

What Can the Righteous Do?

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Good morning everyone. Kingdom Conference 2020! is just a little less now than 1 month away. We will be meeting, Lord willing, and I believe He is willing, I hope you believe also, we will be meeting just outside of Springfield Missouri, outside a little town called Everton, Missouri at the Maranatha Bible Camp. This is a really nice facility. I've got photos on the website of the accommodations. There are hotel style rooms available. We are providing the food. Ted will be here preaching. I will be preaching. Sam will be here giving his testimony. My son-in-law, Kristopher will have a message prepared. We will have plenty of time for fellowship and for some serious discussion on taking our Christianity - to a level not seen on American soil for a long long time.

Brent Winters will also be here on the 19th for the scheduled trial / debate titled: Is the U.S. Constitution a Christian Document. Brent will be taking on the position that it is and Ted will be taking the position that it is not. This should be a great time of learning. We are looking forward to it and hope you are, too.

We've got several things to discuss in today's message. Today's message will continue with the theme, "If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?" Because, well, the foundations have been destroyed. And we need to be about the Father's business of rebuilding those foundations in our generation. No matter what age we are from a physical standpoint - I mean whether you are 10, 20, 30, 40 or 80 - you are in YOUR generation - and YOUR generation - MY generation is responsible for making sure that God's Will is done on earth - as it is in heaven - right now - in each of our generations.

Some of us do not have near as much time left in our generation as others do. So, some of us have an urgency to see that we are obedient in living His Will, preaching His Will, with whatever days we have left.

Some of you are just now starting out in your generation. And, you've got a lot of work to do. You have to begin today - you have to begin right now - if you have not already begun trying to reach your generation for the Kingdom of God right now. I hope you hear what I'm saying to you. Listen, while it would be great for you to reach older people than you - I'm telling you that's probably going to be a whole lot harder job to do than reaching your own brothers and sisters, your friends, your cousins, your co-workers.

And listen to this, think about this ---- you don't have to be overly burdensome with reaching those who are antagonistic to the Kingdom message ---- or those people you don't even know ---- reach those closest to you. Teach, preach and live to those who care about you. Shine the light to those people, then you can broaden your message.

I've often wondered at those who travel - and I'm not making an opinion one way or another - but those who travel all the way across the world to quote "preach the Gospel" when the largest mission field in the world --- is right here in America.

America is at least equally in need of Christ if not more so, than any other place in the world.

Our job, each of us, is to reach our generation with the Gospel of the Kingdom.

A couple messages ago, I preached that I believe wearing a mask - when you are not sick - is sin. Now my wife, who is my greatest critic - and I don't mean that in a bad way - I mean she is right there listening to my messages - and then she takes those messages and communicates them to others in her own life - but we always talk about the messages and she usually lets me know if she didn't understand something, so we can talk about it. And, such is the case with the mask statement - but - for reasons unknown to me - it was a couple weeks after that message when she let me know that she didn't fully understand what I was saying.

And, I've told you many times before that I'm always concerned that I may not be the greatest communicator around. I know what I'm trying to say - and I think I know what people are hearing - but that's just not always the case. And, as a preacher, when you discover that people didn't get what you were trying to say - well - you just want to fix it.

So, let's go back there again. Because, I'm telling you that right now - refusing to wear a mask is obedience to the Laws of God. It is a HUGE testimony for the Kingdom of God and those who claim the name of Christ MUST take this opportunity to stand as a witness for the King and His present day Kingdom. We are missing a great opportunity to witness and stand against evil - if we do not resist these stupid, unGodly mask mandates.

I want you to open your Bibles and let's go to Romans chapter 2. In messages past, we've spent a lot of time in chapter 1, but let's go to chapter 2 and we'll begin in verse 1.

[1] Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things.

[2] But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things.

[3] And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God?

As with almost every single Bible passage and principle and precept contained in the Scripture, “churchianity” has butchered this one just the same and has it the exact opposite of what it should be. The modern “church” and therefore extending to the world - because the knowledge of God today in our generations - which again - is a lot our fault - but because the knowledge of God today in the world is mainly what the foolishness of “churchianity” has preached. They have used this passage as a bull whip to try to beat someone back into a closet who dares to judge the wickedness in the world today.

This passage is not telling Christians not to judge wickedness. It's actually talking about worldly men who put themselves or who allow themselves to be put in positions of quote “judgement” and they are not - mainly because it's impossible for them to - but they cannot, will not, do not judge according to the Laws of God. Verse 3,

O man, that judgest them which do such things,...

What is that talking about? It's talking about the things from chapter 1:

For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature:

[27] And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.

[28] And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;

[29] Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers,

[30] Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,

[31] Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:

[32] Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

This is not talking about Godly judges, it is talking about and to, the unGodly. Verse 4.

[4] Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

[5] But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God;

[6] Who will render to every man according to his deeds:

[7] To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life:

[8] But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath,

[9] Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Judahite first, and also of the Gentile;

[10] But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Judhitw]e first, and also to the Gentile:

[11] For there is no respect of persons with God.

Alright. Now watch this close. This is where I am headed in this passage - and again - we are talking about wearing masks without being sick - being against the Laws of God.

[12] For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law: and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law;

Now sin is the transgression of the Law. Right. And those who have not the Law of God are capable of sin and perishing? That's what it says.

[13] (For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified.

[14] 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:

This is where I am heading here. Many people, in real Christianity, not “churchianity” but real Christianity, think that the Laws of God are specifically those things that were handed down to Moses from the mount, written on the tablets. Then, as we read our history of Israel, we see how those Laws were applied as statutes, then applied as

Judgements and that's what makes up the exclusive Law of God. I do not believe this to be entirely accurate. And, I believe this Romans 2:14 gives me one of the foundations with which to make such a statement. No. It is not written in the Law given to Moses, thou shalt not wear a mask when thou art not sick. I get it. You get it. But there are some who would argue that in order for it to be a Law of God, it must be thou shalt not - as in thou shalt not wear a mask when thou art not sick.

What I am trying to get people to see is that the Law of God - the way of life - the way we are to conduct our communities - our world - our generation - is more than just the written Law shown in the first 39 books of the Bible. The Law of God contains far more than just this. It ultimately embodies the Perfect Will of God for His Creation. And the mask thing is actually as simple as this - we are made in the image of God and God said His Creation was good. God did not create Adam with a mask on His face.

And, as I showed from multiple passages of Scripture, the hiding of the face in Scripture was a symbol of shame. I showed multiple passages regarding this. At the end of the message that weekend, I received an email from Michael and I love it - just love it when men take the message and add to it. As I was preaching several other passages came to Michael's mind and he sent them along. This is what Michael sent in:

I wanted to get back to something about the veils. You brought up some good scripture and principles about these with respect to the face-diaper. I want to tie in some of this information with what I was getting at about disease and transmission, so bear with me a sec.

On veils and “coverings” in the Bible, you are right—they are associated with evil (in the general sense) and mourning. And like I said in the Minute, masks were particularly used in the mystery cults which were prevalent in ancient times with temple prostitution and initiation rites. We’ll see that prostitutes in Bible times were likewise veiled...

Micah 3:7 Then shall the seers be ashamed, and the diviners confounded: yea, they shall all cover H5844 their lips; for there is no answer of God. Micah 3:7

Forbear to cry, make no mourning for the dead, bind the tire of thine head upon thee, and put on thy shoes upon thy feet, and cover H5844 not thy lips, and eat not the bread of men. Ezekiel 24:17

And the leper in whom the plague is, his clothes shall be rent, and his head bare, and he shall put a covering H5844 upon his upper lip, and shall cry, Unclean, unclean. Leviticus 13:45

H5844 atah- a wrapping, covering, veil

So the veil was for mourners for the most part. Just as God "hid His face" from evil. But that last reference is what WE think refers to (perhaps) "masking" if one is sick.

Now here's the reference about the prostitutes:

And she put her widow's garments off from her, and covered her with a veil 1946, and wrapped herself, and sat in an open place, which is by the way to Timnath; for she saw that Shelah was grown, and she was not given unto him to wife. When Judah saw her, he thought her to be an harlot; because she had covered her face. Genesis 38:15

H1946 tsa`iyph- a veil. This word is used exclusively for a widow mourning, or for a harlot.

Another subtle mind trick for us... The masking is to make us all appear as the harlots Americans truly are. End quote.

These passages of Scripture - knowing that Scripture was written for our learning - but for our learning of what? Thy Will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. The Scriptures were written to teach us the mind of God. Yes. We can know the mind of God. The Words that are written on the pages of the Bible are God's Word - this is how we learn the Will of God. Masks are for the sick. They are for mourning, they are symbols of shame - and they are for prostitutes.

So, being a Godly judge - someone who judges according to the Perfect Will of God for His Creation - we see what His thoughts would be concerning the wearing of masks. So, if you were to have a conversation with the Lord - and you said, "What is your opinion, should we wear masks or not?" He does not have to audibly speak to you and give you an answer. He has already addressed the issue and when we have the knowledge that God wants us to have, we get our answers.

Now, that's not all. There's something more - to me - possibly even more than these passages.

I want you to see this. Look to Exodus chapter 23. Again, another passage that Michael saw. This is a multi-faceted principle, if you will. This is not one of the ten commandments that Moses came down the mountain with - but - this one is a statute - and ordinance of God if you will - and it's directly based on one of the commandments that Moses came down the mountain with. In a minute, I'm going to ask you which one. Verse 1, Exodus 23:

[1] Thou shalt not raise a false report: put not thine hand with the wicked to be an unrighteous witness.

[2] Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil; neither shalt thou speak in a cause to decline after many to wrest judgment:

This passage of Scripture is most notably dealing with perjury in witnessing falsely against someone. But there are eternal principles here, that go way beyond just perjury in a trial.

We all know - surely by now - we all know this COVID thing is a lie. I would hope that most all of you knew it was a lie the day it was first announced. I would hope that you would have done - just like it was done in this household - "Oh, okay, it's time for another one of their false events. Here they go again." I mean, come on, they go from one thing to the next and they are as transparent as can. They have their major events - about once every 20 or so years - then they have a series of a little lesser events in between - and it's all manufactured to accomplish their evil agenda.

Oh come on. First of all - asymptomaticism. Really? Ridiculous. That flies in the face of God so much it's ridiculous. Under the Laws of God - you can be punished if you are sick and you make someone else sick. Listen to me - even if you do not do it intentionally or maliciously. If you damage someone else, under the Laws of God, you are responsible to make restitution. Do not tell me for one second that you can be punished by the Laws of God in relation to sickness - and not know that you are sick. What kind of a God do we have? Symptoms are a gift from God. They are a blessing. They let us know there's a problem that we need to deal with.

Wearing a mask is your responsibility because you could get someone else sick and you wouldn't even know it.

No. No way. This is what happens when we listen to people who care nothing about the Laws of God - and they try to tell us what goes on in nature. The Laws of God are revealed even in nature - and if we don't have enough discern to see that - we cannot possibly understand nature. Yet, that's exactly who most people - and a lot of people who even call themselves Christians - have received their information from. And this is a mistake.

We are listening to strange shepherds. Strange voices.

The COVID plandemic is a lie. And those who are wearing masks are going along with it. And those who are going along with it - by wearing masks - are at the very least bearing a false report - and at the very worst - bearing false witness - and I really don't think you can separate the two. The false report of Exodus 23 is an ordinance or a statute build directly upon Thou shalt not bear false witness. And, following the multitude to do evil is section b of this statute or ordinance.

Wearing a mask for any other purpose than what God has established - is sin.

Now, let me go a step further. If you are a woodworker, if you are a painter. Do you

wear your mask every single second you are in the shop? Since that's a rhetorical question and each man might have a different answer, let me just answer for myself.

Several years back, I had a wood shop. I built furniture and cabinets. Oak dust did nothing to me. I could work in it all day and not have a single issue. But, if I started cutting walnut - on came the mask - or - if I was lazy - I'd hold my breath to make sure no walnut dust got me. For those of you woodworkers out there - if I could bottle the smell of oak - could you tell it? If I could bottle the smell of pine - could you tell it? How about walnut? How about cherry? For a woodworker, I'll just tell you I probably don't have to speak only for myself - a woodworker could more than likely tell you which wood was being cut. If a woodworker, such as myself that was allergic to walnut - could smell walnut - wouldn't you know of the danger? Of course. The smell is also God's gift to warn us of the danger. Again, the Laws of God can even be found in nature.

But we know this COVID thing is a plandemic. We know it's a "false flag" if you will. And for us, those of us called to truth and light - if we do not resist - stand in opposition to the lie - to him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not - to him it is sin.

So a few minutes ago I asked you which commandment wearing a mask under false pretenses violates. If you said Thou shalt not lie, I believe you would be correct. If you said, Thou shalt not bear false witness, I believe you would be correct.

Let's go back to Romans 2, verse 15.

[15] 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;)

Did you catch that? It said

...shew the work of the law written in their hearts...

This is when the Perfect Will of God for His Creation is demonstrated in our lives. It's more than just the written Law. It's knowing the Will of God. It's what God said is good and evil, right and wrong. We don't look to men - especially those who care not for the Law of God - we don't look to those men to tell us what is right and wrong.

They think it's wrong not to wear a mask. They have even attempted to make it quote "law." Sorry. Man has way exceeded the bounds of his habitations when he does this. It's wrong for a follower of Christ to exceed his boundaries and it's worse for the world to exceed their boundaries and for followers of Christ to follow them. Verse 16.

[16] In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

[17] Behold, thou art called a Judahite, and retest in the law, and makest thy boast of God,

[18] And knowest his will, and approvest the things that are more excellent, being instructed out of the law;

[19] And art confident that thou thyself art a guide of the blind, a light of them which are in darkness,

[20] An instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, which hast the form of knowledge and of the truth in the law.

[21] Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself? thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal?

[22] Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery, dost thou commit adultery? thou that abhorrest idols, dost thou commit sacrilege?

[23] Thou that makest thy boast of the law, through breaking the law dishonourest thou God?

Listen now, there are lots and lots of “churchianity preachers” and Lord willing we're going to get to one today - who say the Law of God is still valid - but they say so in lip service only. All the while compelling men to obey man's laws. It doesn't work that way. Man's laws nearly all of them - are in total opposition to the Laws of God. And even when by chance, the few of their laws happen to find similarity with the Laws of God - man nearly always distances himself from God's Laws as if they were the ones that discovered, for instance, thou shalt not kill. Then, men define and redefine the definition of murder as if they were the ones who came up with the prohibition against it. And when they do, when their stamp has been put on it, it barely resembles the Law of God as contained in the Scripture and demonstrated in nature. Thou shalt not kill - unless the baby is still inside the mother. Thou shalt not kill - unless little g government has declared war - then all is fair in war - so-called.

They claim to know the will of God. They claim to know the Laws of God, then compel men to obey their own quote “laws.” Verse 24.

[24] For the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you, as it is written.

[25] For circumcision verily profiteth, if thou keep the law: but if thou be a breaker of the law, thy circumcision is made uncircumcision.

[26] Therefore if the uncircumcision keep the righteousness of the law, shall not his uncircumcision be counted for circumcision?

[27] And shall not uncircumcision which is by nature, if it fulfil the law, judge thee, who by the letter and circumcision dost transgress the law?

[28] For he is not a Judahite which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision,

which is outward in the flesh:

[29] But he is a Judahite, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.

The Law of God is way more than just what is written on the pages of the book. This is how we know that wearing a mask when you are not sick - is sin.

Look at I Corinthians chapter 11. See verse 14

Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him?

Just 6 or 7 months ago, if you walked into a store with a mask on - everyone in the store would probably have freaked out and ran for cover. Or, maybe someone in the store with a gun might just shoot the masked one. Doesn't nature itself teach you that men wearing masks usually represent danger? The masks are usually worn by the bandits, the thieves and robbers. This should not be hard. Nature itself shows us that masks are not proper or normal.

The mask now in America and the world for that matter has become a symbol of compliance. Donald Trump even called it a symbol of patriotism. On that point alone, the follower of Christ should have had alarm bells going off all over the place. That's what it is. And we all know it. That mask isn't protecting any one from anything and we all know it. To wear it is to be complicit in their sins.

Last week, I knew it. I knew it. But I didn't say anything because I don't want to be like so many of the false prophets in the quote "pulpits" today. But when I was reading to you how the quote "superior court" in Los Angeles county had given John MacArthur his quote "win" - while I was reading it - I was thinking in my mind - "Yeah, until the county appeals it to the next higher court." And, that is exactly what happened.

It was quote "Friday" when the "superior court" made their ruling - then it was one day later and the appeals court overruled the inferior "superior court." And it will more than likely go back and forth until the U.S. quote "supreme court" - makes their ruling. Which, I believe, will be a simple one.

Grace Community Church is a California corporation. The quote "church" belongs to the state of California. The state of California created Grace Community Church. And as such, it - the quote "church" must follow the laws of its creator. That is settled quote "law" in the U.S. The U.S. quote "supreme court" will have to decide whether or not the "church's" failure to submit to and abide by the laws of its creator - is worse than the state of California's infringement on the "church corporation's" quote "rights" to the free exercise of religion. If the court thinks that the state's right to protect the citizens from the dangers of the fake plandemic are greater than the quote "church's

rights” to assemble - then the state will win. If the court feels like the state's agenda is best served by making people think the quote “church” is right - then the church will win - which will still be a win by the state - because the state owns the quote “church.”

The Hobby Lobby case of 2014 throws a bit of a wrinkle into the deal so it will be interesting to see how all that plays out. In the Hobby Lobby case, the U.S. “supreme court” said that religious liberties extend themselves to corporations as well as individuals, so that will be interesting.

After the Grace Community Church received the short lived news of their quote “victory” I went to their website. I had a feeling there would be a notice on there and I wanted to see it first hand. The website is gracechurch.org

On the Home page, top right, there is a link called A Statement from our Pastor and Elders. Now listen to me, this message today is beyond bashing the church. It's beyond bashing the “churchianity preacher.” When you hear what they have to say, you'll see exactly why the foundations have been destroyed. And hopefully, we can learn what to do - what we need to be doing as far as teaching and living in a manner where the foundations can be rebuilt in our generation.

The headline says:

A Biblical Case for the Church's Duty to Remain Open

Stand with us in support of the biblical mandate to gather for corporate worship.

Alright. From the outset, for those who have been listening to these messages, we know already, we are not talking apples and apples, oranges and oranges. This is about “church.” This is not about the Kingdom of God. This is about “church” a word that should not even be in our English Bibles - and wasn't - for a long time the word wasn't even there - for almost 200 years after the first record of an English Bible, the word was not even in the book.

Does this, in and of itself, mean something sinister? Not necessarily. I think there are a whole lot of other words that shouldn't be there, too. And I believe I can build a solid, Biblical case for proving it. But when it comes to this particular word - I absolutely believe there was an agenda - and it was an evil agenda for the use of the word “church.” “Church” comes from kuriakos or kuriakon in the Greek. It does not come from ecclesia. The word isn't even a transliteration. It has no proper business being there.

And how someone that is supposed to be so learned as John MacArthur doesn't get it is

beyond me. I'm a nobody. I have a voice - sure - but I'm not preaching to thousands and thousands of people each week. How is it that nearly 35 years ago, this simple truth was revealed to me - and as a punk kid - I saw it. Yet this quote "preacher" and millions more just like him - who quote "go to church" every single SUNDAY and open that book and claim to proclaim the Word of God - yet they have not understood something so basic as the Greek word for "church" is kuriakos but the Greek word in the text is ecclesia.

For me, it wasn't until AFTER I was out of Bible college, AFTER I left organized quote "religion" before I ever even knew that the Greek word for "church" was not ecclesia. How does this happen, if not by design or purpose? How can you go to Bible college and take Greek - and the professor doesn't even stumble on the truth that the Greek word for "church" is kuriakos and that's not the word used in the text?

Ironically, the subtitle to the article on MacArthur's website says:

Stand with us in support of the biblical mandate to gather for corporate worship.

Last week I told you that another word for body was corporation, corporate, corporal, etc. But this statement is almost a glaring slap in the face. The biblical mandate for CORPORATE WORSHIP. Yeah, it's Grace Community Church, a California corporation. Wow. It's right in the face.

Now, the next thing that the pastor and the board of elders says - and yes - the word pastor is in the Scripture. But I'll challenge anyone, anywhere to find me the quote "board of elders" in Scripture. It isn't there. And the reality is, that most of the time, it's officially called the board of trustees - which is a 100% state owned phrase - a dead give-away that it's a business created by the state. Quote "legally" a "church" can alter the phrase board of trustees and change it to the more deceptive term "board of elders" if it states it in its charter. Likewise, it can alter the word board president - to say "pastor" if it does so in its charter. And, not always, but sometimes, the president of the board of trustees is not the so-called "pastor."

Anyway, the board of elders wants us to know next that, quote:

Christ is Lord of all. He is the one true head of the church ([Ephesians 1:22](#); [5:23](#)); [Colossians 1:18](#)). He is also King of kings—sovereign over every earthly authority ([1 Timothy 6:15](#) [Revelation 17:14](#); [19:16](#)). Grace Community Church has always stood immovably on those biblical principles. As His people, we are subject to His will and

commands as revealed in Scripture. Therefore we cannot and will not acquiesce to a government-imposed moratorium on our weekly congregational worship or other regular corporate gatherings. Compliance would be disobedience to our Lord's clear commands. End quote.

Not to be nitpicky here, but for me, the use of the word "corporate" here just screams at me everytime I see it. The word corporate is not in the Bible. At least not in the older English versions, the KJV for instance, even the modern KJV. I'm perplexed at why they continually use this word. Unless they find some sort of comfort or assurance in their corporate documents filed with the state, I don't understand why they want to use this word when they could use many different words that are actually in the Bible. It goes on:

Some will think such a firm statement is inexorably in conflict with the command to be subject to governing authorities laid out in Romans 13 and 1 Peter 2. Scripture does mandate careful, conscientious obedience to all governing authority, including kings, governors, employers, and their agents (in Peter's words, "not only to those who are good and gentle, but also to those who are unreasonable" [1 Peter 2:18]). Insofar as government authorities do not attempt to assert ecclesiastical authority or issue orders that forbid our obedience to God's law, their authority is to be obeyed whether we agree with their rulings or not. In other words, Romans 13 and 1 Peter 2 still bind the consciences of individual Christians. We are to obey our civil authorities as powers that God Himself has ordained. End quote.

Now brethren, this is pure doublespeak. And this is exactly why our land is in the shape it's in.

Scripture does mandate careful, conscientious obedience to all governing authority, including kings, governors, employers, and their agents (in Peter's words, "not only to those who are good and gentle, but also to those who are unreasonable".

And then, they turn right around and say

Insofar as government authorities do not attempt to assert ecclesiastical authority or issue orders that forbid our obedience to God's law, their authority is to be obeyed...

Then, they turn right back around again and say:

We are to obey our civil authorities as powers that God Himself has ordained.

Well come on. Which is it? Which side of the mouth do you want us to hear? If you look at this statement, they tip-toe all over the place - and never say - when those quote "authorities" are not to be obeyed. It's like they are trying to say there's a loophole - there's a line that when they cross - and they get right up to it - then turn right back around and conclude that

...[they] are to obey [their] civil authorities as powers that God Himself has ordained.

Of course. This quote "church" is a California corporation. They voluntarily went to the unGodly state for the establishment of their corporation. They are obeying the laws of their creator and compelling men to do likewise. And, what's worse, they are twisting the Word of God in compelling men to do so.

They took unlawful liberties with the Scripture when added

obedience to all governing authority, including kings, governors, employers, and their agents

to I Peter 2:13. Employers and their agents? Wow. There is such a huge warning against adding to the Word of God - it's something that I'm probably more concerned about than anything I do or say when preaching, yet these guys just willy-nilly add in words that for the life of me, I have no idea where they come from. An employer and his agents? Wow.

We've dealt with this I Peter chapter 2 passage very extensively. There is no doubt that this passage is about the nation of God. I don't know how you can read a chapter in the Bible - like this one in I Peter 2 - and the only verse you see in it is verse 13. I don't get that. That verse cannot stand on it's own. It must be taken in the context of not just that one chapter - not just that one book - not the last 27 books of the Bible - but it has to be taken in context of the whole book. The book is about submission to the King. It's a book about submission to the God of the Bible. It's a book about citizenship in the commonwealth of Israel. If you don't understand that, there's no possible way you can understand I Peter 2:13 for exactly what it means.

Now, IF you believe that the Bible is a book about submission to the King - capital K. And IF you believe the Bible is a book about submission to the God of the Bible, and IF you believe that the book is about citizenship in the commonwealth of Israel - then you

know what? You could absolutely take that verse and let it stand completely on its own without any further explanation and without any further commentary. Because that verse is Scripture is commanding men to obey King Jesus. Period. That verse is about obeying the King of the commonwealth of Israel Whose dominion covers the entire earth. That's why perspective means everything.

If you are functioning as a corporation for the quote "state of California" - then your perspective is not going to be the same as someone who functions from the perspective of being a part of the separated, set apart, body of Christ. Their letter continues:

However, while civil government is invested with divine authority to rule the state, neither of those texts (nor any other) grants civic rulers jurisdiction over the church. God has established three institutions within human society: the family, the state, and the church.

Says who? God didn't say this. God never said that quote "civil government" is invested with divine authority to rule the state. The only thing that God invested with Divine Authority to rule ANYTHING is the Ecclesia. This concept of three institutions is not Biblical. God established TWO institutions, if you will, the Ecclesia and the family. The state? Really? Another word that's not even in the Bible. This is all part of an evolutionary religion that has been evolving over the centuries and now resembles absolutely nothing of what God intended when He established His Kingdom with His Son the King, in the first century.

They said that neither Romans 13 or I Peter 2 grants civic rulers jurisdiction over the church. Yeah, exactly. But they gained jurisdiction over that quote "church" when the quote "church" purposefully went to those quote civic rulers and asked for permission to exist. The doublemindedness is staggering and I sure hope you are seeing this - because for whatever age you are in the generation you currently find yourself in - you have to realize that this is why the foundations are destroyed. This is why it's broken.

These same people that claim that the quote "state" does not have quote "jurisdiction" over the quote "church" will be the first ones to tell you that when those people who attend that quote "church" leave that building once or twice a week - the state has 100% jurisdiction over those people. People make up the true Ecclesia of God. People make up the false church. And if the quote "state" does not have jurisdiction over the church - then they should be preaching that the state does not have jurisdiction over the people that attend their church.

But, of course, they will NEVER NEVER say this. Because the quote “church” is simply an extension of the state, it's the religious arm of the state in place to make sure the people stay under the jurisdiction of the state. Their whole argument, their whole line of thinking is pure doublespeak. And the doubleminded man is unstable in all his ways. They continue.

Each institution has a sphere of authority with jurisdictional limits that must be respected. A father's authority is limited to his own family. Church leaders' authority (which is delegated to them by Christ) is limited to church matters. And government is specifically tasked with the oversight and protection of civic peace and well-being within the boundaries of a nation or community.

Who is writing this? Is this something their lawyers drew up for them to go on their website? This is not Bible. This does not have foundation in Scripture.

I'll assure you this, if we were functioning as a Biblical Ecclesia, the powers of God would not be limited - period. The Authority of an Ecclesia is limited to matters of the Ecclesia? I don't think so. Jesus said, once again, here - let's look at it. Turn to Matthew 28. Matthew 28 and let's read verses 18 through 20. Now, I realize, that in my simpleton mind, in my simplistic approach to the Scriptures like a little kid who just wants to believe everything his father tells him - I'm probably just naive in believing that these verses mean what they say:

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

[19] Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

[20] Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Does this sound like He was telling them that His power was limited to matters of the quote “church?” I am just amazed again at how much perspective plays into understanding Scripture. If you are a statist, you are going to have a statist understanding of Scripture. If you believe exclusively in the Laws of God - and that man does not have the power, or authority to make “law” - to define, or redefine good and evil - then you are going to see the Scriptures in an entirely different way. If you are not approaching the Scriptures from the viewpoint of the Law of God - your mind is going to be enmity against God - that's what we clearly saw from Romans 8 last week.

MacArthur continues:

God has not granted civic rulers authority over the doctrine, practice, or polity of the church. The biblical framework limits the authority of each institution to its specific jurisdiction. The church does not have the right to meddle in the affairs of individual families and ignore parental authority. Parents do not have authority to manage civil matters while circumventing government officials.

Wow! Really? Again, we saw this in I Corinthians 6 last week. Listen to this again:

- [1] Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unjust, and not before the saints?
- [2] Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? and if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters?
- [3] Know ye not that we shall judge angels? how much more things that pertain to this life?
- [4] If then ye have judgments of things pertaining to this life, set them to judge who are least esteemed in the ecclesia.
- [5] I speak to your shame. Is it so, that there is not a wise man among you? no, not one that shall be able to judge between his brethren?
- [6] But brother goeth to law with brother, and that before the unbelievers.
- [7] Now therefore there is utterly a fault among you, because ye go to law one with another. Why do ye not rather take wrong? why do ye not rather suffer yourselves to be defrauded?

If this passage is not deligitimizing the quote "authority of the secular state" then I don't know what is. If God ordained civil rulers - like MacArthur says - then why does Paul make such a big deal out of this like he does in I Corinthians 6?

4] If then ye have judgments of things pertaining to this life,

What do you think this talking about? Which hymn number should be sung this week? What color flowers should be bought and put in front of the quote "church?" According to MacArthur, the quote "church" is limited to matters involving the quote "church" and the quote "church" is not to step over into the realm of the civil. This is not Bible. This is not Godly teaching. But what else should we expect from the president, I mean, pastor, of a California corporation?

And similarly, government officials have no right to interfere in ecclesiastical matters in

a way that undermines or disregards the God-given authority of pastors and elders.

Again, the doublespeak is so odd to me. I Peter 2:13, according to MacArthur, is about quote “god ordained civil government, kings, governors, employers and their agents.” And the text says - according to MacArthur - obey them even when they are bad. And the text says, “Obey every ordinance of man - and do it - for the Lord's sake - and even when the king, governor, employer and his agent is bad.”

Their doctrine, their thinking, the load of you-know-what they are peddling - is leading no where. It's the proverbially cartoon where the cat or dog is just going in circles chasing its tail. They go on:

When any one of the three institutions exceeds the bounds of its jurisdiction it is the duty of the other institutions to curtail that overreach.

Again, this is so strange. They just said:

God has not granted civic rulers authority over the doctrine, practice, or polity of the church. The biblical framework limits the authority of each institution to its specific jurisdiction. The church does not have the right to meddle in the affairs of individual families and ignore parental authority. Parents do not have authority to manage civil matters while circumventing government officials.

But now they are saying that if one of them gets out of bounds, then it becomes the duty of the others to curtail overreach. Which way is it? This is what happens when we do not know the Scriptures nor the power of God. This is it. They continue:

Therefore, when any government official issues orders regulating worship (such as bans on singing, caps on attendance, or prohibitions against gatherings and services), he steps outside the legitimate bounds of his God-ordained authority as a civic official and arrogates to himself authority that God expressly grants only to the Lord Jesus Christ as sovereign over His Kingdom, which is the church. His rule is mediated to local churches through those pastors and elders who teach His Word (Matthew 16:18–19; 2 Timothy 3:16–4:2).

Alright. There you see it. The quote “Lord Jesus Christ is sovereign over His Kingdom, which is the quote “church.” This is where the fatal mistake - if it is a mistake - and I'm not sure - but if it's a mistake - this is it. We just read Matthew 28:18-20. Did Jesus say that His power was relegated only to matters of the quote “church?” He did not.

But when you teach that Christ has not yet taken David's throne in fulfillment of the Davidic covenant from II Samuel 7 - you will not see even the basic, fundamental truths of Who Christ is and what His purpose is. You will not truly see and understand what it really means for Him to be King of kings and Lord of lords. You will not understand that He is the Only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords. You can't see it.

If you do not understand what is meant by the passing of the heavens and the earth, and the establishment of the new heavens and the new earth - which is another way of saying the New Covenant - you will not see Who Jesus is - the power that He has today - and our responsibility to Him.

You'll end up with doublemindedness, talking out of both sides of your mouth, tossed with the wind - unable to stand in the time of trouble.

I'm running out of time, I'll hurry because there's still something else I want to get to. Their article continues with more doublespeak. It has to be doublespeak because they are utterly confused in their response. They've been teaching and preaching Render unto Caesar and Submit to every ordinance of man - for so long - but now that it's become uncomfortable for them - they have no idea how to properly respond. Quote:

Therefore, in response to the recent state order requiring churches in California to limit or suspend all meetings indefinitely, we, the pastors and elders of Grace Community Church, respectfully inform our civic leaders that they have exceeded their legitimate jurisdiction, and faithfulness to Christ prohibits us from observing the restrictions they want to impose on our corporate worship services.

Said another way, it has never been the prerogative of civil government to order, modify, forbid, or mandate worship. When, how, and how often the church worships is not subject to Caesar. Caesar himself is subject to God. Jesus affirmed that principle when He told Pilate, "You would have no authority over Me, unless it had been given you from above" (John 19:11). And because Christ is head of the church, ecclesiastical matters pertain to His Kingdom, not Caesar's.

Now watch this. This, after what they just said - that actually sounded really good. Except for the last sentence about the church part. But listen to this. After they just said quote "Caesar is subject to God."

Jesus drew a stark distinction between those two kingdoms when He said, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's" (Mark

12:17). *Our Lord Himself always rendered to Caesar what was Caesar's, but He never offered to Caesar what belongs solely to God.*

Listen friends, in the New Covenant World - there is no Caesar. There is no room for Caesar - anywhere. Even though they butcher the Words of Christ from Luke 22 and Mark 12 - in the New Covenant World - there are no more Caesar's. There are no more earthly kings. No little g governments are allowed to exist any longer. Jesus Christ took back all earthly power that was given or allowed in the Old Covenant World. In the New Covenant World - He alone is the ONLY Potentate - the King of kings and Lord of lords and the kingdoms of this world - Revelation 11 have become the Kingdoms of our Lord and He shall reign for ever and ever.

That's not future. That has already taken place. And the only reason we do not see it today is because the truth of the Gospel of the Kingdom of God has been taken over, sabotaged, subterfuged by false teachers - whether mistakenly or on purpose - I don't know - but the Gospel message of the Kingdom has been hidden - trodden down - foundations destroyed - and our generation and the next one coming - will not get this back until we relentlessly, unashamedly preach the truth that these men have worked so hard to undermine.

Listen, He's either Lord and King over everything - or He's Lord and King over nothing. He's Lord and King over matters of the quote "church." That's pure garbage. He's Lord and King over something that never was in our English Bibles until some 200 years after the first English Bible came into existence? Come on.

He's King I'm telling you. He's King right now and He's King over God's entire Creation and it is the responsibility of every living breathing creature to conform to His Kingdom right now. It is the responsibility of every living, breathing creature to cease from lawmaking, to cease from defining or redefining good and evil and embrace the pure, perfect Laws of God - right now. That's the Gospel. That's the message we should be preaching and until we do - we will continue to sink further and further into the morass that's purposely being brought into the world today - and nothing is stopping it because the only thing powerful enough to stop it is the preaching and living of Christ the King and there's few and we are far between.

Well, I wanted to get to a few more things I learned this week, specifically regarding what I told you weeks ago in relation to the word crime. But, Lord willing, we'll have to wait until next week. But, I'll assure you - it's foundational. We need it.

