

**Message# 148 - 7-18-2021 - The Faith Once Delivered to the Saints - If Thine Enemy**  
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Good morning everyone. Thank you for tuning in to the broadcast this morning.

Let me remind you again that we have reserved the Maranatha Bible Camp and Retreat Center again this fall - from what the world calls October 28 through the 31st. This will be our third Kingdom Conference and I hope you are making plans to attend. It will be here before you know it. I've only heard from a hand-full of people letting us know they are planning to attend. Please let us know. For our last two conferences, it seems like most people waited until almost conference time to let us know they are coming. And, as they say, "better late than never" but we're a small group - and "better early than never" is a more appropriate choice. So if you can just let us know - even if you aren't sure - but you think you might be coming - we would appreciate it.

I heard from Chris's son again this week. And it was basically just to let me know he is down to - at that time - 5 weeks - but that was early on this week - so he's got about a month to go. That will go fast for you and I - but will probably seem like a long time to Chris. Pray for him as he is still sitting in the Wisconsin jail.

I found an article this week from something called the Brennan Center - "a nonpartisan law and policy institute, striving to uphold the values of democracy." In other words, a group of people advocating for the doctrines of devils. Anyway, headline:

***Reducing Jail and Prison Populations During the Covid-19 Pandemic***

*Prisons, jails, and other correctional authorities must make every effort to release unnecessarily incarcerated people and improve healthcare and conditions of confinement.*

*Between March and June, more than 100,000 people were released from state and federal prisons. According to analyses by The Marshall Project and The Associated Press, this constitutes an 8% decrease in the national prison population since the pandemic started.*

*As the coronavirus pandemic continues to ravage the country, and particularly its incarcerated populations, government actors (that's funny - that's exactly what they are - GOVERNMENT ACTORS) - have turned their attention to vaccine distribution as the*

*solution to this health crisis. Though some states have explicitly included incarcerated individuals in their vaccination plans, many have not yet provided information as to how and when those behind bars will be granted access to this protection.*

So thousands - over 100,000 “prisoners” released - just in a 4 month period - yet Chris still sits there - apparently going to do his entire sentence - first offense - no damaged party.

As you probably know, Chuck Baldwin comes on right after my message on Missouri Liberty Radio. Last week, I listened to a few minutes - mainly because it was just left on to be frank with you - but he made the statement “According to the Laws of God - or in the Old Testament - or something like that he said - there were no prisons.” That made me perk up a little and listen to what he said. Now, I will say this about Chuck - he has come a long long way from his Baptist roots. But he also has a long long way to go. He is calling a lot of the Covid garbage correctly - but he's calling it the Antichrist and the Beast - and doing so without clarifying his statement - and while he's doing that he's condemning the teachings of Darby and Scofield - which is great - but it's stopping short.

His understanding of no prisons - you could tell - by what he was saying - and how he was saying it - but his understanding of no prisons under God's Law was something new for him. He was kind of stumbling around with his words and couldn't really say what he was thinking - or convey it well - but he was right - and very close. I've been preaching this for many years and so has Ted. Ted has a book on his website called: Prisons, Shut Them Down. If you have never read that book, you should. It is exactly. Ted is a really good writer and the information is right on.

In the Law of God - in the Ecclesia - there are no prisons. Restitution is what God demands for sins where damage is done to someone's property or harm is done to their body. In the systems of men - everyone prospers from sin - except for the one who was sinned against. Apparently - there must be whopping amounts of pay for the prison business - or else there would not be so many private jails and prisons.

In the U.S. - and I would say probably just about every other “nation” in the world - except maybe for some Muslim “nations” - the U.S. absolutely leads the way with the most incarcerated people in the world - which is just totally ridiculous - but prison and jail is big big business.

I have not been able to prove this - but I'm going to say it anyway - there is a financial gain - somewhere - somehow - either from the states themselves down to the counties - or from the fed to the states to the counties - for everytime someone is put in their jail. And, I've told you this before, the overwhelming number of people in their jails are poor people. The jail/prison system in the U.S. is oppressing the poor and again - be not deceived - God will not be mocked. Oppressing the poor is one of the most grievous violations of the Laws of God, the principles of God, the Will of God.

Funny how some religious people get so smug about their "war on crime" and all they are doing to "punish" criminals - yet because they know so very little about the Mind and Will of God - in their pursuit of perceived "justice" - they have actually turned the face of God against them even further. This makes them ALL "criminals" - everyone of them in the U.S. who function and live on the wrong side of God's Law - His Will His Mind - they're all are lawless.

One of the more interesting things about this, too, is that not only are the poor oppressed - but there is no justice for the victims - under man's evil system and way of doing things. The victims do not get justice. They do not get restoration. I've talked about this before - in their system if someone gets stolen from or their house broken into - if the sinner ever happens to get caught - he might be "sent to prison" and in their system - who pays for that bill? The person he stole from. That is not justice. That is not a deterrent from further sins. That is a system that enables the sinner and the sinful society to not just continue - but to flourish. And the current state of affairs in the U.S. is the fruit. What we see today is whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

The crime explosion in the U.S. is the result of a failure - well not just a failure to implement the Laws of God - it is from a downright rebellion against the Laws of God. God said, "You punish sin like this (all written like this, in the Scripture)...when you do, it will be a deterrent and you will put away sin from among you." But man comes along with a better way - and this is the result.

Again, let me toot Ted's horn a little. The work he did on how the prohibition against "cruel and unusual punishment" destroys the Law of God is fantastic. And that is exactly what the U.S. CONstitution did when it "outlawed" "cruel and unusual punishment." It was another instance of sticking their fist in the face of God and saying, "We will not have this man (King Jesus) to rule over us." That's exactly what that was and continues to be.

This is the world's problem - they are rebelling against the Law, Will and Mind of God and most are doing it with smiles on their faces, singing songs in their “church” buildings every single weekend.

Speaking of those that lie and love - let me stress that - LOVE to make lies.

This was a headline yesterday. Now friends, this is just absolutely hilarious. Would you think about this for a minute. And while this is just beyond the realm of being hilarious and totally ridiculous - think about this. And if what I'm going to say first is painful - I apologize upfront - but I have to ask you this - before I tell you what was in the article.

How many people in your family have passed away in the last year? In the last 2, 3, 4, 5 years? Again, I'm not making light here if you have lost someone. I grieve with you. The last loved one in our family was Teresa's Dad and that was about 3 years ago. He was in his 80s and had gone through some procedures that began in the hospital - and by the time they were finished with him - he was gone. And I mean that. By the time they finished with all the stuff they had done to him - he was gone.

General anesthesia CAUSES dementia in 4 out of 10 people over the age of 80. That's their OWN statistics. The older you get - you better consider general anesthesia seriously before you let them do that to you. It takes about 2 minutes of research to find study after study regarding the effects of general anesthesia. But, typically, it's ok to go under general anesthesia (this is what they're going to tell you) - because if you have a bad reaction to it - well - they have a drug for that.

My own Dad was from a large family. Eleven brothers and sisters. I called him yesterday and asked him how many people in his family have died from Covid in the last year. He immediately said none. I then asked him how many people - not just family members - that he knows - have died from “Covid” in the last year. He said, “Not that he could think of.” Same for me. I don't personally know a single person that has “died” from Covid in the last year. And again, he said, “None that I can think of.” Same for me - I know no one who has died from “Covid” in the last year.

I've had one person who told me that his Dad - who had had 3 strokes and a heart attack in less than 3 years - he was in his 80s - but he died of Covid - I've had exactly one person tell me that.

And, I would be willing to “bet” - I'm not a gambler - that's one of the most rebellious

things that man has ever devised - but I'd be willing to offer that the same could be said if I got answers from each of you listening today if I were to ask you about "Covid" deaths. You're going to tell me you don't know anyone who has "died from Covid."

Any way, I said all that to say this, the U.S. "surgeon general" - this is the United States of America - top doctor - highest in the land - came out yesterday and said 10 of his family members have died from Covid in the last year.

*Surgeon General Vivek Murthy revealed during the White House news briefing Thursday that he's lost 10 family members to the coronavirus.*

*Murthy, who joined the briefing in an effort to urge Americans to get their shots - (like a bunch of dogs) - amid lagging vaccination rates, was candid about his own experience during the pandemic. His family members who died were in both the U.S. and India. He said it was "painful" to know that "nearly every death we are seeing now" from Covid-19 in the U.S. could have been prevented with vaccines.*

So here's the U.S. nation's top doctor - and he can't keep his own family healthy - from - it's so hard not to laugh - he can't keep his family healthy from a sickness that does not even exist.

Liars. Every single one of them. They love lies and love to make lies. That's what we are seeing on a daily basis. Those who are outside the City of God - they love lies and love to make lies.

Again, you and I don't understand this. We prefer truth. We would rather tell the truth than tell a lie. But these people prefer lies to the truth. Don't marvel about this - the Bible told us that those outside the City of God - love lies and love to make them. They are of their father the devil - and he was a liar from the very beginning.

If we would have allowed this simple Bible truth to stick in our minds - years and years ago - I believe we would not be where we are today.

If a man is not fully immersed into Christ - then that man is not in the City of God. Be wary of everything that someone tells you - if they are not in the City of God. If they are not Citizens of the Commonwealth of Israel, you better be careful about believing what they say.

The continuing theme of the messages for the last month or so has been “earnestly contending for the faith once delivered to the saints.” This is the system of belief - this is how the first century saints believed. We must have the same system of belief they had.

Instead, for the overwhelming majority of people alive today - their system of belief is made up of a system that is an evolutionized - it's a constantly changing - constantly adapting like a chameleon - to the society around them. It is a convoluted - watered-down religion and it resembles nothing of the faith - the system of belief once delivered to the saints of the first century.

In our generation - we have witnessed simple changes in the meanings of our every day words. For instance, way back in the 60s and early 70s, if you were a gay person, you were a happy, go lucky, always smiling, always cheerful person. Today, we wouldn't think of calling one of our fellow believers “gay” - that would be a total insult.

I have a friend that I've told you about before - he's not in the Kingdom of God - but he is seeking - and hopefully - I'll see him enter the Kingdom at some point. But I was helping him with his family business sales brochure this week - and the business has a different name now than when his father started it back in the 1950s and my friend wanted to use the word “transitioned” as in the new name “transitioned” from the old name. I told him - no way - do not use the word “transitioned” - especially - in the line of work he is in. He deals mainly with manly men and I told him “transitioned” was probably not the best choice of word today in describing the change.

I know there's a whole lot more words we could talk about that have lost their meaning in just a few years. The same - and far more importantly - can be said about the English language in regards to Bible words.

Two words that come to mind - and will be discussed in this message - are “hate” and “enemy.” I believe that the word “enemy” could have been changed even from 1611 or sooner - to when Webster printed his definition in 1828. But we're going to get into those in just a minute.

I have been having a continuing debate with Kevin Craig - who says he is a Bible scholar - studied under and with RJ Rushdoony, the Chalcedon Institute, he is the author of literally hundreds - maybe thousands of documents that are available online at his website. He was one of those on the opposing side of the debate a few weeks ago - and

we have been continuing - and when it concludes - which my guess is - will be soon - I will make available those comments for anyone who wants to see them. It's going to be very enlightening for you to see the debate we have been continuing.

Ultimately, here is where we are. And I believe this to be true and is an awesome - and I don't mean that in a positive way - I mean awesome as in staggering reality that should make each of us tremble.

Romans 13 offers two positions.

1) The “powers that be” are - as Kevin and the “churches” teach - are the demonic powers of the world.

Now in defense of the “church” - pick yourself up off the floor after that statement - so you can hear the rest of the statement - but in defense of the church and the churchmen - they would cringe at calling the “rulers” from Romans 13 - the demonic powers of the world - even though ultimately that is exactly what it boils down to - and Kevin is actually really the first one I've ever heard actually admit it.

I've said to people many times over the last 40 years - if a man believes Romans 13 is talking about the “earthly rulers” in the world - then God is commanding all men - “Let every soul be subject” to obey “satan.” “Satan” the “devil” whatever name someone wants to revive him to - he/she/it was called the “prince of the power of the air.” That word for power from which that phrase is taken from Ephesians 2:2 is the same power - if we do not keep Romans 13 in context - men will be told they are to submit themselves to the “devil” and do so because God told them to.

Kevin Craig is the first man that I know of that actually comes right out and says it. He tells me the “church” doesn't like him - and I guess I get it - because the “church” just says that the earthly powers - even though they act like the devil - they weren't in the beginning when their founding fathers established the CONstitution on some cherry picked religious phrases - that only served the purpose of tricking the gullible into adopting their CON - the most rebellious document I've ever seen that has fooled so many people.

So, the quote “church” stops short of what Kevin believes and teaches - but ultimately - they both believe the same thing. Kevin just comes right out and says it - the “church” hides behind a layer of deception to keep things from being so obvious.

Kevin flat out says - the governments in the world are pure evil - and God commands - demands - and particularly demands - His followers - believers in Christ - submit to and obey the demonic powers in the world.

And by doing so, that is God's plan for "winning them to Jesus."

The other way to view Romans 13 is that the "rulers" in Romans 13 are the same "rulers" from Romans chapter 12. They are the ministers of God. The diakonos - which means Christian teacher or deacon. They are Christians. They are true followers of Christ. They are not "churchians" they are definitely not the rulers of the darkness of this world.

They are put in place by God - in the New Covenant World - in the Ecclesia - to rule - to measure - the affairs of men - according to the Laws of God, His Will, His Mind.

I have probably told you this before. But when Teresa came to Christ. Remember now, she was not a "church" girl. I hope I don't forget this line of thought - because I am going to say something else about Teresa before I finish this statement.

There are so many young people (I'm switching gears here for just a minute) that I know who are well into their 20s - even 30s - who have no prospects for marriage. And I believe it is because they think they cannot find the right woman or man. They are looking for someone who already believes the way they do - and they are having problems finding that person. Biggest reason is because we are not in Ecclesia - we're not doing what we are supposed to be doing - and there are other believers out there - but because we are so scattered - we don't know what's out there. This is one of the reasons we have our Conferences - I'll just tell you right now. It's in the hopes that young people will come from all over and see that there are like-minded people out there - and maybe they will find each other at the Conference and do what God commanded them to do.

Get married, have babies and raise them in the Kingdom of God. The world aborts their babies by the millions. If we would just do what God commanded us - we would find ourselves in the same situation the Egyptians were in - when they woke up one day and realized there were more Israelites than there were Egyptians.

You young men that are well into your 20s - find yourself a woman and get married. If you can't find a girl who believes like you - then go find a girl and win her to Christ and

teach her what it means to be a follower of Christ.

Listen to me. I was 25 years old. I was about to give up thinking I would never find someone who believed like me. I saw Teresa while we were driving down the street in two separate cars. I won her to Christ - and she has been from that day til this - one of the strongest warriors in the Kingdom of Christ I've ever seen.

So don't even begin to tell me that won't work.

He that winneth souls is wise. Go find a girl - and if she's not in the Kingdom already - then bring her to Christ.

I wish I had time to tell you about my youngest daughter Chrissy and the young man she found. That story is amazing. God wants His sons and daughters married and raising children to be citizens of the Commonwealth of Israel. It may not fall in your lap. You may have to search - you may have to struggle - you may have to work really hard - and then again - in the middle of your searching - God may say, "Ok, you've worked hard, you've searched hard - and He may just bring someone into your life out of the clear blue sky." But if you can't find someone who believes like you do - then go find someone and win them to Christ and teach them to believe like you do.

Alright, back to Teresa. She was not a church girl when I met her. She did not know the Bible. We spent hours and hours and hours studying the Scripture until she gave her life to Christ. I have told you before how that I had shown her certain Scriptures and she understood pretty much instantly. Then, to my amazement, I'd say, "But that's not what the "church" teaches and she'd be totally blown away that anyone could see it any other way. When I showed all the passages on the Second Coming of Christ - she had no preconceived ideas from something she heard in "church" and she just read the Scriptures and believed them for what they said. And, she was amazed that others could see it so differently.

"Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled."

That was as simple for Teresa as ABC. How could anyone think Christ was not talking to His disciples in the first century?

Well, when we got to Romans 13, same thing.

“Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers - for there is no power but of God.”

And she'd say, “How could anyone not look at this and say these are not the powers of God. Those people that punish evil and praise good. They are God's ministers.”

Then, she'd look at the “rulers” in the world - who are clearly NOT God's ministers, they clearly do NOT punish evil and praise good - and she said that's just as simple as can be - they aren't the ministers of God.

To which I 100% agree. This should not be hard.

Romans 13 is simply a continuance of Romans 12 and the same “rulers” that are clearly called members of the body of Christ in Romans 12 - are the same “rulers” expounded on in Romans 13.

Now the staggering thing here is this. Whichever of the two sides available in this discussion - whichever one gets it wrong - the Scriptures say - they bring to themselves damnation.

I want to ask you something this morning. If you get this wrong - if we are on the wrong side of this - do you want to be wrong by standing before Christ and saying, “I believed and taught and lived, that the powers that be in Romans 13 were those who had continually given their lives to the cause of the Kingdom of Christ. They were teaching that all men - let every soul - is to bow the knee to King Jesus and confess with the mouth and believe in the heart that this Jesus, Whom God hath raised from the dead, is both Lord and Christ.”

If you are wrong about Romans 13...

Do you want that to be your defense?

Or do you want to stand before Christ and say, “I taught men all my life that You told them to submit to the devil. You told them to obey Satan, so that's what I did?”

Which defense are you interested in? I know which one I want.

In my commentary on Romans 12 and 13, I made the statement that men dominate over each other today because they have the biggest guns and the most spending

power - not because they are put in place by God.

Kevin's notes were that I was totally wrong - God DOES put people in positions of dominance ONLY because they have the biggest guns and the most spending power.

If that's the case - then the Kingdom of God will never be seen on earth as it is in heaven - because Christian men do not take over by force.

Kevin's argument is then, that the earth will never be a place of righteousness and the Will of God will never be achieved because the powers that be from Romans 13 are the demonic powers in the world - and those are THE ONLY powers that God has Ordained to be in the earth.

When the discussion ends, I will make these comments available so you can see for yourself. This is what we are up against. This is the teaching of the "church" and the "churchmen" and this is why I am so vehemently opposed to their teachings. They are hopeless teachings for a hopeless world.

We have spent some time on the subject of "turn the other cheek." Which is one of the sayings of Christ that Kevin and the other "churchmen" have taken out of context to say that the unGodly are Ordained by God to dominate over Christians - and we are to happily submit to whatever evil they decide to come against us with. We are not to resist them. We are to submit to them and thereby win them to Christ.

Well, friends, we might just need to reexamine our whole understanding of "win them to Christ." "Win them to Christ" is another "churchism" that is from the evolutionized, convoluted religion men have made for themselves.

Yes. God is not willing that any should perish - but that ALL should come to the knowledge of the truth - but Christ calling the Pharisees - liars, from their father the devil, lily white on the outside but inside full of dead men's bones, abominable, disobedient, reprobate, and on and on - I don't think that was from the book "How to Win Friends and Influence People" by Dale Carnegie. The ministry of Christ was far more about convincing the honest seeker - the ones who truly believed in Christ - as opposed to those who were against Him and wanted to kill Him every chance they got.

For those who insist that Christ was "kind" to His enemies and "loved His enemies" I think we might just need to reexamine some of those ideas - in light of what really took

place in Scripture - not just what men have said.

On Kevin's website, I think I read to you a couple weeks ago, that he had made his own version of Scripture and changed Romans 12:20 - which says

Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.

Kevin changed the text to say:

If thine enemy, a British soldier hunger, feed him, if he thirst, give him drink: etc.

He took the liberty to make the enemy here in Romans 12 - an foreign, invading soldier. He goes on to clarify that and actually say that if an army is invading you - you are to submit to the invading army - because God has Ordained them to invade you and while they are in the process of being the "powers that be" it is against God to resist them.

But, what these people fail to understand, is that the definitions of things that might be confusing to us - for instance - as I started in this message - hate - and - enemy - they may not mean the same thing today as they did back then. Kevin has wrongly inserted the word soldier - "if an enemy soldier" hunger, feed him.

That is totally wreckless and he has no Authority to insert the word soldier there after enemy. He has completely changed the meaning of the Word of God by doing so. It's not right.

As are so many things in the first 27 books - this concept is not new. This is not something that Christ or Paul, just pulled out of thin air and decided to make a new Law or a new teaching - and especially not something that was for the purpose of nullifying the Law of God.

Remember, we learn far more about the Will, the Mind of God - the way He wants things to be - we learn far more about that by studying the first 39 books. The first 39 books are about what God wanted - then - it shows the rebellion by men - it shows the prophets raised up to remind people of their sin and why they were in the shape they were in - the prophets were almost always raised up because the people were in captivity and God was saying, "I told your fathers what was going to happen because they wanted kings like all the other nations....this is what happens."

Then, finally, at the end of the age, at the end of the Old World - it was never never never God's intention to forever punish people because of the one bad choice they made in I Samuel 8. He allowed it to last long enough to where - in the New World - people would look at that time period and say - "Let's not make the same mistake. Let's choose Christ as our King, God as our Lawgiver, the Commonwealth of Israel as our nation - and let's live the way God wants us to live." He sent His Son - the King sent the Prince - His Son - and said, "surely they will reverence my own Son."

But they did not. So - the King obliterated them. He ended it all. He ended the Old World and set up His Son as the ONLY King, the ONLY Potentate - the King of kings and Lord of lords.

Kevin keeps saying that God set up kings in Assyria and so forth. Yes, yes, yes. You get no argument from me. In the Old World - He set up kings and put them down. That's what He did. But He ended that World. He ended that age. He ended that system and when He sent His Son - He said, "This, My Son, is the Promised Redeemer, the Saviour, the King of Israel - and beside Him there is no other." The days where God allowed the nations to walk in their own ways - is OVER. God does not raise up men any longer to rule over other men. Christ Himself said - it's the nations that rule over each other - but among you, it shall not be so. He put an end to it. The abominable, despicable, divine right of kings - was a curse given by God to show those who demand kings like all the other nations - that was in the Old Covenant World - but when the Saviour came, when the Messiah King came, when the King of kings came - He put an end to all that.

We - as followers of Christ - have been given a Kingdom - all we have to do is take it.

It is not the plan or Will of God for the "demonic powers of the world" to rule forever. That's not God's plan. That's man plan - and they had evil men creeping in unawares to deny the LORD - deny the LORD - the One Who is Supreme in Authority. Men changed the Plan of God into a lie - God didn't do it.

If your enemy thirst or hunger does not mean a foreign soldier. That's not what it means. And I'm going to prove it to you this morning.

Look please at Proverbs 25. Verse 1, please.

These are also proverbs of Solomon, which the men of Hezekiah king of Judah copied out.

It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings is to search out a matter.

I'm not going to get into it today, but I believe this word kings here is not just to "kings" as we think in modern terms. What's the old saying? A man's house is his castle. I think that word - to them - hundreds - thousands of years ago - did not mean what we think it means today. I wish I had more time to get into today - but today we are talking about enemies, hate and soldiers. Verse 3.

The heaven for height, and the earth for depth, and the heart of kings in unsearchable.

Take away the dross from the silver, and there shall come forth a vessel for the finer.

Take away the wicked from before the king, and his throne shall be established in righteousness.

So much for the concept of not resisting evil. Keep in mind, though, these are principles for the Old World. Some apply, some don't.

Put not forth thyself in the presence of the king, and stand not in the place of great men:

For better it is that it be said unto thee, Come up hither; than that thou shouldest be put lower in the presence of the prince whom thine eyes have seen.

Remember, the Old Covenant World had kings. The New Covenant world does not. The New Covenant World has One King - and that's Christ. The proverb here - up to this point - is telling people how to make the best out of a bad situation. Solomon was - just like Christ was - telling people it was a good idea not to hang around the kings. Just like Caesar. Don't get yourself too close to these people - because good things don't happen to those who put themselves in those positions. This is telling the Israelites who were living under earthly kings in the Old Covenant World - basically how to protect themselves. Verse 8. Now, he's going to begin to tell people how to get along with their neighbors and other people in their lives. Watch it and see if I'm not reading this correctly or telling you right.

Go not forth hastily to strive, lest thou know not what to do in the end thereof, when thy neighbor hath put thee to shame.

Think about that. Good advice. Don't be in a hurry to get into a fight or an argument with your neighbor. This is not deep deep stuff here. This is talking about how to get along with your neighbor.

Debate thy cause with thy neighbor himself, and discover not a secret to another: Lest he that heareth it put thee to shame, and thine infamy turn not away.

There is great wisdom here. Settle your issues with your neighbor privately. And don't go around telling everyone else things that are private between you and your neighbor. This is telling people how to get along with your neighbor. That's what this is saying.

A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver. As an earring of gold, an ornament of fine gold, so is a wise reprove upon an obedient ear. As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger to them that send him: for he refresheth the soul of his masters. Whoso boasteth himself of a false gift is like clouds and wind without rain.

As we are reading these proverbs, do you have any thoughts of warriors and enemies as in people who want to kill you? Invading armies of soldiers? The Russians or the Chinese invaders? Or the British red coats? Not really. I'm not seeing this. I'm seeing proverbs on how to get along with your neighbor.

Face it. It's true. Neighbors do not always get along with each other. It shouldn't be so, but it is. These are proverbs telling people how to get along and maybe make the best of a bad situation and maybe by responding and acting according to these proverbs - we might even change the heart of a neighbor who doesn't like us. Are you seeing anything different here? I do not see invading, killing machines in this chapter of Proverbs. Verse 15.

By long forbearing is a prince persuaded, and a soft tongue breaketh the bone. Hast thou found honey? eat so much as is sufficient for thee, lest thou be filled therewith, and vomit it. Withdraw thy foot from thy neighbor's house, lest he be weary of thee, and so hate thee.

Stop here for a minute. This is not deep, theological goings-on here. You can overstay

your welcome. This is simple common sense. These are simple, commonsense approaches to helping us with getting along with each other. So, someone invites you to their house for a visit. You don't stay there for a month. If you overstay your welcome, the people who are your friends - might get a little weary of your visit. They may not be so inviting next time. This is just talking about how to get along with people. Look at what the text says and how it says -

lest he be weary of thee, and so hate thee.

What? If you stay too long - he's going to hate you? Maybe to the point of wanting to kill you? No, not all. The use of the word "hate" here is not how we understand it in 2021. He may stop liking you. He may not want to have as close of a relationship as you think. It doesn't mean - "I hate you. I wish you were dead. I don't ever want to see you again." That's not what it means here. It just means you might damage your relationship. You may end up not being the best of friends like you thought or wanted to be.

I know the word is hate. But the meanings of words today - in 2021 - are not the same as they were in 1611 - and the same as they were thousands of years ago. These proverbs in Proverbs 25 are about teaching some commonsense - maybe even some good manners - do these things - keep these things in mind - and you want have so many problems with people in your life - and - especially your neighbors. Verse 18, getting a little more serious:

A man that beareth false witness against his neighbor is a maul (it's a mallet, a breaker - not a good connotation here), and a sword, and a sharp arrow.

Bearing false witness - bringing false testimony - we talked about it last week - is really really bad in the way God wants things to be. So much in this Proverbs 25 is revealed in the teachings of Christ from Matthew 5. A lot of similarities here between Proverbs 25 and Matthew 5. Verse 19.

Confidence in an unfaithful man in time of trouble is like a broken tooth, and a foot out of joint. As he that taketh away a garment in cold weather - (once again Matthew 5 concerning the cloak) - and as vinegar upon nitre, so is he that singeth songs to a heavy heart.

Again, this is teaching how to deal with people in your lives. This hasn't anything to do

with invading armies, soldiers, the British red coats - this is about people to people - neighbors to neighbors - verse 21. Now watch.

If thine enemy be hungry, give him bread to eat; and if he be thirsty, give him water to drink: For thou shalt heap coals of fire upon his head, and Yahweh shall reward thee.

As you have time, finish chapter 25 and see if you can find invading enemy soldiers in this text. It isn't there. This is talking about neighbors. Neighbors that don't always get along with each other. If you have a neighbor that doesn't like you - he's not an invading soldier. He's not typically looking to kill you whenever he sees you. But when neighbors don't get along with each other - and as Webster's 1828 says - anything that could be less than love for one another - could be called an enemy.

To say this is talking about foreign invading enemy soldiers is to wreck the Scriptures. It's taking the simple teachings of Solomon which is commonsense helping people to get along with each other - and making it fit into some greater scheme - an evil scheme in my opinion - that the Bible does not teach at all.

Let me prove from another text that "enemy" and "hate" means something different than what we think it means today. And, I'm going to take you back to the Law of God and show you how - we started in Romans 12 - where a man was saying we are to submit to foreign, invading soldiers - and let me show you how this is completely twisted and has no basis in Scripture at all.

Go to Deuteronomy 22 and look at verse 1:

Thou shalt not see thy brother's ox or his sheep go astray, and hide thyself from them: thou shalt in any case bring them again unto thy brother.

Ok. Simple enough. Who would'nt help his own brother - with cattle that has gotten loose. So, when you are living in Ecclesia like you are supposed to be - and you live close enough to your brother to see his cattle getting out - you help your brother out and put his cattle back in the fence. Easy. A man is responsible for any damage his critters cause - so - you help him out if he needs help so the situation doesn't get worse than it already is. This is feeding your enemy when he is hungry.

Go to Exodus chapter 23. Because I'm trying to get you to see that the meanings of words and their origins - as found in Scripture - don't necessarily mean today - what

they did back then. Words such as “hate” were often used to describe something that was less than love. If you didn't love something - or love someone - it was understandable to use the word “hate.” It didn't necessarily mean that you abhorred them or wanted to see them dead - it could have meant you just didn't love them. You obviously don't love your neighbor's children the same way you love your own children. If you don't love someone - back then - it was described as hate. No man can serve two masters. He will love the one and hate the other. It doesn't necessarily mean you want the other one dead - anything less than love could have been described as hate back then.

Same with enemy. If he's not your best friend, he could have been called an enemy. That doesn't mean he was an invading soldier. Anything less than friend - could have been described as enemy. That doesn't mean everytime you see him or he sees you - you want to kill each other. That's not what it means.

I see people all the time when I go places. I may not know them. Ninety nine times out of a hundred - I don't know them. Never saw them before. Four hundreds years ago - someone we don't know may have called an enemy - as opposed to a friend. But that does not make them an invading soldier. It doesn't mean the same thing.

I don't love my neighbors like I love my wife and children. That different level of love - in the olden days - could have been perfectly called hate. It doesn't mean the same thing today.

Look at Exodus 23, and verse 4. Very similar to what we saw in Deuteronomy 22.

If thou meet thine enemy's or his ass going astray, thou shalt surely bring it back to him. If you see the ass of him that hateth thee lying under his burden, and wouldest forbear to help him, thou shalt surely help him.

This is clearly - once again - talking about neighbors. This is not your enemy as in an invading soldier. This is the neighbor you don't particularly get along with. You say, “How can you say he's a neighbor?” Well, if it wasn't your neighbor's animal, how would you possibly know where to take it? For people that don't or have never lived in the country before - I can imagine this is strange language. But you have to know who the animal belongs to in order to return it.

The enemy here is just someone - a neighbor - more than likely - an a neighbor that you

may not particularly like or he may not particularly like you. It's not an invading soldier.

The teaching of Christ concerning loving your enemies, the Romans 12 passage concerning feeding your enemies - is not talking about invading soldiers. It's talking about how to treat your neighbors. And if you aren't getting along with your neighbors - be a help to them - and maybe that will turn them towards you instead of against you.

The Bible is a book - from cover to cover - trying to persuade men and women, boys and girls to come out from the systems of men and into the Kingdom of Christ. It is about conforming people to the Laws of God. Jesus Christ nor his disciples or apostles were EVER in the business of telling people to obey "devils" in order to "win them to Christ."

The enemies and the haters - in Bible times does not mean what we think it means today. If the neighbor that doesn't necessarily like you - maybe because he doesn't even know you - if he is in need - help him - and quite possibly you will win him as a friend.

These passages of Christ and of Paul are not telling Christians to submit to devils - obey devils - obey the rebellious usurpers - obey those that hate Christ - in order to win them.

Let every soul be subject is commanding all men, women, boys and girls everywhere - to bow the knee to King Jesus and confess with the mouth and believe with the heart - that Jesus Christ is the Only King allowed in the New Covenant World.