast/ Sign of loyalty “The beast” rewards you with access to society and economy if you obey it.

havior. In the old times, names had meanings, they were not something randomly picked. All of God’s names in the Bible are descriptions of who He is. The name of the beast is the nature of the beast, his traits. God does not care so much if you have a piece of metal inserted underneath your skin as He does if you have a corrupted heart and mind. As Jesus said, it is not so much that which enters the body that makes a man unclean, but that which comes out of the heart.

“Do ye not perceive, that whatsoever thing from without entereth into the man, it cannot defile him; ...That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man. ..or from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil”
(Mark. 7: 18,20 &21)

It's your faith God wants, your heart. He is like the Father standing waiting for the prodigal son to return home. The battle is of your devotion, to who you give your loyalty to. Not a physical number placed on your physical hand.

If we want to know what the coming law is about there is only a few commandments that tells you to «give to God what God's is».

In matters of worship and obedience to God, there are four commandments from the ten commandments that the mark of the beast law can

In the bible, a name describes who you are, your character or personality, your title, or your purpose.

be challenging. One says to not have any other gods, the second to not make an image of God to worship, the third to not speak the Lord's name in vain, and the fourth to keep the sabbath holy. And so the laws of the beast which you must not take on your forehead and hand are contrary or in competition to these laws.

The first of God's laws tell you who to worship, the second tells you how not to worship Him, the third tells you to respect Him and the fourth tells you how to worship Him. The beast at least symbolically challenges all of these commandments. The first to not have any other God is challenged when the «beast» presents you with a higher authority requesting from you what you owe God, your trust, and loyalty. The second tells us not to make a graven image of God in the likeness of any creature on earth and to not «bow down thyself to them, nor serve them». This is exactly what is written about the «image of the beast» in Revelation. It is presented as a god (authority in competition with God) It also says «as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed». They are forced to submit. Again remember the language in Revelation is symbolic.

The third commandment of your duty towards God's name, the beast can attack by taking God's name in support of something that goes against God's principles.

The fourth commandment is the only one where God says Himself how He wants to be worshipped.

This is why many believe the mark of the beast laws is related to the Sabbath commandment. A commandment that has been changed by the Catholic church and the change kept also by most protestant churches. They want you to worship on the day instituted by church ordinances (Sunday) instead of the day God instituted as a homage to Him (Sunset Friday to sunset Saturday/Sabbath). By the words of the law itself, you pay homage to God as your life-giver by observing it and it was made for man's sake so God could bless him.

The command that ask you to pay homage to the Creator of all things is seen as of no value or is not understood bt many. However, going against this commandment and creating a new in its place is achieving on taking from God what belongs to God to give it to earthly governments. When you replace it with human legislation and keep that above what God asks for, you have made them your god before god and if you do it in God's name you have taken God's name in vain. But you also break the principle of the second commandment saying: «Thou shalt not make unto thee ...any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God». When you make your government your spiritual authority and you give them the homage due to God, or you follow a leader that pretends to be like god and put his legislation above God's you also break the second law.

If you take a command by God to worship Him, as seen in the forth commandment, and change it or abolish it then you have by your action chosen to whom you pay your homage to. You will also have refused God's invitation.

In this way, man will become your conscience in religious matters. Instead of giving what you owe God you take that and give it to man instead. You give Caesar what God is. Your faith in God and what He asks is replaced with faith in man and letting them take God's place in your life.

Right now there is actually a worldwide attack on the Sabbath commandment. Firstly because the commandment claims God created the world in six days and the rest of the world claims the earth was made through an evolution process and that there is no God.

Now think of how God decided to make these powers symbolic in the image of beasts. The world media, art, governments, learning facilities all say that man is not created in the image of God but has evolved from beasts. They teach mankind to compare themselves to beasts and they teach them to view their instincts and behavior in light of that development. They teach children to follow their lust because they are nothing but developed spices from beasts. By viewing the beast, beholding it, they see a reason to act like it. We are taught that the world's progress happened by chance, that we can not control it. That our flesh and instincts helped us survive and involve into intelligent beings.

Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's - Mark.12:17

The pressure of excepting this view of life's origin has been so great that most church organizations have agreed to partly or completely accept that we have developed from the beast. Even the Catholic church has accepted that God used an evolutionary process and that the six-day creation story is a lie. The whole world is now following this ideology and has accepted it as a truth and a fact that they claim can not be disputed. The consequence of this teaching is that man is the ultimate judge and that life's security depends on their superiority and control. What happens to you if you do not agree with society's rule on life's origin? You can lose your job as a teacher, researcher, scientist, not graduate if you do not give these answers and not be accepted by society. They are suppressed in society and in many places mistreated. Anyone believing the fourth commandment to be the truth, who honor and worship God as the six-day creator and are open about it, will be spoken of as fundamentalist, dangerous and unintelligent. Intense pressure is placed on them to give up their faith in God on this matter and trust the government's support in the theory of evolution in its place. You may

be a Christian, but you may not give your God the credit for creating man in His image. And if you do not, you actually break the principle of the fourth commandment and rob God of what belongs to Him, to be worshipped as the Creator of all things.

The sabbath commandment celebrates and reminds man that we are created in God's image, that we are not like the beasts nor do we come from them and neither are we to be placed in the same group as them nor should we act like them. It is not His design for us to live as if we were a developed mammal. Do we behold the image of the beast or the image of God? Authorities all over the world have asked us to adapt to and to reject the message of the fourth commandment and thereby the worship of God mentioned there is of no importance. They tell you to not worship God as creator to be accepted in society.

However God asks us to "remember to keep it holy" as a celebration and worship of Him as our life-giver. When those who do this are discriminated against by the whole world, God has a say in the matter. Right before God warns people against the beast and his mark God sends this message showing us what it is all about: "*And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters*" (Rev 14:6-7).

So on one side, you have the beasts pressuring people in questions of worship, and on the other side you have God telling everyone to worship Him as the Creator and that His people will keep His commandments and have the faith of Jesus (Rev.14:12). When God tells the world to worship Him as creator He has given only one way to do that in the law, and that is through the sabbath commandment. Worship in the Bible is not jumping up and down and repeating His name a hundred times, but by trusting Him and respecting the symbol of Him as the life-giver.

The first beast of Revelation 13, the Catholic Church, did in their day



force people to violate this commandment for the sake of their Sunday legislation. In their church meetings, they said it was to be illegal to do what the commandment asked because it competed with what they asked. And so while claiming to represent God they made it illegal to worship Him His way.

The US-beast is said to copy the behavior and law of the former beast and so it is not wrong to assume the law in question will be a law previously forced upon people by the Catholic Church during the Middle Ages. Before the US made their constitution ensuring religious freedom and freedom of conscience in religious matters, they too had in one of their first colonies a law that refused people to buy or sell if they did not keep Sunday holy. And if they still did not obey, the law said they should be executed. The violation of God’s fourth commandment in favor of church legislation has a long history going back all the way to the 4th century and until our day. It is, therefore, being the only commandment that says how God wishes to be worshiped as creator by His people, likely to be the commandment that God’s people will once again be pressured to break.

Whether it is Christians or irreligious who make the laws, we know the nature of them. Whether you are forced out of society for worshipping God as the six-day creator by the irreligious and secular christian societies or if you are condemned for not changing the day in favor of a church ordained day. Both try to take away your loyalty to God and prevent you from giving to God that which is God’s. In this way the

irreligious, false prophet and beast all fight against this specific worship in their own ways. It is also worth noticing that International Organization for Standardization (ISO) created by a United Nation committee, with most countries as members, have decided and standardized that Sunday is to replace the seventh day of God and by it advising the world to not give God worship according to God's law. Meaning to not give to God what belongs to God and that this is to be a "standard" for the world.

No matter what we believe one thing is certain. The laws that will be made will go against your right to follow your conscience when it comes to worshipping God. They will do as people have always done. Push you out of society, punish you, even persecute you if you do not go by their rule. It says: *«And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name» (Rev. 13,17)*. This is a natural evolution of events. If you do not wish to go by society's rules you will lose rights or be discriminated. However, God asks us to be faithful to Him and His laws throughout this experience because it will be the last time they get to force people from worshipping/obeying Him. He asks for patience (Rev.14,12).

To understand better the conflict we have to understand God and how He works, but also how He does not work. It is not our job as Christians to use legislation against others, to force others to submission to God. A Christian should have nothing to do with any type of force of religious conscience on another human being, nor by law. The four first commandments that relates to your relationship with God can only be observed by trust in God and by choice. They can not be forced upon people nor can you force people to break them without consequence. To God, choosing Him is a human right that He will defend.

If God is not the ruler, then neither should there be any laws forcing worship or denying the right to worship in any governmental state. This includes the fourth commandment as it represent worship.

If we vote for, use or partake with force regarding commandments tied to worship, if we make these choices, we make an «image of the beast».

and if we follow such unfair legislation instead of giving God what belongs to God, we take «the name and the mark of the beast» on our foreheads and our hands. In the last conflict, your decision and choices show God who you regard as your leader who you have chosen. A government acting like God or God.

God has promised that He will save His people. God's kingdom among man will be restored. But only with willing participants that trust Him. Anything else is of God's enemy. The worship of God can not be forced and God is not with anyone who uses this method in His name. Satan has long tried to make people think God is the dictator, but his rule on this planet has shown who the real dictator is, the devil. The seed of

To God, choosing Him is a human right that He will defend.

distrust he planted in the minds of beings has shown to not have any foundation. All of Satan's accusations have proven to fit on him and not on God.

In the end, heaven got to see that it was God who respected man's right to think and to choose, but when Satan came in control he did not give man the same respect. God even allowed Satan the freedom to voice his propaganda in heaven and on earth, yet when God's people and the Bible were preaching to the world he forbade the Bible and persecuted and silenced God's people by terrible means (Rev 12:10 & 17; Rev 6:9; Gen 3:4; Job 1:6, Rev 18:13&24). The amount of respect and time God gave Satan compared to the lack of respect Satan showed Jesus and God's people is forever a witness of who the tyrant is. God had dealt with Satan's accusations for thousands of years, but Satan barely gave Jesus three and a half years to speak, not even that, for he tried to have Him killed and silenced before he even started. Even right after he was born. Satan was not prepared to give him any chance at all to defend God and voice the truth.

And all heaven saw it. They saw how God had spared Satan's life and

how eager Satan was to kill the Son of God in return. Satan is that person who he accused and still accuse God of being.

Trust in God was restored only by God patiently allowing the truth to manifest itself.

Revelation 12 tells us how no one wanted to listen to any more of Satans lies in heaven *«And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night» (Rev 12:10)*

People continue to choose false religion and false Christianity because Satan's deception speaks to their flesh and man is inclined to follow the flesh. It will draw men in easily if they are not self-aware. The desire for control, power, superiority, the force of fear and suspicion, anger, and desire all mixed with God's name makes false religion the road most traveled.

Revelation 12 says heaven rejoiced when Satan was finally cast away and they felt bad for people on earth that had welcomed him. While God was patient, slow to wrath, allowed free speech and conversation, was willing to give His son to restore and save man, Satan was dishonest, fought dirty, denied God's people to preach, and were not afraid to make sure their lives were taken.

«Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time» (Rev.12:12)

The tragic part is the majority of the world still believes Satan's narrative of who God is. And they believe in Satan's version of utopia, which never worked and never will. God loved His enemies and wanted to reach them, Satan hated his and wanted to silence and kill them. God judged those who committed horrible crimes against humanity, Satan judged people just for loving God and having a moral. Yet Satan claimed God was the unfair judge.

In the end, God is going to judge mankind. Man has left Him without a choice. In the end, God has to judge to continue to be a good and fair God.

The discovery of the Ark of the Covenant is God again showing mercy to the inhabitants of the earth. A final invitation to restore and heal the land, a wish for them to invite Him to be their king. If his calling is refused once again, man has made a conscious choice.

God is offering all mankind to be pardoned, to escape trial and sentencing. But if they refuse they will have to stand trial and as the intelligent people God has created them, they have to take responsibility for their actions.

In the final battle described in the Bible we see Satan, his loyal angels, and humans against God, physically attacking and attempting to overthrow God's kingdom and God's city (Rev 20:8-9). Once again they attempt to take God's rights by force. Even then, the final carrying out of their punishment will be made in self-defense. They attack the city God has created for the faithful, if God does not stop them His children will die. If God does not maintain His position, life in the universe will perish. But notice that even then, at the very last moment, they force God to carry out the sentencing against them. This shows God's endurance.

According to the Bible, this will be the end of the rebellion against God and His people.

Today we can still choose sides. We can choose the side of the One who fathered us, who respects us, who respects His creation. The One who did not fear to make us intelligent beings in His image, who loves us. We can choose the one who gave His life to save us and give us a second chance. When faced with the devil's attempt to make us doubt that God cares about us we can choose to trust Him. Or we believe the Devil's lies about Him and act according to it.

We have a chance to follow Christ lead and do what He did. We can say no where Eve said yes. When tempted to question God and to distrust



After Christ returns to gather His faithful to heaven, the earth will rest for a thousand years. In this time period, God's people in heaven will be able to go through the judgment against those dead on the earth before God permanently destroys anyone. After a thousand years God will resurrect everyone on earth who did not receive God's atonement, to receive their final sentencing. He waits to see what they will do, will they humble themselves this time? Instead, the Bible explains they all gather together and decide to overthrow God's government and city by force. Leaving God no other choice than to carry out the punishment.

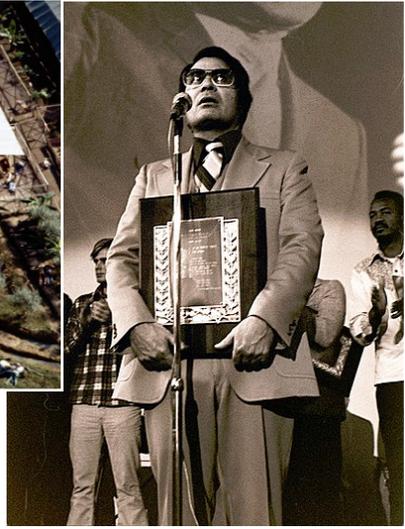
His intentions with and for us, we can choose trust and stop the cycle of sin in our life. We can live and conquer through our faith in Him.

It is our choice. And God will accept our decision.

The Abuse of Power

On November 18, 1978, over 900 people were found dead either by suicide or forced suicide in a remote and isolated part of Guinea. The reason was tied to the people's symbiotic relationship with their leader, Jim Jones. It did not start the way it ended. Jim Jones was a popular American humanitarian award winning preacher who seemed to take extraordinary care of other people. He first started in Indianapolis and then continued to build his congregation in San Francisco. Large crowds gathered to hear him. Those who were struggling came to him and he had programs to help drug abusers conquer their addiction. He did not discriminate against people based on their status or skin color. He preached heavily against racism and many of color came to his meetings. In fact, it is said that he was the first white family to adopt a child of color in America. He was charismatic and loving and each member felt he really «saw them». He was secretly an agnostic and in one sermon he said: "There's only one hope of glory; that's within you! Nobody's gonna come out of the sky! There's no heaven up there! We'll have to make heaven down here!" He felt he was saving the religious by creating a new and better socialist society but allowing them to be religious as long as they accepted his lead. (*"Transcript of Recovered FBI tape Q 622". Alternative Considerations of Jonestown and Peoples Temple. Jonestown Project: San Diego State University.] & American Experience. 2007. Jonestown: The Life and Death of Peoples Temple (program transcript). US: PBS. Retrieved June 20, 2020*)

Jim Jones moved his congregation to Guyana to make a utopia where they could live free after the socialist ideology, share everything, and be an example to the world on how to create a human paradise. The result could not have been more disastrous. On a miniature scale, Jim Jones



Bodies of around 900 people convinced to commit suicide, some forced, at Peoples Temple in Guyana. One woman who became part of the group to save her daughter from drug abuse ended up seeing her die in front of her eyes before dying herself.

Jim Jones receives a Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian award at Glide Memorial Church in San Francisco, January 1977.

succeeded with only one thing, to reveal the recipe of how the world will be tricked by God's enemy in the end times.

To have control over the people in the settlement he created divisions between spouses, the children were to be brought up collectively and the family unit was broken. No one really trusted each other and Jim Jones soon went from being a friendly pastor to a dictator. Soon their freedoms were taken away and they were scared of each other. Many had nowhere to go and was dependent on food rations from the camp, and therefore, they felt forced to comply. Freedom of speech was taken from them for no one even dared to voice their disagreement. Without free speech they could not find their allies and they would not risk their own safety by speaking to the wrong person. A few days before the forced mass suicide a congressman had come to visit at the request of worried family members. Jim Jones instructed them in everything they could say beforehand. They were told to say they felt free and were happier than they had ever been and that they wanted to stay there. The truth was that they were tired, partly starved, and suppressed. Some fearful members wrote a note asking the congressman for help to leave

which became known and stirred up the camp and aroused Jones's fear of being exposed and losing control. Jim Jones's "happy" bubble was broken. The day after this, everyone committed mass suicide. How did Jones do it? He had the congressman killed and convinced them they would be held accountable for it. He forced the children to take the poison first so that the rest no longer saw a future or had a reason to live. Yet those same parents in apathy allowed their children to take the poison. Those who refused to take it themselves were forced to comply. Only a handful of people survived. One mother had held on to a part of sanity and took her son and ran into the jungle but she lost the rest of her family. How can nearly a thousand people be so under the control of one man's reasoning? In reality, they could have defied him or rebelled but they were confused and had long accepted wrong principles. For such a catastrophe to take place you needed people to mentally yield to a figure of authority. And that figure had to have soldiers to assist him to maintain his power. Jim Jones' elected 'police' was first said to protect them from outside threats but in reality, it was what kept the people on the inside fearful of speaking up. At any time these men could have said no to carry out Jones' orders but they chose not to. Ordinary people who had come for peace and protection became murderers, even the murderers of children. Why, and how?

Why, in larger societies do we see people continue to aid dictators and commit cruel acts towards humanity? Are they evil or are they brain-washed? In this case, would they upon their first meeting with Jim Jones allowed their own children or the others to take poison without speaking up? Of course not! They would have fought him, because in the beginning he was not an authoritative figure in their lives, and they had not given him the right to think on their behalf.

Another more modern example happened at a fast-food chain store. A true story. A prank caller identifying as a police officer got the manager to undress and strip-search an employee and do anything he asked. The man informed the manager that he was also in contact with her superior who had given her consent. When the manager called her fiancée to watch over the naked teenager the imposter got the man to do horrible things to the girl which involved spanking her while she was naked and

other things which are too horrible to mention. She did not run away, not having any clothes on and wanting to show her innocence while dependent on keeping her job, she permitted the events while pleading for mercy. The man given the responsibility to watch over her went against what he knew was right and became a predator. The manager became after only a few words a soldier of the prank-caller just by his claim of authority and him reassuring her he would take responsibility for the things he asked her to do. What a bizarre story, yet it is true. How can a man, without a weapon and just with a phone call, take control over so many people over such a short amount of time? These people had not been influenced by this man for a long time or had time to be brainwashed. The man who carried out the abuse was sentenced to prison, he could not defend himself by saying he just followed orders from what he assumed was an officer. The woman was charged with an illegal search as well. An ordinary man and an ordinary woman became criminals within the time span of three hours. Many were puzzled by their behavior, and the girl was not understood either. She had taken the job to help support her family. One of her parents had recently lost their job, and so she was dependent on the income and job making her vulnerable in the situation. What will happen to her family if she loses her job? As it turned out, a prank caller had fooled people into the same compliance over 70 times in 30 US. states. It was not a one-time situation, by using simple manipulation tactics many actually fell for the same.

In this bizarre true story lies the end-time situation explained in Revelation 13. There you have someone who grabs authority that they are not entitled to, you have the leaders that follow his orders (just like the manager), the common man who suddenly agrees to dehumanize this girl and you have the girl living the terror because her livelihood depends on her obedience to the authorities. However just like the real «police» came and held everyone accountable and helped the victim, God will come as the higher authority and interfere and expose everything in the end.

There was once a researcher that could not stop wondering how so many soldiers helped perform the torture and inhuman treatment of

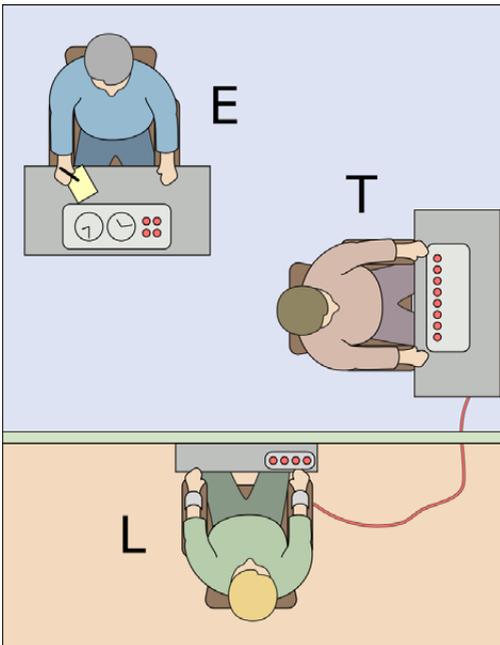
Jews during World War 2. These soldiers were once ordinary children growing up in well-functioning homes. How could they lose their humanity or their common sense and take part in such a massacre? Their defense in the Nuremberg War Criminal trials was that they were only obedient to their superiors. They had assumed and been trained that they were not responsible for their actions if they were following orders and that the one who made the order was the one to be held accountable. To their surprise and shock, they were held accountable by a different authority.



Stanley Milgram, a psychologist at Yale University, was puzzled by the psychology behind this and performed one of the most famous studies on obedience and human behavior. It was called the Milgram Shock Experiment. Could he get ordinary people, not trained in the military, to within hours obey an order that could potentially kill another human being? He found his participants by placing ads in a newspaper getting random people and ended up with a test group that ranged

from unskilled to professionals. He teamed them up in two where one was titled the «learner» and the other the «teacher». Because the test was to be put on the one called the «teacher» the «learner» was only going to pretend and not be a real participant in the experiment.

The learners had electrodes attached to their arms and the



How can an ordinary man become a potential murderer in only a few hours?

teacher went into another room that had the electric shock generator marking from 15 volts to 375 which was considered a dangerous shock and from there up to a potentially lethal 450 volts. How far would the test group called “teachers” go when only obeying orders from a man they recently met and had no relationship with? They were instructed to give the «learner» a shock every time they gave a wrong answer (the learner gave the wrong answer on purpose). The teachers were then instructed to punish them and the learner would scream in pain to make it look real. If the teacher’s conscience awoke and they became hesitant to give another shock, the authority figure in the experiment would use four different lines to convince them to continue: 1. Please continue, 2. The experiment requires you to continue, 3. It is absolutely essential that you continue. 4. You have no other choice but to continue.

The authority figure continued to assure the «teachers» that they, the leader of the project, had the responsibility.

65 % of the participants continued to the highest level of 450 volts. All of them continued to the damaging 300.

Had it been real 65% of them would have become killers and all of them guilty of extreme torture causing great harm to the other person. In the end, all of them was willing to harm and most of them to kill when told they did not have the responsibility and was convinced what they did was necessary by an authoritative figure. That is the shocking fact, someone who would never dream of killing someone becoming a killer in only a few hours.

Based on his study Milgram suggested that people have two states of behavior when they are in a social situation.

The autonomous state is when people direct their own actions and take responsibility for the results of their own actions. The other he called the agentic state where people allowed others to direct their actions and then pass off the responsibility for the consequences to the person giving the orders. They act as agents for another person’s will.

Milgram further identified two factors that pushed people into the agentic state:

1. They have to view the one giving the orders as legitimate or qualified to give them orders.
2. The person has to believe that the same authority will take the re-

sponsibility for what happens.

Milgram discovered that if people were reminded they had the responsibility for their own actions almost none of them would obey the command. How incredible is that when you learn from the Bible that God calls all men responsible for their actions?

When the experimenter said he took full responsibility, they continued. When the experimenter went out of the room and had an ordinary worker replace him the obedience level dropped 20%.

Now this interhuman symbiotic relationship does not work on those who are taught to keep God's commandments as even in such a situation they would go by their conscience towards God and not obey the order given. Their loyalty would be to God as the authority first. In the true story of the girl that was abused at the fast-food chain, if they had been taught that God's moral was the highest authority over the police, the manager would not have undressed the girl, the girl would refuse and the man assaulting her would not have done it.

"The beasts" in the book of Revelation are dependent on the public and can only do what they do if God's moral law is removed as your highest authority, and if you accept them as your highest authority instead. In Revelation, God says that everyone is still responsible for their actions no matter what the beast says and does. If you are dependant on "the beast" to keep your job, to eat, to be accepted, God will still hold you accountable for following orders that are in violation of His commandments. The end-time deception will not take place, will not happen, if people choose God's law as their highest authority. This is why we see "the dragon" and "the beast" going after those who "keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus".

They can't gain full control as long as people subject to God's authority first and last.

When Christian churches, Muslims, and even Jews, are taught to hold human authority above God's law by their religious leaders, the bond between God and man is destroyed which served to protect them from participating in the suppression of others. When the churches teach that God's law is abolished and make God their servant or mascot instead of lawgiver, the people there will look to men to tell them right from

wrong instead. They are then easily fooled by an imposter and an authoritative figure, which many Christians, Muslims and Jews has been. Once trained that God's law is invalid, someone else can come and take over and continue to interpret God's will for them and God's principles are no longer seen in the same churches. As in the case of Jim Jones, he went from Christian preacher to agnostic and yet they still followed him and could not as easily see that his morals and behavior had changed and were also changing them. The moment they placed Jim's authority above God he had power over them even to the point where he could convince them to take their own lives. The result of moving our responsibility from God to man is often religious suppression where people commit the strangest acts in the name of God. They are following orders from men who they have been lead to believe have, in part, the responsibility for their actions. We see the same phenomenon in fundamentalist Mormon cults where they are trained to do whatever the "prophet" in their midst says as he speaks on God's behalf. They then no longer measure what they are told with the Bible and God's law but with their appointed authority. This has caused many to marry underage girls. Some have been forced to practice and partake in polygamous marriages all thinking this gives them favor with God. They have given the "prophet" the responsibility for critical thinking.

God's relationship with man has been, and is, hi-jacked. And the hijacker does not use God's methods and has little respect for God's law. Instead, he uses the method of abuse of authority. To use Milgram's labels, when taken from God's law and rule to someone claiming to represent God instead, a person goes from «the autonomous state» to the «agentic state». But in the Bible God only wishes to keep someone in «The autonomous state» at all times and it is the impostors that put you in the «agentic state». True worship is always in the «the autonomous state». Satan wants you in the "agentic state" in the end time events.

All of this is relevant in the final confrontation at the end of the world's history. Human governments are dependant on their soldiers believing they have no responsibility when they follow orders. If not, the government would have little power. Sometimes this gets out of hand. When



Vietnam war: Mỹ Lai victims before being killed in the massacre. Unarmed innocent men, women, children, and infants was killed. Some of the women were gang-raped and their bodies mutilated, as were children as young as 12. Twenty-six soldiers were charged with criminal offenses, but only Lieutenant William Calley Jr., a platoon leader in C Company, was convicted. Only three U.S. servicemen tried to shield civilians. However they were called traitors by several U.S. Congressmen. It took 30 years before they were recognized for their resistance.

Chinese and Malayan girls forcibly taken from Penang by the Japanese to work as sex slaves for the troops. The soldiers did not question if this was ethical correct and was satisfied it being legalized by authority.



taking from them responsibility and critical thinking during training many soldiers lose control on the battlefields. Among soldiers of all nations, we often see the accompanying war crimes of rape, suppression, and violence. When made irresponsible, trained to ignore your conscience, many take advantage or lose control. During World War 2 on one mission where the goal was to conquer a Chinese district, Japanese troops raped between 20,000 and 80,000 Chinese women. The same soldier would never rape a woman in their own country before becoming soldiers. War crimes have been very normal in all wars on all conti-

nents during the course of history. Among those who are taught to strictly follow orders are also often seen in a state of lawlessness. The creation of a good soldier is a paradox in itself. You cannot teach a man to not listen to his conscience and at the same time expect them to do just that in a situation of chaos.



Often those who commit war crimes do it under the leadership of a lower tier management.

God holds everyone accountable for their own actions, meaning no one can blame «following orders» as a reason for persecuting God's people. Nor will it be an acceptable excuse for those who choose to do what they are told out of fear of losing their livelihood.

They are all part of the

problem. **When people give up their God-given conscience they are partly responsible for what that leader does with it.** It is the people that in part create their authority by their acceptance. This is why God has allowed so many different governmental institutions around the world throughout time, the leaders often reflect who the majority of the people are and the choices they have made. In mostly all nations with strong suppressing leaders, you see the same leaders pictured as the people's heroes securing them safety and providing resources. Whether

In most cultures the leaders advertise themselves as the people's protector. In Mesopotamian kingdoms they were often depicted fighting dangerous predators or enemies from other lands to keep the people safe. Feeling depended on them the people accepted also cruelty and suppression fearing the alternative might be worse. They were always depicted as heroes. They took the role of God as provider and protector. To most it felt safer to rely on these human leaders than to trust a God they could not see. Today leaders still want to be viewed as heroes or they will not get support.



When Moses hit the rock to provide water for the people he was tired and angry and said: “Hear now, ye rebels; must we fetch you water out of this rock? And Moses lifted up his hand, and with his rod he smote the rock twice: and the water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their beasts also.” (Num.20:10-11) This cost him the assignment to lead Israel in to the promised land. With one sentence he took credit as provider to himself : “must we fetch you water” and proceeded to hit the rock when God had told him to speak to it. God still provided the water but responded to the event: “Because ye believed me not, to sanctify me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore ye shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them” (Num.20:8 & 12)

As God’s chosen leader Moses had two important things he needed to remember. To not appear as the provider but give the glory to God and secondly to follow God’s instructions in stead of his own way. When Moses failed these two God decided to set him as an example and took from him the right to lead the people into the country.

Moses was regretful and was still loved by God and was among the few to be resurrected right after his death and brought to heaven. (Jud.1:9) He was later sent to encourage Christ while He was here on earth (Matt.17:3).

it is the kings of Mesopotamia fighting predators to save the people, or if it is Kim Jong-un of North Korea praised as the countries beneficiary. Jesus said: *“The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors”* (Luk 22:25). This is the oldest, most used trick in the book, give people what they think they need and want and they will let you not only rule over you but do a lot of things you would not normally condone. It is the same which is seen in Revelation 13, the “beast” rules over the resources and asks for authority over you in return. People seem to think as long as their government makes a law they will not be held accountable if they follow it. And they can only think this way if they regard them as the highest authority. For if there is a higher then you will feel accountable even when they tell you not to.

It is therefore important to God for people here on earth to understand that they are held fully accountable. Only then might He hope to see people make decisions based on their conscience and based on the righteousness His law represents.

The moment we give away the God-given gift to reason and choose to another man or a system, we are still responsible in God’s eyes. Not only for our decision but also for what the “leader” does with the power you have given him. The irreligious communities call this thinking “fundamentalism” and you will be viewed as a fundamentalist if you hold the law of God higher than any human authority. There is nothing more governments and religious leaders fear more than this. They use examples of people committing war crimes or those who commit terrorism as an excuse why you can’t have God as your highest authority and most people are taught to fear men who have done no harm to anyone by associating them with people who clearly breaks God’s moral laws. They claim that anyone who gives their loyalty to “God” above the human government is a dangerous person, and potentially out of control. God says the opposite, that those who reject Him and His moral law are potentially dangerous bringing the world closer to the state of lawlessness and dictatorial leadership.

In the Bible, we are taught to respect authority as long as the govern-

ment does not conflict with God's law (Rom 13:1-5; Act.5:29).

God does respect human authority and government. The instruction to respect your government is given because the institution help protects the citizens against crime and injustice. They work to create a peaceful atmosphere to live in. If we work against this, we work against God.

For God is not the God of chaos, and He wants criminals to be punished and removed from having the ability to harm others. In this way the government serves God. But God's instruction is tied to its purpose to do good. Paul himself who wrote the instruction to respect the government spent his last years in prison because he would not obey rules that conflicted with God's will. Clearly even Paul meant his words were to be placed in a greater context. And so when God's laws conflicts with the government, God's people are to choose faithfulness to Him first.



Yazidi refugees. Attacked by people claiming to do it for God (ISIS). Because so many that claim God as their highest authority does so many crimes, modern society have declared such a mentality to be fundamentalism and dangerous.

However, they who claim to do these acts for God are really following man claiming to represent God and not God. This is not how it is portrayed tho.

In this way, Satan can trick people to fear to follow God and continue to give man the highest authority.

They did the same with Jesus:

"He was assigned a grave with the wicked.. though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth" (Isa.53:9).

By creating counterfeiters that do away with God's moral rules, and put man instead of His law, Satan can destroy God's reputation. The result is that governments refuse people to follow the real God as their highest authority along with the false ones. Then they pursue to do the exact same as the religious fanatics and place man over God's law, while God's people are given the blame. Satan is a master manipulator.

This is why Christians were hunted down and executed in the Roman era, because they would not do the government's bidding. That is also why so many Christians who would not obey the Pope suffered severely during the middle ages. It had been decided by the government that the Pope was in charge of what was religiously right and what was wrong. But the Pope's rules conflicted with God's and they chose obedience to God.

We have several examples of people disobeying the instruction of men in power. One of them was Jeremiah that was told not to preach. He still chose to continue and was placed in prison. The apostles were also told not to preach. «Saying, Did not we straightly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us. Then

God will never take away from you your responsibilities. You will always be held accountable and this is why we need to acknowledge our sins to be offered atonement through Christ.

Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.» (Act 5:28-29)

There are many places in the Bible where we see that God will punish governments that work against Him. After a certain amount of years, any government destroying their own people rather than protecting them will feel the hand of God. Although the government doesn't always get their punishment straight away, this is because God has to allow them to show their true face and make their choices. He also gives the citizens the time to do the right thing and deal with the injustice themselves. He wants us to act responsibly and for people to act responsibly, they have to be given responsibility. So God ask us to act first. This is why God does not accept it when humans hold Him accountable for what is their own duty and their own fault. If God had done that, He could not have created a society where people take responsibility. Let us create a parable: If people creating fires rely on God to immediately put it out, they are more likely to continue creating fires as there

are no consequences doing it, and it seems not to be a bad thing. From God's side, He does not want us to put things on fire in the first place, but He does not accomplish that by putting them out every time we light them. If we experience the result of creating fires, if we see the damage, we would guard ourselves against creating them and by it become responsible people in regards to fires. So it is in the real world. People are not responsible unless given responsibility. This means God can not immediately interfere in everything at every time.

God has no other choice, if He is to respect humans and let them be free He has to hold them accountable, or He becomes man's hand in doing evil and they will remain in ignorance. Not only staying ignorant but He will also allow humans to become selfish beings. When someone sees a beggar in the street and blames God for poverty but at the same time has money in their pocket to give, it shows the paradox of man. If God is not good because He does not do away with this man's poverty, how can you be good if you don't do the same thing? Your excuse might be that even if you give you will not have solved the beggars problem but only given him temporary relief. The same goes with God. If He does not allow man to carry the responsibility for theirs and others actions He can only give temporary relief and not solve the problem. The passer-by needs to consider a more full picture, what is not working in society, why it doesn't work, and how to change it. Humans have to be responsible for each other as they are all connected in society and often part of the problem on a larger scale. They are connected in one way or another to the existing problems and thereby they have to correct their own behavior to change the main problems. So, this is not about God allowing evil it is God teaching us how to solve the evil we create so that we take responsibility for our actions and change our ways. **There is no other way to rule over intelligent beings and at the same time respecting their intellect and free will.**

God will not take the position of a dictator promising He will take the responsibility and when needed have you blindly follow His orders. Many religious leaders do rule that way, but it is not of God.

When people go too far, and He sees their problems are too big for them to handle, God does intervene.



Many missed the fact that Pharaoh got the Egyptian people to participate in the massacre of Israeli children. By convincing them it had to be done or they would be unnumbered and threatened the people did this extreme act of racist violence. (Picture is random and not related to the story)

Among the many governments God has judged are Sodom, Tyre, Edom, Ammon, Kush, Assyria, Babylon, and Egypt. Even though these nations were idol worshipers they could not escape the judgment of the God in heaven. He put them on trial whether they believed in Him or not. The Earth does ultimately belong to God: *“for all the earth is mine”* (Ex. 19,5)

In the book of Revelation, we see the two beasts (governmental powers) working to force people to live by their rules. They will eventually even deny people the right to buy and sell. Later in Revelation, we see Christ punish these same powers and throwing them in the lake of fire. Meaning, He destroys these governmental powers and judges its leaders and helpers.

A government does not have the right to rule over God’s people when they themselves are in conflict with God. If they do, they are in conflict with the heavenly law and will be put to trial in the heavenly court for their actions.

What about all those who follow the orders of these governments when the orders are ethically wrong? They are the biggest problem because

their compliance created the situation in the first place. Their desire for material gain and security created the beasts in the first place. And quite often blood is found on their hands. We see God judging in such cases, especially if they should have known better.

In the Torah, or God's law, it says that not even the majority is to be followed if they are in conflict with God. That means that democracy has no say for us personally when it is in conflict with God's laws. God's government is not run by votes and elections. If that was the case, man would be gods, and God would be their servant.

God's law says: *«Do not follow the crowd in doing wrong. When you give testimony in a lawsuit, do not pervert justice by siding with the crowd» (Exo. 23:2)*

In Germany, the Nazi party got 43.9 percent of the votes and came to power by cooperating with other smaller parties. Would Germany allow Hitler to become a dictator if the result had been 1% of the votes and no other party would cooperate with him in his vision?

There have been many majorities doing evil. Most governments that have performed cruelty towards humanity have been in large numbers.

Many people doing something does not lessen the act as a crime.

Israel were immigrants in the land of Egypt for several generations.

They were to do their best to not offend their government and the people there, but in no way were they to place the Egyptian government above God's government. Let us look at an example.

«And the king of Egypt spake to the Hebrew midwives, of which the name of the one was Shiphras, and the name of the other Puah: And he said, When ye do the office of a midwife to the Hebrew women and see them upon the stools; if it be a son, then ye shall kill him: but if it be a daughter, then she shall live. But the midwives feared God, and did not as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the men children alive. And the king of Egypt called for the midwives, and said unto them, Why have ye done this thing, and have saved the men children alive? And the midwives said unto Pharaoh, Because the Hebrew women are not as the Egyptian women; for they are lively, and are delivered ere the midwives come in unto them. Therefore God dealt well with the midwives: and the people multiplied, and waxed very mighty. And it came to pass, because the midwives feared God, that he made them houses.» (Exo 1:15-20)

So their disobedience to a governmental command brought them God's blessings.

But the story doesn't end there. The Pharaoh now gives the job as executioner to the people: *«And Pharaoh charged all his people, saying, Every son that is born ye shall cast into the river, and every daughter ye shall save alive.»* (Exo 1:22) The ones following this command were obedient to the government, but in the end God would hold them all responsible for their heinous acts.

When Israel was about to leave Egypt God sent plagues over the people, one of the plagues was that all the firstborns would die (unless they sought pardon from God). That means that adults, as well as young, died that day.

Their acts ended up coming over their own heads, yet God had tried to reason with them over and over again before He took this step. All of the people in Egypt had taken part in the racism, discrimination and the violence, the slavery and killings, and all of them were punished for it. They were all guilty of the wrongdoing in different ways. *“And all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sitteth upon his throne, even unto the firstborn of the maidservant that is behind the mill; and all the firstborn of beasts.”* (Exo.11:5)

We see God rewarding the same way as He judges: *“And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.”* (Joe 2:28-29)

From the free and mighty to the handmaids and maidservants, all are individually responsible for their actions, rich or poor. To do evil or to do good.

We see another example where the only family who was rescued from the city of Jericho was because of the disobedience of one woman towards her government. She even became an ancestor of King David and her name was Rahab. She hid two men who were going to be arrested by the city police and helped them escape.

Another disobedient was none other than a governor of the king's



When the three hebrews were cast in the furnace God miraculously spared them but allowed those who carried out the order of the king to die by the same flames.

soldiers for Elijah. Those who think that those who just follow orders are innocent will struggle with this story.

«Then the king sent unto him a captain of fifty with his fifty. And he went up to him: and, behold, he sat on the top of an hill. And he spake unto him, Thou man of God, the king hath said, Come down. And Elijah answered and said to the captain of fifty, If I be a man of God, then let fire come down from heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty. And there

house: «And Ahab called Obadiah, which was the governor of his house. (Now Obadiah feared the LORD greatly: For it was so, when Jezebel cut off the prophets of the LORD, that Obadiah took an hundred prophets, and hid them by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water.)» (1Ki 18:3-4)

Imagine if the German general or even soldiers chose this solution at the concentration camps during world war 2. What if they had refused to commit the horrid acts? We all think they should have stood up against the government, but usually, we dare not even correct governmental officials even in small injustices.

Another example is when the king of Israel sent

came down fire from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty. Again also he sent unto him another captain of fifty with his fifty. And he answered and said unto him, O man of God, thus hath the king said, Come down quickly. And Elijah answered and said unto them, If I be a man of God, let fire come down from heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty. And the fire of God came down from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty. And he sent again a captain of the third fifty with his fifty. And the third captain of fifty went up, and came and fell on his knees before Elijah, and besought him, and said unto him, O man of God, I pray thee, let my life, and the life of these fifty thy servants, be precious in thy sight. Behold, there came fire down from heaven, and burnt up the two captains of the former fifties with their fifties: therefore let my life now be precious in thy sight. And the angel of the LORD said unto Elijah, Go down with him: be not afraid of him. And he arose, and went down with him unto the king.» (2Ki 1:9-15)

As we can see, the story looks grim the first two times. It can seem like the soldiers are innocent and just following orders, but they are not. The last captain with his fifty used his head, and instead of just following orders he tries a different method, and he ends up saving all his men that were with him. It's important to understand that the other generals and their soldiers knew very well who Elijah was. Elijah was well known after what happened on Mount Carmel where God had shown Israel who the true God was. They knew He was preaching obedience to God before the Israeli state religion of Baal. They even called Elijah «thou man of God» when they called for him. They knew their orders were bad, yet they performed them anyway. They rejected their own God-given conscience to follow the conscience of a corrupt leader. Israel had been couped from God and these soldiers represented those who did the coup.

In another biblical story that we mentioned earlier, we see how loyalty to a cruel leader cost the lives of the 185 000 soldiers. The Assyrian king Sennacherib laid a siege around Jerusalem after having destroyed several of the Judean cities. He told the Judean King Hezekiah not to trust in God to save him and he then blasphemed God. To save the city, God had no other choice but to defeat the entire army and all the soldiers were slain by an angel during the night. These soldiers were only

following orders but they should have chosen to not help their king in his cruelty. The war crimes of the Assyrian armies are recorded, they were far from innocent. Sennacherib could do nothing without the help of his soldiers and in this way, they were guilty along with their leader for everything they did. The cost of their fidelity to Sennacherib was their lives. God let the Assyrian king live, their leader, yet he was killed of his own men when he returned home. (2Ch 32:21; Isa 37:21- 38) Again we see God punish those who carry out the order but let the one who made the order live. God is warning people through these stories.

Another example of civil disobedience was Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego during Nebkadnezzars reign. They had high positions in the kingdom yet they would not hold their position or their respect for the government above God. *«There are certain Jews whom thou hast set over the affairs of the province of Babylon, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; these men, O king, have not regarded thee: they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.»* (Dan 3:12) Nebuchadnezzar confronts them and they reply: *«O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter. If it is so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.»* (Dan 3:16-18)

Nebuchadnezzar gets really angry and has them thrown into the fire, but God saves them and then goes ahead and rewards the three men for choosing obedience to Him before the human government and humiliates the King.

Notice what happens to those who were following the king's orders. God has no mercy to give them and they are not saved. The men that carried out the death penalty on behalf of the king died themselves from the heat as they were casting Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the fire.

In Ezekiel chapter 18 we learn that even a son who is under the authority of his father, if he sees what his father does is wrong and doesn't follow his lead, then he will be acquitted but the father will be punished. Every human being has been given the right to choose themselves who

they want to follow. No matter where we work or where we live, we are to use our heads and make the right decision.

We will be held responsible whether we are the one who is giving the order or the one executing it, for both have aided the other in the wrongdoing. The leader is at part fault for what those that follow the order do and those who follow the order is part at fault for giving the leader power. In the Bible we often see it is the people that creates their leaders. (Example Judges 9:1-21)

We are not to give our conscience or decisions to a higher earthly power, or to a majority, and think we will be acquitted in the courts of heaven for the wrongdoings that they or we end up doing.

Let's chose to do our best to help the government keep order and peace, but the moment there is a conflict with the law of God, remember to stand on God's side. Defend those who receive cruel and unfair treatment no matter who they are or what they believe. For the government will one day be under condemnation and will be judged by heaven. And if you stand with them, you will face the consequences together with them.

About spiritual Babylon, we read: *«For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her» (Rev.18:3)* Governments have made deals with a corrupt religious organization. This means that these governments will encourage wrongdoing. God's people have been given a warning. *«And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.» (Rev 18:4-5)*

Have nothing to do with the sins of anyone in authority. Choose to keep your responsibility at all times for your own actions, for one day you will be held accountable to the highest authority there is.

Why did the Biblical God order sacrifices?

To most people living today the idea of sacrificing to a God is a primitive religious practice of underdeveloped people of the past. The Bible reveals God started this practice, but why did He? What was He hoping to accomplish by it?

From the moment Adam and Eve rebelled against God's authority they received the death penalty. They had been warned that the penalty for violating the symbol of God's authority on earth was death. When Eve was tempted she even voiced both the law and the consequence of breaking it showing she knew very well the risk she was taking. She said to the serpent tempting her: «*God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.*» Yet moments later she decided to eat fully aware of the penalty yet hoping God would not, or be able to, fulfill it. Or as the serpent had insinuated, that God had lied to protect Himself. So she let the serpent trick her into thinking God would not complete the sentencing or that if she ate of it He would not be able to as she would be as God herself. So they were warned and well aware that the penalty for breaking the law was to lose the privilege to eat of "the tree of life" which would ultimately lead to their natural death. Yet she chose to believe the lie because the lie was appealing to her. And that is usually how we all fall into disobedience.

So when they were confronted by God He showed them that the penalty would be just what He had said it would be. And Eve had not become as a God, she was even more vulnerable than ever.

God told Adam who had partaken in the rebellion: «*In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.*» (Gen.3,19)

God then refused to give them access to the garden and the tree. Adam died a thousand year later most likely of old age.

If God had not stood by His law it would invite anarchy in the universe that might even consist of other planets. In our own family homes, if a child sees that the consequences are empty threats it will quickly change the power dynamic in a family. Or in a society as we know it, if no one was arrested or jailed for breaking the laws of the land no one would feel the need to keep them. There is only authority if there is a consequence for defying it. No consequence, no authority. And if you pardon one lawbreaker you would be unfair if you do not pardon the next and so on. Not committing to the penalty for breaking God's laws would in the end effect all beings that existed and would lead to a lawless universe.

God knew for everyone's safety the consequence for breaking His moral law had to be what He said it was. Death. And so the first humans were sentenced to death.

However God loved the world, as we read in John 3,16, and so He came up with a plan where He could keep the validity of His law and the seriousness of violating it at the same time as presenting a way out for humans so they could again eat of the tree of life and live. The penalty had to be so high it would not cause for law and order to spin out of control, so high that sin would not be considered worth it for other beings in other places. Yet at the same time, God could get the opportunity to pardon the transgressor. **And the plan of salvation is God balancing the two, justice and mercy. "Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face» (Psa.89:14).** God needed to do both.

So although law and order were important God wanted to show that mercy did not have to lead to anarchy if given in the right way. Balancing law and mercy correctly, to not harm one when helping another, is an extremely difficult task as humans have struggled with this over decades. But God came up with a perfect blend.

God did not reveal the full plan in the beginning. God was under constant critic and attack from His enemy and so God did not share all the details of His plan straight away. In this way, He could prevent as much sabotage as possible until the plan had been carried out. God did share with man that there was hope and to keep a lookout for a deliverer (Gen.3:15). And He shared with them the cost of their future deliverance.



After Adam and Eve had broken the law God took the first life, an animal, and he took its skin and clothed Adam and Eve with it (Gen 3:21) . In this symbolism, and others, God showed that their crime could be put on a substitute and the substitute would die, its blood would be shed in their place.

Every sacrifice that was sacrificed was in reality an execution of God's law's principle, that following the breaking of His law there was a death penalty. This was to create great respect for God's law, hopefully teaching man not to continue break it and give the hope that man could be saved by a substitute taking their place in the execution of their sentencing. God gave the promise right after they fell in sin knowing how He had created them and that without hope life would degenerate and perish quickly. Hope gives motivation and optimism which is essential for man to have a good life. So He gave them hope straight away, long before the fulfillment of their salvation. The hope and the sacrifice was connected.

The rules of the first sacrifices were simple, the animal were to be without spot or blemish. And it had to be a clean animal, an innocent animal. Meaning the animal itself did not kill pray to eat, it did not eat the blood

of others. The diets of the sheep, lamb, ox or goats were mostly grass. The chosen sacrificial animals were peaceful and easily domesticated. Them not having a blemish was to symbolize their innocence. They were not wild but obeyed the order of their shepherd. It represented obedience. The symbolism was that if the substitute was not innocent it could not serve as a substitute as it was guilty and would could therefore not be a substitute.

Now obviously as we all know, animals do not know the difference between right and wrong the same way as humans do. Neither could they consciously agree to take a humans penalty. This revealed that the whole idea of them as a substitute was in reality an illustration of God's plan of salvation and not the salvation in its self. It was to point forward to a deliverer.

By asking for these sacrifices in the Old Testament God would preach to them and constantly remind them of the seriousness of sin and hopefully get man to think more about his own action and the consequences of them. No one's sin is only their business, it will always affect someone or something else.

Many are willing to take chances if they know they are the only ones to get hurt. But the stakes are higher when you realize that others will suffer the consequence of your sin. That is if you are a little caring.

For instance when shedding the blood of something that represented innocence it was in part to give that cruel awakening. That our salvation cost blood, that our sins harm others and has an utter consequence.

Cain and Abel

When Cain and Abel made sacrifices, Abel made a blood sacrifice of an animal, but Cain made an offering of vegetables.

In reality, Cain by action took away



what the sacrifice was witnessing. The authority of God, the consequence of breaking the law, and the great cost to be made to save man from His crime.

Cain might have worked hard to bring forth these vegetables but they took away the seriousness of sin and the consequence of them. Cain by it did not confess to have sinned and deserve the penalty for sin which is why he did not see the need for a substitute to die in his place.

So God did not receive Cain's sacrifice. Here was revealed the first great principle that man cannot atone past wrongs by doing a good deed or buying God's approval with our material things.

If God would accept such a gift in return for getting us out of our sentencing He would be what we today know as a corrupt judge. For what judge would receive payment from the one sentenced to get them out of jail without being corrupt? And what about the witness to angels and other beings other places, that you can sin and use your wealth to buy yourself out of trouble? What would this signalize? This is what Cain's sacrifice witnessed, while Abel who was following God's instruction showed respect and knowledge of the importance of the law and the painful truth of what the consequences are. And with it an admission of his own guilt.

In reality, Cain represented corruption and Abel represented God's justice system.

In Cains sacrifice laid the idea that man was under a curse, not because of their own actions but because God was upset with them. And so in this way of thinking God had to be satisfied or pleased in order to let them get off the hook. This mentality was the foundation of all ancient pagan religions. They saw the problem in God's reaction to their sin and not in their sin.

We know this form of apology in inter-human relations is highly criticized. When someone is confronted with something wrong they did and they apologize by saying something like: «I am sorry you feel hurt»

rather than saying «I am sorry for what I did».

It is about making the problem appear to be the insulted feelings rather than your own action. That the problem is the responder and not the action committed. This behavior is very common among narcissists who rarely admit fault and always blame the emotions and reactions of the other rather. Often such people will even blame those they hurt for being emotionally unstable for having a reaction to wrongs.

And so this false apology, the not really acknowledging you are in the wrong yet you are forced to apologize by circumstances, was used against God and His juridical system. God or the gods were seen as unstable beings. Or that they had to bribe God with something material to gain a blessing.

Those who would not truly admit to being in the wrong yet saw they were in a bad position with God or the “gods” would create a false sacrificial system where the problem was God’s temper and not their actions. Others followed their lead in ignorance thinking this was how God was.

And so they played the victim and God the moody transgressor and started sacrificing to «please the gods» to help them in those things that they could not control. Like the weather, rain, death, and so on.

Basically, they created a victim/abuser relationship with God.

This placed God in a terrible light and human sins in an innocent light.

God repeatedly said He hated the religion of the heathen.

It was a distortion of both God, God’s character, and His justice system.

The false sacrificial system then and now

It went so far that many started sacrificing babies and humans to the gods to gain favor. This was a terrible abuse of the sacrificial system God had created. It placed God in a deceptive light. Satan helped by giving them prosperity when they did it so that they would continue to think they were pleasing God and that it worked.

This pagan religious view even became great under the reign of the Catholic Church during the Middle Ages. The protests of Martin Luther which kick-started the reformation was a protest against this very

mentality.

In those days you could pay either with money or by abusing yourself or making pilgrimages to get out of your debts with God. Meaning if you sinned and you had money or were prepared to work for it, God would acquit you of your sins. The St. Peters basilica in Rome, where the Pope is crowned, was built by money given by people as an atonement for sin. This very basilica represents therefore corruption, quit-tance from crimes by bribing God to get out of the penalty. The ideas went so far that it was said you could even buy family members out of purgatory with money. For many therefore this church and its king became a corrupt institution and abusive imagery of God's juridical system. Christ's blood atoned some sins and others you had to work for. It was the same base principle Cain practiced which God had rejected. And so Martin Luther made an open protest against the whole corrupt system and re-introduced the original principle, that sin cannot be paid for by wealth or good deeds, and that the only way was through the substitute's blood as represented by Jesus. God did not accept bribes or favors. What could humans give Him but love? All that existed was created by Him and He creates for Himself whatever He wanted if He wanted. Man had nothing to offer Him of value except their loyalty and love. And that was all God was asking for.

The ideas of Cain ended up becoming many people's misunderstanding. And often as a result of refusing to knowledge one's own sin and instead put the blame on the law that accuse them or the God behind the law. All the early pagan religions practiced different types of the sacrificial system, yet often with blood, they still did it with the wrong understanding of it all. They thought they were satisfying a bloodthirsty God or bribing the God for a favor. The sacrificing of unclean animals, even human sinners, also showed a complete lack of understanding of what the original sacrifices symbolized. It had also gotten completely out of hand thanks to the efforts of Satan and it had created a blood bath, a disrespect for life, and everything good. And it did not inspire people to change their behavior. It did not give them hope, instead it filled them with fear. The "gods" were never satisfied, a force to be reckoned with and religiosity made many people unhappy. God's original institution



had been twisted to the unrecognizable and it was time for God to act.

The Sanctuary service

Because of the great abuse and ignorance of the sacrificial system God had to put the principles behind it all into greater symbolic imagery than the first given. This to give the sacrificial system back its original meaning and testimony. In order to do that He needed faithful people to showcase it correctly. He chose Israel.

When God called Israel out of Egypt He asked them to make Him a sanctuary where from now on, the sacrifices were to be put into a greater setting that would illustrate the whole point of it.

They were told to make two rooms inside the sanctuary, a holy and the holiest place surrounded by a courtyard. Inside and outside this tabernacle, there were several symbols of God's justice system. In the holiest was placed God's law to mankind, it was to define what sin is (1Jn.3:4) The law was placed inside a gold-covered chest with a seat with cherubim on to represent God's throne (Exo 25:22, Exo 25:22).

In a kingdom, you have a king and you have a law. And this law is the foundation of the kingdom and the rule of the King. The holy places represented God's universal kingdom in heaven.

So God was trying to illustrate as simple as possible the principles of His plan of salvation. Although not able to disclose all the facts to mankind, enough would be revealed to understand it involved a substitute

who would atone for man's sin.

God said about Himself that He is righteous, that His law is fair and it was there for everyone's common good. The sanctuary system was a way to bring people back to the original understanding that it wasn't God or His law or His sentencing that was the problem it was our sins. And so our apology had to contain an understanding of that fact, that the sacrificial system was our admittance and not some attempt to make God appear unreasonable or moody.

So God asked them to bring the sacrifices without blemish to the entrance of the tabernacle in front of God's seat of authority and it was to be slain there so that there could be an admission of why there was a death penalty. By putting the sacrifice in front of the sanctuary God revealed what sin was, the breaking of God's law and it being a rebellion against God's authority. He revealed what specific law was broken and that the breaking of it had the death penalty.

In the same way, as Eve was very well aware and could repeat the consequence of breaking God's law when Satan asked her about it, through this tabernacle man would not remain in ignorance as to what God's law was and what the punishment for breaking it was.

Right and wrong did not change leaving man innocent by ignorance. God did not change and His justice did not change.

The brutal truth was to be revealed, the consequence of breaking God's ten commandments was the death penalty.

The secret of the substitute.

Yet there was some great mysticism in it all. Why would God be OK with transferring the death penalty to an innocent creature and how could this do His law justice?

The explanation of these things was given in the tabernacle service. The blood of some of the sacrifices was brought into the holy place where there was a seven-branched candlestick, a table of shew-bread, and an altar of incense. Once a year the blood of the sacrifice was

brought into the throne room with the law and sprinkled in front of it and upon it. In this way, the law could witness that the penalty was paid for and that the law and the lawgiver had been respected.



All the symbols inside were related to God's connection to His people. How God could purify the sinner and bring Him back into good standing with God. It revealed that the condition for using a substitute was that we had to be authentically sorry, not blaming the law of God but taking the blame ourselves and show a willingness to start over and use the chance given us to turn from our ways.

God's sanctuary system had many similarities with modern courts.

A law, a judge, a lawbreaker, and sentencing. What modern courts do not have is the opportunity to transfer the execution of the penalty to a substitute. This was the sensational part of God's juridical system which caused even angels to be puzzled. How could it possibly be fair? Could mercy and law exist together?

It is similar to our juridical systems today. You have a courtroom where the law is present and the one witnessing against the transgressor. And you have the sentencing based on those laws. However there is no substitute to take our penalty, such an idea would have been absurd in a courtroom today. What would it serve to punish someone innocent instead of the guilty and would we then not put others at risk if the guilty went free? If the rapist asked for his innocent mother to go to prison in his stead? What would happen to society if everyone guilty of a crime grabbed a law abiding citizen and had them do the time for them? In the end, you would get a lawless society where all the good guys were

in prison. God is no fool, He did not create a system to acquit the guilty so that he could continue his law-breaking spree without facing consequences. That is why God claims to be a God of justice as well as a God of mercy.

And so in God's substitute system repentance that resulted in a change of behavior was important. The sinner was not completely off the hook by the substitute death, they had to go into a relationship with God and show a willingness to change. The rebellion against God's kingship had to end. So God offered along with the substitute a rehabilitation-program. If you drop out of it you lose the right of the blood of the substitute. A type of parole as we know it today. The criminal is set free but expected to follow the rules of society or they will lose their pardon and go back into prison. In God's rehabilitation program the one who had prayed and asked for salvation through the substitute had to show that they wanted to learn God's laws and adjust to them, that they were willing to ask God for strength and help to change and be in constant communication with Him to achieve this goal "...against such there is no law" (Gal.5,23) The candlestick symbolized how God would strengthen and protect them through His spirit and care, the table of showbread symbolized learning, and the altar of incense prayer. If we committed to change God would provide mercy and power to work for and with us.

And so through God's sanctuary system, God showed that it was not enough to just sacrifice something to please God but that there was a larger picture they were missing. To be part of God's restored kingdom they could be acquitted of their sins and go free but they had to commit to change.

Sanctuary system abused

However, after a while, God's sanctuary system was abused as well. The idea that God had to be satisfied and was difficult and unreasonable came back and affected the way the sanctuary system was viewed. Sometimes they would show up with sick and less valued animals to sacrifice, failing to see the point (Mal 1:7-8). Sometimes the Israel-

ites showed pride in sacrificing many animals thinking it would make God happy to see the blood flowing. Animal killing became a common everyday thing and it stopped impressing them of the terrible price for their sins. And the richer you got the more you had to sacrifice and the finer the animal. The idea that you would be clean from all your wrongs with God simply by sacrificing, making the sacrificial system a way of purchasing from God the right to sin or continue sinning, was profane.

But in the sanctuary system, it was revealed that the sin pardoned was brought in by the blood and that once a year on the Great Day of Atonement God did an investigation to see if those who had shed the blood had done it in arrogance and with the spirit of Cain with no interest in rehabilitation or if they had been sincere. This holy place represented that people's case will be reviewed in God's court in heaven. Why heaven? Because if man is acquitted they will be allowed access to heaven which makes it all of heaven's business. It is also where God's seat of reign is.

God said regarding the Day of Atonement: «For whatsoever soul it be that shall not be afflicted in that same day, he shall be cut off from among his people» (Lev 23:29)

God would not be fooled. The sacrifice did not make Him blind to their motives, attitudes, and what they did with the freedom they thought they had bought themselves.

However, God was pained over and over again by the misrepresentation they continued doing on Him and the whole point of the symbolism in His juridical system. The thing was that God in theory had the right to just sentence all for breaking the law, take the life He had given to us, and be done with it. The sacrificial system represented God's attempt to save man and restore him instead. It represented man's only way to get life when they should have died. Having it misrepresented took away people's ability to get that only chance. And God's motive was wanting to save and avoid our death yet the whole system was used against Him. Him wanting to help was seen as Him wanting to abuse. His love for them was seen as hostility. His stretched-out hand was seen as a striking hand. The sacrificial system, whether practiced outside the sanctuary

system or within it, then lost all-purpose. And if there was no rehabilitation the substitute blood was abused as a justification to continue sinning without consequence.

He once said about the meaningless offerings: «Offer sacrifice no more in vain: incense is an abomination to me» (Isaiah 1,13)

And: «For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings» (Hos.6,6)

Some would say God asked for these sacrifices and then He seems to not want them. But that is caused by the misunderstanding of why God was asking for it in the first place.

«Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the peace offerings of your fattened animals, I will not look upon them. Take away from me the noise of your songs; to the melody of your harps I will not listen. But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream» (Amos 5,21-22)

One of the reasons God appreciated King David despite his horrific sins was that he at least did not misrepresent the witness in God's sacrificial system. David said: «For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise» (Psalm 51:16-17)

David understood that he could not buy himself out of trouble and that what God really needed to see was an admission of guilt and a willingness to change. David's son Solomon said: «To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice» (Pro.21,3) He too understood that the sacrificial system lost its meaning without repentance and rehabilitation. See also Micah 6:6-8, 1.Sam.15,22, Psalm 40,6-8.

In the book of Jeremiah God goes as far as to say He did not firstly command them to sacrifice, He commanded them to keep His law and love Him. If they did that, the many sacrifices would not be needed as they were actually a witness of their transgression and past rebellion. God did not command them to transgress His laws, so that He could be

glorified by a sacrifice. *“Do they provoke me to anger? saith the LORD: do they not provoke themselves to the confusion of their own faces? ... Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Put your burnt offerings unto your sacrifices, and eat flesh. For I spake not unto your fathers, nor commanded them in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, concerning burnt offerings or sacrifices: But this thing commanded I them, saying, Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and ye shall be my people: and walk ye in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well unto you. But they hearkened not, nor inclined their ear, but walked in the counsels and in the imagination of their evil heart, and went backward, and not forward.»* (Jeremiah 7:19 & 21-24)

Because sin was becoming so common people thought less and less over the reality of what sin was. But sin against God’s law is eating from the tree that Eve ate from over and over again. It was meant to be a big thing and the sacrifice to be a harsh reminder of the reality and consequence of sin. But instead, they created a society where sin was no big deal because they now had this way out. All they had to do was to please the gods with some offerings.

God critics them: *“Will ye steal, murder, and commit adultery, and swear falsely, and burn incense unto Baal, and walk after other gods whom ye know not; And come and stand before me in this house, which is called by my name, and say, We are delivered to do all these abominations? Is this house, which is called by my name, become a den of robbers in your eyes? Behold, even I have seen it, saith the LORD”* (Jer 7:9-11).

God tries to repeat this to each generation: *«What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the Lord; I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of well-fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats. “When you come to appear before me, who has required of you this trampling of my courts?»* (Isaiah, 1:11-17)

They thought God would be happy with them coming with all their

sacrifices. But it was a grievous thing because of what it symbolized, all their filthy deeds.

«Guard your steps when you go to the house of God. To draw near to listen is better than to offer the sacrifice of fools, for they do not know that they are doing evil» (Ecc. 5:1)

There was supposed to be shame in their actions. And in the first century, the sacrifices had even become a competition, and status, and about wealth. Money dealers even sold overpriced animals and took advantage of those coming to the temple seeking mercy.

Jesus who was at one with God and the prophets before had seen enough.

Twice He enters the temple courts and it is the only time we see Him using physical force: *«And Jesus went into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves, And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves.*

And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple; and he healed them.» (Mat 21:12-14)

Jesus also said: *«But if ye had known what this meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice, ye would not have condemned the guiltless.» (Mat 12:7)*

Jesus was not just some anybody making His frustration over how God's witness of salvation was being abused. Jesus was that person it all had pointed to, He was the substitute promised. He was the lamb of God. He was the one whose death and blood was being abused and used. He was the one the sins would be put upon and who would die in man's place. The sacrificial feast, the blood bath from all those thinking sins was not a big deal and could easily be atoned for, was now facing the one who was going to pay the price and carry the heavy burden as a sin-bearer. Every sin was a deadly strike on Christ.

As it turned out the sacrificial system was just symbols. That *«it is not*

possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.» (Heb 10:4) Gods sacrificial system had been a revelation of the coming savior and substitute. The secret rescue plan of God is now made known. “Now to him that is of power to establish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began, But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith» (Rom 16:25-26)

The symbolic system to go before Christ was to help people understand what sin is and the penalty for it, but also that a way out for the repentant had been made possible. That God had a plan where He could give man mercy while still respecting the validity of His law.

Jesus was the only acceptable substitute. The blood of an animal did not confirm the law. How can you commit a grievous sin and do away with it with the blood of a lamb without the law being partly disrespected? But if the son of God who took part in the Creation Himself came as a man, representing the human family and the human transgression, innocent Himself, He would be the only acceptable substitute. For He was their King. **He was the lawgiver in flesh. The law is in one respect equal to the one who gave it, for the law’s value are tied to the position of the lawgiver and the lawgivers authority is His law. He has no authority without it. And so they can not operate without each other.**

It would not be someone random paying the price for someone else, it would not be a being unable to make that decision. God would Himself make the sacrifice by giving His son and co-regent and the sacrifice was great. God risked loosing the only one who had His nature, who was part of Him and one with Him. If it had gone wrong God would loose His only family and would be alone as eternal. Jesus giving up His nature to be born as a human seperated Him from His divine nature and physical origin, but His soul was still at one with God. Christ outside and flesh was changed but He was still God’s son, only degraded in

form. Being a ruler with God, in His likeness, Jesus was the only one equal to the law that could go. The Father could not for then life would be over. A lower being could not go either for they were not equal with the law or the lawgiver. Both God and His son took a great risk to save man, and by careful planning and execution they succeeded, and Christ could be resurrected and return to heaven and claim earth His as the only human to be completely obedient to God. Dominion over the earth had been given Adam but humans had given it to Satan. He was not supposed to be allowed to own this planet or rule here, they are “aliens” yet man received him and gave him authority here. Now that there was a human who would not yield to Satans laws or take part in the rebellion the earth was to be given to that man according to God’s law that said the earth was to be ruled by humans. In addition, Jesus could by His atonement for humans that have sinned, welcome them back to His kingdom. Satan and his angels are not prepared to give it up although the earth now rightfully belongs to Christ. This is why Christ is allowed to return to earth with an army and take it back and save His people.

From the book of Hebrews, we learn that the sanctuary system was really just an illustration of a sanctuary in heaven. Man had through the earthly system been permitted to see, in part, God’s legal system that had been put in motion to save them. However, there were no animal sacrifices in heaven.

The principles were the same though. God’s law had been broken, through Christ’s blood the sinner would acknowledge guilt, transfer their sin to Him and take part in God’s rehabilitation program. Jesus called the rehabilitation «the new birth». You are to give your old sinful life to die with Christ on the cross and you then resurrect with Christ out of the tomb as a new person, now a child of God in “His image”. Jesus took the penalty we deserved, we get the reward He deserved. The conditions were the same, the Old covenant had just revealed the truth of the real salvation plan but not been the solution itself. Jesus said: *«Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God» (Joh 3:3)*

He also revealed the reason behind the substitute plan: *«For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life» (Joh 3:16)*

The plan had never been the toxic relationship with the gods the pagans and sometimes Israel had shown. No random innocent creature was to be the substitute, it had only been a symbol of God sending His innocent son to die in our place. The sacrificial laws had been given beforehand to help people understand the consequence of sin: *“Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith» (Gal 3:24)*

Had God chosen a random person to atone He would be unjust to the innocent person. But Jesus, with God’s blessing, giving Himself up voluntarily out of love for mankind could not be questioned. A volunteer sacrifice showed that God was willing to Himself make the sacrifice needed. He was our provider just as He was our life-giver.

It had never been about God being bloodthirsty who had to be bribed to forgive us. God had been lied about, and His plan of salvation was misunderstood and misrepresented. Although the sanctuary service had played as an illustration of God’s plan of salvation it would no longer serve its purpose when Christ had come, died, and entered the tabernacle in heaven. Being so misunderstood, even by the Jews, the best way to show man the path to salvation was to show it to them plainly and as it is. There was no need for symbols to guide the way, they now had their fulfillment. The path went through Christ’s blood and His ministry for us. The truth was now in the open. Would it still be misrepresented and misunderstood?

Christ’s sacrifice being abused by Christians.

Although God’s intentions and demands were clear, Christ’s blood was now to suffer the same treatment as the animal sacrifices before the sanctuary had been. The mixing of the pagan and the Christian understanding lead to the same problematic relationship with Christ as pagans and Jews once had with the animal sacrifices. Although the Bible

informed that Christ had taken His blood to the sanctuary in heaven as a witness there, the knowledge of the sanctuary service in the New Covenant was forgotten or ignored by Christians. This led the blood of the substitute, Jesus, to be taken out of the context of God's juridical system. God's law was done away with by some or was changed by others. They repented for whatever they thought the truth to be in the age they lived. God and His requirements were ever changing by whoever claimed to represent Him at the time. The rehabilitation program was dismissed or not understood.

The torture of Jesus became less serious and many saw the opportunity to give Jesus their sin as an easy way to atone for sin and so many started using Christ's sacrifice as an excuse to continue in sin. The Bible warned against this (Heb.10:26; 1.Jn 1:8-10).

Removing the sanctuary from the sacrifice has led many Christians to not understand the purpose of the sacrifice of Christ. They don't understand what law has been broken which demands our blood, they don't repent or take part in the rehabilitation program. Instead, Christ's blood has become a machine you put a sorry into and which hands out an acquitted card in return. Some claim the freedom to sin is found in Christ in the way they practice their religion.

The pagans did not understand the purpose of the sacrifice and many Christians do not understand the purpose and meaning of Christ's sacrifice. Instead, they just see it as a way to be saved while continuing to riot against God's law.

The idea that the law is abolished at the cross has removed the point of the cross. It was because God would not remove His law that someone had to pay the penalty for it being broken. He combined law and mercy, He did not replace one with the other. If mercy is not an exception it is not mercy. Mercy is not needed if it is the rule.

Many Christians just see the cross as something eliminating everything, both law and sin and then a new spiritual world starts where there is

neither. And so they fail to see the cross in God's juridical system and therefore are unacquainted with how the plan of salvation actually works. Jesus tells us several places that many will think they will be saved, clinging to His name, yet they will not be saved (Mat 7:21-23; Mat 24:48-51; Matt.25,1-13; Mat 22:12-14; Mat 25:32). They abuse His sacrifice just as Israel once abused the animal sacrifices. God said that they were not granted atonement and Jesus will say the same on the day of judgment to those abusing His sacrifice. The misrepresentation cost them to lose the opportunity they had been given to be saved by Christ's sacrifice. And that is Satan's plan with distorting the gospel. He wins when we think we are saved when we are not.

While other Christians have taken the pagan path more clearly such as the Catholic Church wherein many instances you still are trying to be saved by bribes and good deeds as if this could atone sin. The belief that sins are weighed up with your good deeds remains. Yet God's law is not respected and even changed to suit their ways and sins and still they claim the blood for the breaking of their own rules. And so they take the sacrifice from God's tabernacle and they do not spiritually bring the blood before the throne and the tabernacle of heaven.

When Israel took their sacrifice away from the tabernacle that contained the law, the blood was said to not save them: *«What man soever there be of the house of Israel, that killeth an ox, or lamb, or goat, in the camp, or that killeth it out of the camp, And bringeth it not unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, to offer an offering unto the LORD before the tabernacle of the LORD; blood shall be imputed unto that man; he hath shed blood; and that man shall be cut off from among his people» (Lev 17:3-4)*

In the tabernacle was illustrated many of God's principles. The book of Hebrews shows that Jesus is a High Priest in the tabernacle in heaven but also tells us that everything that happens in the covenant ministry was illustrated in the role play in the old testament: *«For if he were on earth, he should not be a priest, seeing that there are priests that offer gifts according to the law: Who serve unto the example*

and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount» (Heb 8:4-5)

Saved by works or by faith?

Some Christians do both, they lean on the blood of Christ but they also still think that their own good deeds can atone sin.

It has evoked the discussion of salvation by works or by faith. The one who first started confusing matters to Cain, to the heathen nations, to Israel and Judah is still active today. He turns things upside down as he always did.

Satan makes it seem like God's rehabilitation plan is the same as trying to be saved by works. So he presents it as a bad thing to respect God's law and order. Most evangelical churches are built on this shaky ground that Judah once fell for in their day. But the truth is in the imagery that God set up.

“Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary: who is so great a God as our God?» (Psa.77:13)

«Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end» (Psa 73:17)

Believing we can be saved by works is not the same as to rehabilitate or respect God's law. What it really is, is when you think that you can erase a sin by doing a good deed. You can not. Only blood, Christ's blood, can atone for your sin. Even if you go on a pilgrimage for days, recite the Lord's prayer a hundred times, or if you are a pastor giving your life to preach. If you are a missionary or a good person adopting less fortunate children or if you give your fortune to feed the hungry. Nothing of that can remove your sin. A good deed does not remove a bad deed. That is corruption or bribery if your good deed is used as an argument for atonement. It will not stand in any earthly courthouse and it will not acquit you in God's court. Would an earthly court set a man free who has sexually abused a child if he can prove he has improved the lives of 10 other children? Of course not. Neither will God accept

this argumentation.

This is the true meaning of “not being saved by works”. Only Christ’s blood can atone, only the sacrifice of God can save you. Your sacrifice is not good enough to get you access to heaven.

Atonement is a free gift from God, if you take part in His rehabilitation program.

So you can do good deeds, you can keep God’s law, it is only a sign that God’s rehabilitation program is working on you. That you have repented and want another chance. But these same things can not be used to get you off the hook for sin until death. God’s juridical system demands to be respected. You cannot take a life and then think that saving someone’s life will have acquitted you from the life you took. This again was pagan belief. They had gods holding weights and at death, a man’s sins were weighed up against his good deeds.

This is not how God’s juridical system works as shown through the imagery He has given to explain it in the Sanctuary system. You can not steal from a store and then later give gifts to the poor thinking this has outweighed the balance of your wrongs and you have now atoned for it. So we can not be saved by works.

God’s law remains and still stands and because it is still at force there is only one way for man to be saved from having broken it, Christ taking our place. This is why there is only one way to be acquitted and that is by Christ’s blood. If the law was done away with we would not need Christ atoning sacrifice to save us.

But if you come with your sacrifices without repentance, without respect for the law and the lawgiver with a desire to change, your sacrifice is not accepted.

Jesus left no room for doubt: *«Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven» (Mat. 7:21).*

God has given us one way, one way only, to escape our death penalty.

It is seen in the sacrificial system and in Christ's sacrifice. And just like the pagans continued their false sacrificial system alongside the sanctuary service, in the same way, many Christians continue a false use of Christ's blood and name while there is a true representation to be found elsewhere. There are false representatives of Christ and there are true representatives of Christ. And this is the way it has always been since the rebellion started.

Every abuse of the sacrificial system in the old testament which God critiques can also be fitted on the abuse of Christ as our sacrifice. Because the old was always a symbol of Christ.

Paul wanted his student to understand just how important it was to put the context of the cross with the witness in the Old Testament scriptures. He said: *«And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.»* (2Ti 3:15-17)

Placing the cross in the right context is of vital importance. Placing Christ our sacrifice in the imagery of the heavenly sanctuary as we are told in Hebrews is the only way to see it in fullness.

But Satan has always and will always distort God's intention with the plan of salvation. And He will continue to cause Christ's sacrifice to be misunderstood.

Paul warns us that many «would pervert the gospel of Christ» (Gal.1:7)

Although God is glorified by His son's sacrifice He desires us to do as little sin as possible. If He had to choose, as He says, He would have chosen man to not have sinned at all. And instead of Eve breaking His law He would have wanted her to trust Him and be faithful. She would never have needed Jesus to die for her as a substitute, and a lot of pain and suffering would never have taken place. And if we continue to sin willfully not considering that each sin is a strike on our innocent Savior we should consider changing our ways. Jesus is still our helper and

the one to whom we turn. He would rather we go to Him for strength to not sin than for us to come afterward asking for forgiveness. For if we think God wanted sin to come so He could sacrifice Himself to save us we have misunderstood everything. Although God gains glory from His kindness and mercy to the sinner, the sacrifice was painful and cost more for God than we will ever know in full. If we think we have to continue to sin to glorify God we have misunderstood even more. He does not want us to fail.

His first desire was for us to love and respect Him. Now that we have all sinned His new wish is for us to receive His gift of salvation and restoration. But never did God want sin to happen, never does He want us to sin. Never did He give anyone an excuse to sin.

«Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin» (Rom 4:7-8).

«What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin.» (Rom 6:1-7)

Therefore we are saved by Christ's sacrifice but God is only glorified if we let Him change our hearts. *“A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them» (Eze 36:26-27)*

“Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit. Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be? Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things? And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.» Joh 3:5-10 & 14-15)

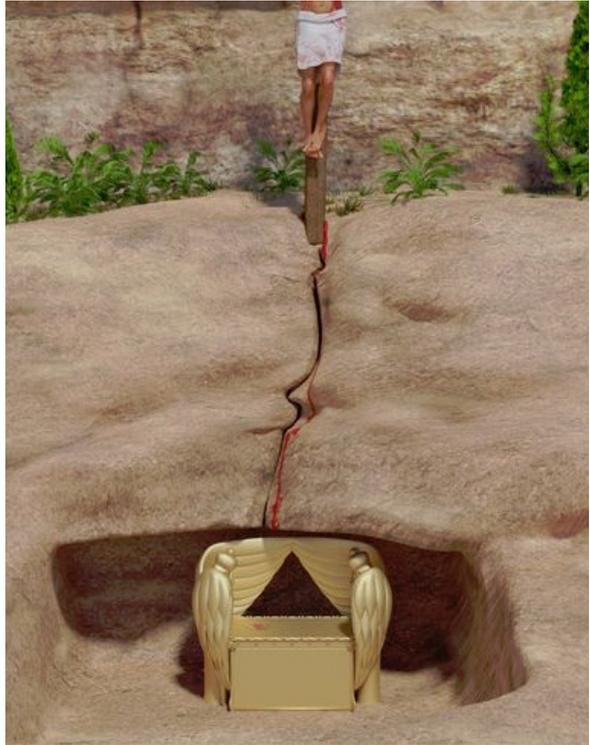
Christ’s sacrifice back within the sanctuary system.

After many centuries where Christ’s sacrifice was taken out of its sanctuary context God tried to encourage people to study more. After seeing the sanctuary in both the book of Hebrew and in the book of Revelation, a movement started to put the two back together. It did not happen until the 19th century. In a way, we can see how history was then repeated. The first sacrifice system was given and then abused. In order to restore the meaning, God chose a people to put it back together with the sanctuary and in the right context. Then Christians removed the cross from the sanctuary and God did the same again. He rose up a people to tie the two back together. God’s law was again elevated as the standard.

The majority of Christians saw this as false light and chose to keep Christ’s sacrifice separated from the sanctuary. But they will have another chance to receive Christ’s sacrifice in the right way.

In our age, the last days of the earth’s history, there are multitudes of religious teachers and spiritual guides. Many are making a trade of God’s gift to the world. Thousands of groups claim Christ’s blood but teach different truths. All this happens because Christ’s sacrifice was removed from the sanctuary. Through the discovery of Christ’s blood on the mercy seat God will again place the blood of our substitute in the

right context, the cross is shown together with the sanctuary-items and the law. Showing clearly what sin is, what we need to repent, and the only acceptable atonement. Showing the truth of both why and how as one last call to man to take part in His plan to restore them before it is too late. He will then also be exposing the lies of those offering Christ blood on their own doctrinal terms.



Faith

God asks mankind for faith. Faith that He is a righteous judge that He knows what is best for us.

Mankind was designed to love their Father and all their lives they live with a hole in their heart which they are trying to fill but never can. Until the trusting relationship is restored man will never find true belonging or inner peace. There will always be this longing for something. Mankind has found many ways to silence that longing by indulging themselves thinking if they can have everything they want and have dreamt of then that longing will stop. It doesn't. Even the most successful people find themselves struggling to get that inner peace. We are like a child that has been kidnapped by a stranger who is trying to keep us amused and happy and while entertained at the end of the day the child just longs for its real parents. Amusement can make us forget for a while, being busy and pursuing one's dream can feel fulfilling, but at the end of the day, most people feel the sting in their hearts that something is still missing. That someone is God. Not everyone will admit it and will even fight it. Mostly because they have heard so many lies about God that they do not think He can possibly be the one their soul long for. So they continue the search for something else.

Humans are longing to rest in the hands of someone strong, the desire to worship someone is part of human nature. We need a greater person to look up to in order to feel a sense of direction. Without we struggle with our identity. So when Christianity lost influence in the western world young people started uplifting media personalities instead. They admired each other, desperately lifting up humans as idols to look up to and follow. Many of them had just as a corrupt life as the ancient gods had, and by their position, they were able to get acceptance and even pursue sin as a good thing. Others sought self-help coaches, psycholo-

gists, new age, spiritualism, buddhism, or anything along the way to find that one religion, philosophy, or higher being that could satisfy their needs. Christianity had become tainted by reputation and so the Christian descendants kept looking for something else.

Satan knows that once the bond with God is broken mankind will desperately look for someone else to lead them, someone they can admire. Satan can use this to his advantage by presenting them with leaders that will lead them astray, with idols that will corrupt their minds, and alternative religions.

God had wanted there to be human leaders to lead mankind to Him but instead, they took over and became their god in God's place. The result was a scattered people. When Jesus was on earth it says: *«But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.» (Mat.9:36)*

He also used the following parable: *«Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.*

But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep» (Joh 10:1-2).

He explained the meaning: *«I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. ..I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep» (Joh 10:9-12)*

God compares people to sheep because they are. They will always follow something or someone. Today it has become modern to be different and unique but in reality, the many doing it is proof that there is no such thing. When being unique is a trend it is no longer unique. And even they follow a lead or are inspired by someone else. You see in groups of rebels the similarity of clothing, speaking, and behavior. Even when a man says they are different they are not. Their group is somewhere and likewise their source of inspiration. Black metal musicians are just as similar to each other as nuns are to each other. God explains

in the book of Ezekiel that part of the reason people have gone astray and «turned every one to his own way» is because of how those claiming to be leaders of God's fold have behaved (Isa.53:6). He says that instead of caring for His «sheep» they have abused them for their own gain. *«Woe be to the shepherds of Israel that do feed themselves! should not the shepherds feed the flocks?»* He continues with the symbolic language: *«Ye eat the fat, and ye clothe you with the wool, ye kill them that are fed: but ye feed not the flock»* He then continues to explain in more clear language: *«The diseased have ye not strengthened, neither have ye healed that which was sick, neither have ye bound up that which was broken, neither have ye brought again that which was driven away, neither have ye sought that which was lost; but with force and with cruelty have ye ruled them. And they were scattered, because there is no shepherd: and they became meat to all the beasts of the field, when they were scattered. My sheep wandered through all the mountains, and upon every high hill: yea, my flock was scattered upon all the face of the earth, and none did search or seek after them».*

From God we learn that human leaders tend to leave the sheep when trouble comes, they use and abuse them for personal gain and they have not «fed them». Jesus said that real food is «the word of God». Meaning they have not united man to God but to themselves. The food they gave them was not God's word but their own. God is very upset:

«I will require my flock at their hand, and cause them to cease from feeding the flock; neither shall the shepherds feed themselves any more; for I will deliver my flock from their mouth, that they may not be meat for them»

God will not give up easily because He does consider man to be His children. He will try to get them back: *«For thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out. As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day»* And this is what God wants to do if they will come to Him: *«For thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out. As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will*



deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day» (Ezek. 34)

Just as the child longs for its parents the parent equally long to be reunited with their child, and God wants to reunite with all those who have been lead astray to tend to their “wounds” and give them peace. But all He can do is give us the offer, He can not make the choice for us.

The power of doubt

The serpent causing Eve to doubt that God had her best interest at heart is in part what keeps many from obeying God today. Once

doubt has snuck into the heart it separates us from the person we doubt. Every time we hear something new about that someone the previous doubt will come in and suggest a possible different way of evaluating what is unfolding before us. Doubt is one of the most difficult things to remove or overcome, some say it can not even be done. The suspicion that comes with doubt creates a response or need to protect ourselves from that someone or to take control of the situation ourselves. «Just in case» they can not be trusted. It is very hard for God to lead someone who doubts Him because every time trust is required we choose to take the control out of God’s hands into our own. The fall of man is linked to distrust and so the restoration of man has to be linked to trust.

When God approached Moses He presented Himself as the «God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob» to strengthen Moses’ trust in Him, for he

knew God was good to his forefathers. God repeatedly explains in the Bible that not only can He be trusted but that we need to trust Him: *«For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end» (Jer.29:11).*

The trust is not to be completely blind, if that was the case God would not defend Himself against His accusers. When He says that He is good that is a defense because there would be no need to say it if the fact was not questioned in the first place (Exo 34:6-7). He does try to help us understand how His enemy and people have lied about Him by revealing the truth. He explains His position to His people to regain the trust in Him which they have lost so that He can save them.

Jesus said about the false shepherd: *«The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly» (Joh 10:10)*

God knows He can only ask for our trust because the moment He claims it by force the trust is lost. Trust can not be achieved by force, it is impossible. That is not how trust works between humans nor between God and man. To regain our trust God needs us to come with Him, walk with Him and get to know Him for ourselves. And that is what God is asking us to do. To give Him the benefit of the doubt and go with Him. This is the true meaning of having faith as explained in Hebrews chapter 11. This is how Jesus managed to be faithful to God even after been born in human flesh like us. Jesus was not ignorant, He is the greatest teacher who ever lived. The enemy tells you that if you trust God you have to become ignorant, but that is not the case. When we trust God and walk with Him He will increase our knowledge with His own wisdom.

The tree of knowledge

The forbidden tree in the Garden of Eden was called «The tree of knowledge of good and evil» and Satan used this to give Eve the impression God was withholding something good from her. Many do not contemplate that the tree also was said to have «knowledge of good». Why would God withhold from anyone the knowledge of something

good? When some good knowledge is dependent on bad knowledge to be understood. Before man's fall no one knew how far God was willing to go to give mankind a second chance at life. They knew their God as good but never knew how much He would be willing to sacrifice. This is a good example of good knowledge God wanted to keep from mankind because if He had told them beforehand He would have paved the way for them to sin by telling them He would provide a way out. Second of all, God knew for beings to know this about God a lot of pain and suffering had to take place. And so God admitted that good things can come out of a bad situation but what is better is that the bad situation does not occur at all. We can see this phenomenon among mankind as well. When a big catastrophe happens many come together and help the victims. The helpers would otherwise only cared about themselves but now they are heroes and inspires others to do good. But did we really need the victims to lose their homes, belongings, and families for us to show ourselves good? We may regain faith in humanity when we see the eager helpers but seeing it was depended on evil to take place first.

And so God was not withholding something good from Adam and Eve when forbidding them to eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, He was just doing the right thing. Would He be praised more after how He dealt with the rebellion? Yes, but He did not seek it or want that situation to happen because of His love for the wellbeing of His earthly children. He did not desire to use evil to elevate Himself as good. In that way, both the good and the evil knowledge was hidden together and forbidden. God hid part of His goodness to preserve mankind from evil. They did not need to know the depth of His mercy when they were not in a position where they needed it.

God needed mankind to trust Him that there was knowledge of good and evil they did not need to pursue, that they needed to let it go to have a good perfect life. When Satan sowed the seed of doubt in Eve's mind she decided to gain the knowledge for herself by eating of the tree. From this moment on mankind struggled to trust God and Satan has used it to his advantage.

God asks us to do in our lives what Eve did not do when standing in front of the tree, trust Him. Trust that He is our Father and wish us well.

To trust that if God asks something it has a greater good purpose and is in our best interest even if for a moment it does not appear that way. That when we come to Him He will



work for good for us. When we let the seed of doubt tell us otherwise we

Picture: Fugitive camp receiving humanitarian aid. People coming together to help those in need is a beautiful thing. But a lot of the time the good we see humans do today is the result of something bad happening first.

let go of God's hand to pursue to walk on our own path instead. And we only have a limited view of any situation and of the bigger picture. Every step we take Satan will give nourishment to our doubt to keep us from turning around and seek help.

As parents, we tell our children all they need to know but sometimes we have to ask them to trust us in matters where their understanding is not enough to comprehend it all. So God gives man knowledge, He tries to regain our trust by showing He is there for us when we call for Him, but at some moments He needs us to just trust Him. The moment someone trusts Him completely He can do great things through, with, and for that person. While being our example Jesus walked on water, healed the sick, raised the dead, silenced storms all in union with God. Jesus said: *"Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father"* (John.14:12)

And He said: *"And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it*

shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you” (Mat. 17:20). When we have complete trust in God we follow His path in our lives, we are at one with His principles and God will be able to do great things together with us without having to worry about you using it to glorify self or to lead others astray. Trust is a mutual gift, when we give trust we are given trust. It is not a one-way street.

God gave mankind the bible to help us understand how He works and learn to trust Him through that. By other people’s experience with God, we can obtain that knowledge. Instead of presenting Himself as the «God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob» to connect their experience with Him, He now presents Himself as «the God of the Bible». In it, we see everyone’s experience with Him, not just the three patriarchs. He is also the God of Moses, Joshua, Ruth, David, Elijah, Samuel, Mary, Martha, John, Peter, James, and so on. Each of them had their own experience but God’s principles remain the same. Although the stories span over four thousand years God remains the exact same, with the same message and the same calling. *“For I am the Lord, I change not” (Mal. 3, 16) “the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning” (James 1:17)*

The Bible shows us how He responds to those who seek refuge in Him and how He responds to the deceivers. Most of all we see God in flesh, God’s son reflecting perfectly who God is, what He is about, what His personality is like, what He wants for us and the great length He is willing to go for our sake. Christ’s life was to allow mankind to get to know God closely.

When tempted to doubt we are encouraged to look at Him, His life, and Him on the cross. Hanging on the cross was God saying: I love you! By beholding Christ’s life, death, and resurrection our trust in God could be restored, the lie about God exposed. Who was the real killer and thief? God exposed His enemies’ lies. He gave the hope of resurrection and victory. He gave us hope of acceptance.

Our need to focus on Christ is not tied to God wanting to take from you any joy in life, it is to help you to not lose faith in Him. When our eyes drift the seed of doubt is planted again as we live in the enemy’s land. When our eyes drift back we are reminded again who God is. *“But we*

all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord” (2.Co 3:18). The moment we understand He wishes us well, when we behold Him in trust we start



to change and God becomes our hero the one we look up to, the one we seek. And golden, wooden, or

God gave us the Bible so we could get to know Him. Unfortunately, interpreters have twisted God’s word. You should therefore pray to God for guidance and read for yourself.

human idols are cast away in pursuit of God instead. This is how we are restored by beholding Him. Paul rejoices: “*where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty*” (2.Co 3:17) When we leave our captor and go home where we belong we are free.

Many come to churches without finding peace or a connection to God because Christ is presented separated from His life and His goal. Their trust in God is not restored because the gospel is preached in a false light and God is not understood. The uncertainty feeds their doubt and many continue their search outside the church.

The more God disappears from society the more anxiety and depression find a living in our hearts. We live in a day of age where man’s desperation for an answer and to find belonging in a torn world leads many to worship themselves. They want to believe in themselves, they want to trust themselves and all their thoughts and instincts. If they deny themselves something they feel they are violating themselves. Their body has become their god which they seek to get validation from. Celebrating their character faults as uniqueness. Selfishness is praised. Their

whole life is about satisfying themselves and their closest ones. Yet many have no true peace. They wake up with a hole in their hearts and they fall asleep with it. They change land, language, society, gender, sexuality, appearance, partner, friends, religion in the hope this will take the feeling that something is wrong away, and if it does for a little while the peace does not last. Worship of ourselves rarely occurs outside the western world or outside the rich or privileged, for when the privilege is lost, strife or war comes and they instantly seek for another to lead them. A human leader or a god. Even the religion of self only lasts until the bobble crack and we realize how vulnerable we are and that we can not save ourselves or even protect ourselves or our children from threats.

If we doubt, God asks us to give Him the benefit of the doubt and get to know Him before making a decision.

We can not break free completely from God because he is our life-giver. *«Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus?»* (Rom 9:20) We can not change our origin even if we wish to. We are because of Him. We live because of Him. We did not come into this world without first belonging to someone.

We are formed in our mother's womb but can still resemble our earthly father. We may hate our parents as much as we like but we are created in their likeness, we carry their genetic heritage. In every human being, there is something inside that links us to our creator as well. And even if we decide we want nothing to do with God, it is still there pointing back to Him as our originator.

No human leadership, no idols, no false gods nor belief in self can bring peace to mankind. They may promise peace, they make claim to create it if you just follow their lead or instructions but they never can.

God asks man to come back to Him, to trust Him, and that He is work-

ing for their own good. To trust His law as the ultimate standard of what is good. When tempted to doubt God, He asks us to give Him the benefit of the doubt before His accusers and to allow God to help you understand what the real situation is. That when in doubt we choose to follow Him, for this is the only way He can lead us to safe ground. He only becomes our King when we have faith in Him and when we trust Him. Then our relationship with Him is restored and He can work for our good.

“For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith” (1Jn 5:4).

Of Faith and Miracles

Many ask God to do a miracle or sign they feel they need in order to believe and trust Him.

Proof can affect our choices but it can not always inspire trust. Sometimes it inspires fear and anger instead.

God is limited when performing miracles because He knows He can wound by it as easily as He can inspire faith.

The apostles saw many signs and wonders, but for a moment the disciples lost faith in God and Jesus was quick to address it:

“And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full.



And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish?

And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?” (Mar 4:37-40)

Although they had been tempted to doubt God was taking care of them the sign

Christ used did not change their motive to follow Him and this is the main reason Jesus could do these great manifestations among them.

Unfortunately, people that do not wish to convert sometimes ask God for signs to use those signs to force themselves to convert because they fear the consequences if they don't and so they want a sign of His existence before making a decision. If God agrees He has then not established a relationship based on trust but one of suppression.

An example of this can be seen in the story of Israel's exodus where they saw great signs and manifestations of God's power. In many, this only aroused their fear and by it, they created an unhealthy relationship with God which led them to rebel.

If God uses signs and miracles to convert someone who does not care for Him, he knows He establishes a relationship based on distrust but of fear and concern. Where there is fear, there is less love and a lack of trust. And remember, we would also treat God the way Satan wanted Jesus to treat God in the wilderness. Although we are worried about being used, we should not treat God badly either as this only creates a dysfunctional relationship.

So God deliberately uses signs to strengthen someone who is already responding to His Spirit positively or is already a believer as the signs and exhibit of God's power will not change their hearts but rather strengthen their love for God. And so in a good and healthy relationship, God can do great things for that person. The disciples sometimes struggled with their faith but it was not disconnected from their motives, they loved God. Life just got to them and they got tempted and afraid, not of God but to lose God.

Another incident happened at the time of Jesus when a father sought help for his son: *“Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth. And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief» (Mar 9:23-24)* This man did truly believe but at the same time struggled with his faith in God wanting to help him. And so he confessed his care for God but at the same time was honest about his struggles. Jesus willingly helped the man and healed his son.

When the apostle Thomas struggled with disbelief after Christ's resur-

rection he said he only would believe if he could see Jesus resurrected himself. When Thomas made this condition it was not because he wanted to escape doing the right thing. Thomas loved Jesus already and so Jesus met with him and said: *“Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing. And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God. Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed”* (Joh 20:27-29)

Jesus could give Thomas the sign he asked for because Jesus knew it would not change his heart or ruin his relationship with him. However, Jesus at the same time gave a blessing to those who would not give any conditions for their belief. Once we put conditions for our belief we might accidentally place ourselves in a difficult position where we feel depended on signs and we worry when they do not come when we want them to. So those who trust God completely and do not seek signs will have more peace.

When there is distrust connected to hostility towards God, God knows any signs in their favor will only serve to temporarily pacify them or create an unhealthy relationship where they in turn will abuse His name. This is why you rarely see God perform miracles to convince people to turn from their ways and why He normally preserves signs for those who already believe. It is not discrimination, it is in man’s best interest.

When you have great power and a high position it is very easy to abuse it. The more power you have the more easily it is for people to feel manipulated and forced. We have seen this so many times during the curse of history watching politicians, dictators, religious leaders, or anyone in a high position abusing their position. Sometimes they do not understand they are abusing it. They do not understand the impact they have on someone in a reduced situation, and how hard it is for them to speak up or refuse. God knows it and so He is very careful impressing people with His spirit instead. God tried to demonstrate this point to the prophet Elijah who was very eager for God to continue to do extensive signs to force people to change direction. God told Elijah to watch as

He sent a series of manifestations:

“And, behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the LORD;

but the LORD was not in the wind: and after the wind an earth-

quake; but the

LORD was not in the earthquake:

And after the earthquake a fire; but the LORD was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice.

And it was so, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the entering in of the cave. And, behold, there came a voice unto him, and said, What doest thou here, Elijah?” (1Ki 19:11-13)

The strong manifestations broke what it touched but God was not in them. Instead, God showed Elijah that He was in the small still voice. Many leaders in our world have become bad but were not in the beginning. People can sometimes impress their leaders to become bad by asking for dominance, by provoking an unhealthy relation. God is well aware and does not accept us treating Him in a way that would change Him and His character. Thus He will do what He believes is right and not be controlled by our wants and requests. If he did He would allow others to change Him into something He does not want to be.



Sometimes we love someone to the point that we ask God to establish an unhealthy relationship with Him to save them.

Although God might feel our pain as He longs to save as well, He knows the methods we suggest might not be the best solution for either them, others, or Him.

God does not abuse His position or use His power to manipulate anyone to follow Him. When God does miracles He uses His power and it can cause great fear and inspire an unhealthy relationship with the person He is giving it to.

If you want God to do a sign in order for you to turn to Him your motive is wrong from the beginning. You ask God to push you into doing something you have not chosen to do with your free will.

And so you try to make a deal with God for Him to dominate your decision. If you wanted to go to God you would have done it without asking for a sign. If you are looking for a way to not go, that shows God you are not ready to have a trustful relationship with Him. You already doubt that God is best for you, that His way is good. You do not love the truth when you hear it, you fear it as if it would take something good from you. Then God sees that you are not ready. This principle is brought up many times in the biblical book called the Song of Solomon: “Do not arouse or awaken love until it so desires” (Son 2:7; 3:5; 8:4).

When the Pharisees asked for a sign Jesus refused and said it is typical that those who do not want to come to Him to ask for a sign to go: “*The Pharisees also with the Sadducees came, and tempting desired him that he would shew them a sign from heaven. He answered and said unto them ...A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas. And he left them, and departed*» (Mat 16:1-2&4) Bear in mind the same people had already watched Jesus perform many miracles. He had even just fed four thousand people by a miracle. These signs did not impact them enough to inspire faith because they were looking for a way out, not a way in. So they asked for a more authorial sign, one direct from heaven. But they did not love Jesus, they would only follow Him if God made them. So Jesus did not give them the sign they asked for. Many Christians who have seen God powerful in their lives pray for God to show the same signs they have seen to the ones they want to convert only to have the request denied. They do not understand why God can not just do these wonders for the people they love as well. At the same time, many feel their experiences are not believed unless others experience them too. It might seem to be a well-meaning request but

why should you try to force someone to choose differently than what they want? We are again back to the principle we started with. The need to suppress people for their own good. God does not help in these situations, only if He sees the person is responding positively to His spirit does He encourage them on the path they are already desiring to walk by giving them special experiences.

If someone thinks that if God does not exist they want to live a life in indulgence and lawlessness, they might not be ready. If they will only reconsider if God gives a sign, they reveal that they do not wish to come to God. So if God gives what they ask He will not have solved anything other than filling up His church with people that don't know Him, don't love Him, or wish to follow His way. Nor can He safely bring them to heaven.

When Pilate sent Jesus as a prisoner to Herod we see Him refusing to give a sign again: *“And when Herod saw Jesus, he was exceedingly glad: for he was desirous to see him of a long season, because he had heard many things of him; and he hoped to have seen some miracle done by him. Then he questioned with him in many words; but He answered him nothing.» (Luk 23:8-9)*

This angered Herod and when there were no divine signs he felt brave enough to ridicule Christ showing his character in full. First, he was glad to see Jesus, then he mocked him. Some might seem sincere but their true colors show when God does not follow their instructions. Jesus refused because He knows it only would do harm if He did or the sign would be in waste. In the case of Pharaoh God showed many signs, not to convert pharaoh but to save Israel. You would think all these signs and wonders would change Pharaoh and the Egyptians but it did not, he hated the God of Israel only more for each manifestation of power He did.

And so by doing signs and wonder for unbelievers, God does not accomplish what He wants to accomplish. By the signs and wonders, He can only create an unhealthy relationship with them built on unwillingness, fear, and distrust or He intensifies the hate towards Him.

Sometimes the signs we ask for would destroy us. The Pharisees asked

for a sign that would cost humanity the gift of life:

They said: «*He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him*» (Mat.27:42).

If God has planned something for thousands of years and it is important for our salvation He can not just change His plans because we won't accept Him if He doesn't. It shows how unreasonable humans can be.

Some, Jesus explained, see miracles and then they seek Him for prosperity but still do not care for what He really wants to do for them or give them (Joh 6:26-27). They won't trust Him or let Him save them, but they will only accept that which encreases their wealth and power. God can not agree to those conditions either.

Acquiring someone's trust is therefore not really tied to signs and wonders. Still, God helps the ones who struggle with doubt if their heart and motives are in the right place.

To one man Jesus said: "*Unless you people see signs and wonders,*" *Jesus told him, "you will never believe."* (John 4:48) This man had placed the condition for his belief in Christ's ability to heal His son while Christ wanted him to believe because God cared about him. Grieved by the man's attitude He still chose to heal the man's son for the sake of the man's wellbeing. By His answer, Jesus did warn Him against believing only based on signs.

God's reluctance to use signs and wonders are not Him being difficult it is tied to His respect for man's choice and His attempt to create a healthy relationship based on all the right reasons. Trust can never be achieved through fear. This does not mean God won't ever make you afraid of disobeying Him. Sometimes a startler might do us some good, wake us up from a spiritual sleep. Or if we are about to loose salvation He might warn us before it is too late. It might not be fun to experiance but at least it gives us another chance to choose the right things.

We can understand better perhaps by comparing it to parents and children. If a child grows up with a ill-tempered parent who neglects it there is no trust between the father and the child. If the child grows up

in a loving home where they feel safe and protected it will still feel fear when confronted by the parent for doing something wrong. The first child's fear inspires suppression or rebellion. The second child's fear will not harm it or the relationship. It is the same with our relationship with God, we need to have respect for Him which can cause us to feel fear in some situations, but as long as it is within the frame of love and trust it will not change the nature of our relationship with Him. A child from an abusive home does not trust the parent, but a child that is in a good home can be corrected or even be punished and still trust and love the parent.

If our relationship with God is like the child in an abusive home we

You can know who is behind the miracles and signs by looking at the motive behind them. Where do they lead us? To man, a false Christ or to God's truth?

have a problem. God does not want to be anyone's abuser and so He does not use signs and wonders to make you follow Him.

The beasts and the use of "miracles".

Someone who is not afraid to use signs and wonders to further their agenda is God's enemy in the end times. Paul warns against a leader acting as a god in the world: *«Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders» (2Th 2:9)*

Satan does not have to work the way God does because He is not trying to win your trust, he is just trying to lead you astray. Force and fear, therefore, works in his favor.

The beast that deceives the world also uses signs: *«And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men» (Rev 13:13)* People are said to be deceived to take the mark of the beast this way: *«And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image» (Rev.19:20).*

Satan will use signs, wonders, and even miracles to achieve his goal. The sign he uses to deceive can be very similar to those Christ performed while He was on earth. Jesus said: «*Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.*» (Mat 7:22-23)

Jesus said many would also pretend to be Him (Mar 13:6). Satan would even show himself as an angel of light sent from God to deceive. (2.Col.11:13-14) What better way to get people to distrust God or hate Him than by pretending to represent Him while using abuse and control. What better way to create hate and resistance to God's way. Satan, false prophets and governments leading people astray use miracles and signs, how then can you know if something is from God or not?

It is all tied to the motive of the act. Is it to force you to go against your conscience? Is it done in disrespect for your free will? Does it take away your freedom of speech, your right to ask questions or your right to make your own decision? Remember God has allowed Satan the freedom of speech for thousands of years, would He take away your right to ask questions? Are the signs given to strengthen the believer who loves God or to try to force someone who is resistant? Is it together with a message saying you are free to disobey God and follow your flesh? Is it used by religious teachers to subdue you under his will? Is it bringing you into a state where you are pressured to make someone else become your conscience and decision-maker? Does it take from you your responsibility? Do they promise you that you will not be held accountable if you do what they say? Does it lead you to view men as your mediators and to look to them to tell you God's will? Are they making you dependant on their relationship with God?

In the case of the beast, the false prophet, Christian teachers, and the deceiver in the end times, they will always use signs to turn you from obedience to God and His law to them and their bidding. When you know God and how He works it should be easier to distinguish. Those seeking signs to convert might find just what they are looking for among the false teachers, but Jesus said that it does not necessarily give

you a key to a mansion in heaven.

The way you distinguish the spirit behind the manifestation is by knowing God and what He stands for and who He is not.

Jesus said: *“Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.*

Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

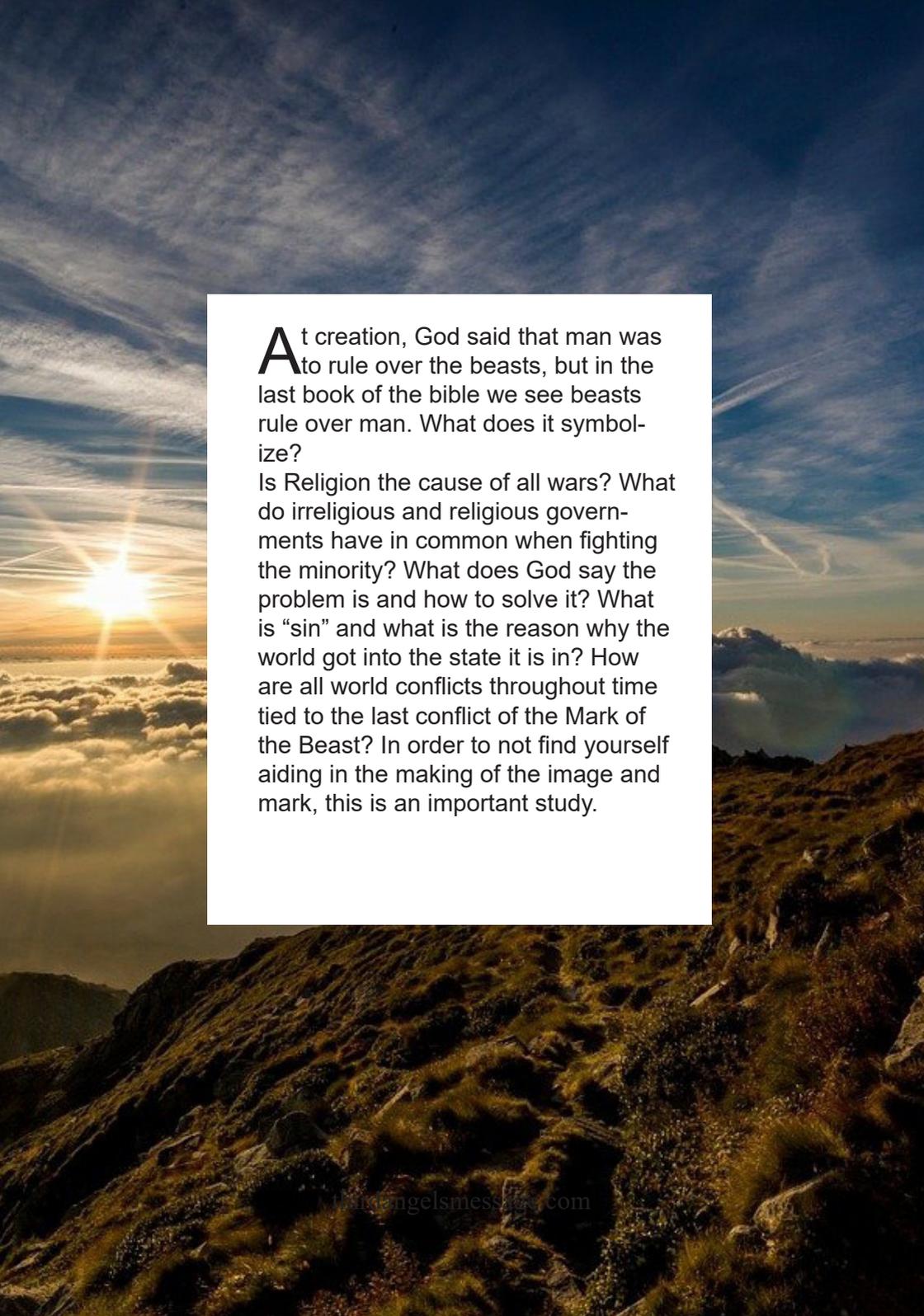
Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them” (Mat 7:15-20).

As the world enters into the last great fight for human souls between God and his enemies the battle will intensify and the enemy will do anything to pressure you on his side. He has no respect for you, he only wants to win you over to take from you what will be taken from him: life. And every person Satan wins to his side harms God because God is the one who really loves us.

When the time for judgment has come people will see great manifestations from God, it will not be manipulation because they are being sentenced and not forced to convert. It will be similar to what God did to Egypt. He did not hide His power from them because they were fighting Him and His people. He had to act to save them and the Egyptians were afraid of Him and that was needed because it was a matter of human rights. In this instance, God wanted them to be scared.

God as a judge is not a still voice: “And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail” (Rev.11:19). When Christ comes as a king many will be fearful. This manifestation of power, God coming to judge, is a big event. At this time people have already chosen sides and God will separate them from each other and save those who are saved and sentence those who are not.

The world will soon see great things, from both God and His enemies. But we will only choose right if we know God through His spirit.



At creation, God said that man was to rule over the beasts, but in the last book of the bible we see beasts rule over man. What does it symbolize?

Is Religion the cause of all wars? What do irreligious and religious governments have in common when fighting the minority? What does God say the problem is and how to solve it? What is “sin” and what is the reason why the world got into the state it is in? How are all world conflicts throughout time tied to the last conflict of the Mark of the Beast? In order to not find yourself aiding in the making of the image and mark, this is an important study.