

Be not conformed to this world

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Good morning everyone. I want to remind you that Kingdom Conference 2021 is a mere 171 days away - Lord willing. That's right. The very day after we concluded Kingdom Conference 2020, we booked the Maranatha Bible Camp and Retreat Center - for what the world calls March 17 through the 20th of 2021.

On the last day of the Conference one of our elder gentlemen there asked me if I would please consider doing two of these a year. Well, I wish we could do more - I hope before long - before much longer - we are gathered as an Ecclesia like we are supposed to be so that we can have that sort of fellowship on a regular basis. The Conference was fantastic. Ted's preaching was excellent. Sam's testimony was great and Kristopher's message was great. We heard excellent messages from Doug Nelson and Edmond Lee. We even had some surprise special music. The Conference really came together great and we all left very excited and encouraged at what we experienced.

So, we will, Lord willing, be meeting again in the spring.

The messages and the testimonies from this past Conference and most of the music can be found on the website by clicking the link on the Home page.

As I tried to explain before the Conference, we were meeting in a very remote, rural area and our internet capabilities were limited. So, we had problems with live streaming and all that, but, Sam was there with his recording equipment and we have really good audio preserved of the event.

The debate / trial between Ted and Brent went nearly the way I thought it would. Lord willing, we will have a high quality video uploaded to all the websites, hopefully as soon as next week.

With all due respect, Brent was supposed to defend the Biblical compatibility of the U.S. CONstitution with the Bible and that - did not happen. It couldn't happen, it didn't. The two are not only not compatible - but they are diametrically opposed to each other.

Nearly line by line, clause by clause, article by article, the U.S. CONstitution attempts to unravel the Laws of God and ultimately, in what I believe is one of the greatest acts of defiance I have ever witnessed from history - the CON itself - proclaims it to be quote

“the SUPREME law of the land.”

Well, I'm sorry. That statement - all by itself - if that's the only thing the document says - is enough for any follower of Christ to raise eye-brows and say, “Wait a minute. That sounds terrible.” Yeah. It sounds terrible. And when I read that for the first time - nearly 40 years ago - I was horrified. I don't guess I ever read the thing - even in the government programming institutions. But when I read that statement as a young man - who had believed his whole life that Yahweh owns everything - that Yahweh is to be our all in all - everything - everything we say - everything we do - He is to be the source of all our movement - when I read that statement - “OUR laws and OUR treaties - SHALL BE THE SUPREME LAW OF THE LAND” - I was literally shaken to my very core.

No way. No possible way could a man or woman, boy or girl, who has studied the Scriptures and tried to apply them to their lives - boldly make such a proclamation. As I said, that statement alone, should be enough to set off every Christian alarm that God has placed inside of us. And that leaven - for me - leavens the whole lump.

Ted has done a fantastic work in his book, Bible Law versus the U.S. CONstitution, A Christian Perspective. If you do not have that book, you need to get it. There are several ways to get it - all easily found on his website - www.bibleversusconstitution.org

There's a condensed printed version, the full printed version, and then there's the online version. I have made several comments concerning - I believe chapter 19 - where Ted discusses the CON's supposed prohibition against what it calls, cruel and unusual punishment. Every single follower of Christ needs to be made aware of how that clause attacks the Laws of God and by implementing that into a society - sin - proliferates and spirals out of control - exactly as we see it occurring around us today.

Friends, the U.S. CONstitution is not Biblically compatible. It is seditious to the Bible and the Bible's God. It is, I believe, one of the three foundational issues that we face today. Every monstrous beast in the U.S. today - name it - fill in the blank - the IRS, the EPA, the FDA, whatever other alphabet agency you name - every one of them - and all the millions of quote “laws” associated with them - were all created by the CON. The Bible didn't create them. The Bible does not allow for them. They are all results of people doing exactly the same thing that was clearly told in I Samuel 8.

“If you take a king - or a democracy - or a democratic republic - or whatever label you put on it - if you take a form of government - that replaces Christ as King and His Father's Laws as supreme - all the evils described in I Samuel 8 - possibly even more -

are going to come upon you. I Samuel 8 was written - though not to us - but absolutely, positively FOR US for our learning and for our admonition. Don't make this mistake. Don't take to yourselves "kings like all the other nations." But what we do? Exactly the same thing they did. And, then, when preachers do have the courage to stand like the prophets of old did and beg people to turn to the established Kingdom of God that Christ brought - the overwhelming majority of people fight against the Kingdom of God and do everything they can do to defend and protect from all enemies foreign and domestic - the very thing that has destroyed most of their lives.

The Apostle Paul - when finding himself in precisely the same position - said, "Am I therefore your enemy because I tell you the truth?"

Alright. Michael has posted another outstanding edition of Michael's Minutes. It is found on the website by clicking - well - Michael's Minutes. So please go there and read his latest edition. You'll be glad you did.

Before the conference interrupted our messages on Missouri Liberty Radio, we were teaching from Romans 12 - with the main emphasis on "Be not conformed to this world." Before we go on today, let's kind of recap where we've been.

As you well know, the biggest thrust of my ministry, is geared to tearing down the false teaching of a future Kingdom. That includes tearing down the false teaching of a rapture, the second coming, the millennium - and all the trappings of that false religion that was produced, funded, disseminated by the jews' religion. I believe I have provided clear evidence that the whole twisting of the word generation as found in Matthew 24:34 - which is the key word that takes the teaching of Christ and its proper application to the time, place and people of the first century - and lifts it way beyond - at least now approximately 2,000 years from its intended meaning.

Thus, changing the entire meaning of it all. It takes away the Kingdom of God - which was becoming a clear and present reality in the first century - which - as I've said a thousand times - it's called the first century for a reason - it's the first century of the New World, the New Covenant - and the entire world is on the same page with that. The world's calendar - at least as far as years and centuries - pretty much indicates the century where Christ became flesh and walked among men - is called the first century.

It was the end of the Old World - the final century of the Old World - and the first century of the New World. Christ established His Kingdom in fulfillment of Isaiah 9:6. It has been the responsibility of every creature living to conform to the Kingdom of God.

The Government - not just of Israel - but of every part of God's Creation - is to be solely the Government of God. Men are not allowed to have their own governments in the New World. There is One God - One ruler, judge, magistrate - there is One King - One Lawgiver - that's the message - that's the Gospel of the Kingdom - that's what John the Baptist preached, that's what Christ preached - and after the resurrection of Christ - that's what the apostles preached and lived - and is summed up in Acts 17 - These that have turned the world upside down are come hither, whom Jason hath received, and these all do contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying there is another King, One Jesus.

Of course. Why not? Those men walked with Christ, talked with Christ, had personal conversations with Christ - which at that time - many were not made public - but in the Scriptures they are made public - we all know them - we know how the wise men from the east proclaimed Him as King. We know all the teachings that proclaimed Him as King. The disciples say His many miracles. They saw Him fulfill the prophecies. They saw Him condemned by the preachers and murdered by the Romans - only to rise again by Himself - three days later to take the throne of David as prophesied in II Samuel 7.

There was no doubt in the minds of these men after the resurrection of Christ and they boldly preached and lived - the exclusive Kingdom of God and the Kingship of Christ.

When Christ told them HE had all power - all Authority in heaven and in earth - they believed and they changed their world - they changed their generation - they turned their world upside down - and did it in a very short amount of time - because when you meet the King - the risen King - and you understand that His Kingdom and His alone is the only one that has authority from God to exist - it changes your life.

In the Old Covenant world - and I've said this many times - it cannot be argued that God raised up the kings of the Old Covenant World. He did. The Scriptures are clear. And He raised up good kings and He raised up bad kings. And what's the reality of this? The reality is He raised up more BAD kings than He did good kings.

And instead of realizing why this was done - the "churchians" and even some "Christians" point to the bad kings and justify the governments of men today by pointing to the bad kings and saying, "See, Trump is here because that's what God does. Obama - that's the work of God."

No, the bad kings are there in the first 39 books as a constant reminder of what happens when we choose our governments, our laws, our treaties - instead of King Jesus. God is not putting the wicked in place today - by our own choices - WE are the

ones doing it. God sent His Son - His Only Son - to be King - and today - still - we are rejecting His Kingship in favor of earthly kings.

The bad kings of the Old World are supposed to be learning points for us. Embrace the One True King - and forsake all others - or else. God's not putting any earthly quote "king or president" in a place - men are doing that - and men are doing it because they refuse to bow the knee to King Jesus. God has ordained One Government - One King - to be in the world today. That's it. All others - every single one of them - are in place because they are rebellious, usurpers being there for the sole purpose of eliminating the Laws of God from the world. The sooner we realize this and begin spreading this - the closer we will get towards changing the minds of people in our generation so that they will embrace the true Gospel of the Kingdom.

No, the CONstitution is not the quote "best we have." It is a complete, stick your fist in the face of God and saying as the "churchmen" of the first century did in reference to Christ - Luke 19:14 - "We will not have this man to reign over us." Same thing.

So, in the Old Covenant World - God allowed kings like all the other nations. He clearly retained control and sovereignty over those kings - and did so by design. That design being to show US today - in the New World - not to make the same fatal mistakes they did.

In the New Covenant World - that all ended. Yahweh set up One King. Christ was not only King of kings and Lord of lords - now listen - He is the LAST of the Kings that God allows for His Creation - I Timothy 6:15 - Who is the blessed and ONLY Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords.

If He is the Only - then there can't be any other.

The "churchmen" simply because they fell for the simplest deception of all - when Scofield lied about the definition of the word "generation" in Matthew 24:34 - the "churchmen" have moved the Kingship of Christ out of its rightful place - established in the first century and have placed it far off into the future - always just out of the reach of each generation. "Oh yes," they say. "He is King of kings and Lord of lords, and someday He will return and make this known to all men. He's King, just not really right now."

And what does that leave? If the Kingdom of God is future - then the kingdoms of men are still in place today. This is why I'm telling you that Romans 12:1-2 is an admonition

to forsake - be not conformed to the Old Covenant World - the world where God allowed the nations to walk in their own ways - Acts 14:16. Those days are over.

That's why the word world - in Romans 12:2 is aion - the Jewish age, the Messianic period - the Old Covenant World - be not conformed to the Old Covenant World - the world where God allowed the people to have "kings like all the other nations."

Be not conformed to this world - goes way beyond - way beyond - no smoking, drinking and cussing that I was told in the quote "church" that Romans 12:1-2 was talking about.

As we left off a couple weeks ago, I had been explaining that in Romans 12, Paul was explaining what non-conformity looked like.

And he was doing it - by teaching the reverse - what conformity looks like. Conforming to the Kingdom of God - almost always - same as was back then - conforming to the Kingdom of God looks like non-conformity to the world. Exactly. That's exactly the way it is described in Romans 12 and we need to be about the Father's business of non-conformity to the world's system that teaches that men are quote "ordained of God" to define - or redefine good and evil. That they have the power from God to to define good and evil - that's what their quote "laws" do - then they have the power from God to legislate their laws onto the people - then literally terrorize those who refuse to submit to their definitions of good and evil.

Friends, that's exactly what is happening - and that is WHY the Jews' religion changed the Scriptures to keep the Kingdom of God in the future. As long as the Kingdom of God is future - as long as King Jesus is kept away from the world - they conclude that God stills ordains men to have their own governments - and by extension - they create their own laws and force people to obey - even when those quote "laws" are contrary to the Laws of God. And this is why it was so easy for them to convince the vast multitudes of people that God Himself did away with His Laws. God did it. God put away His Laws.

God Himself admitted that His Laws were not good and that mere men could do a better job than He did. Friends, that's exactly the conclusion they come to.

I told you the story about the day the cops raped our home with their home invasion. And as we were sitting at the table, I told them again - that I have attempted to live by the Laws of God. And Jamie Musch, one of the cops there that day - a southern Baptist (I think) - just as sincerely as he could - looked at me and said, "Charlie, you really believe that God's Laws are better than ours?" Oh my.

Yes. I actually am so foolish, I guess, that I believe that God's Laws are better than man's quote "laws." Why can't we see the simplicity in this? Why is this so hard to understand? It's because we have not let go of the Old Covenant World. We are still - even though the King came - even though the King set up His Government and Kingdom - we still want to hang onto to the Old Covenant World that says to a certain extent - we can keep control - we can do our own thing - we can decide for ourselves what is right and what is wrong. We somehow, cannot even see that as far back as the story of the garden of Eden - that has been man's most fatally wrong decision - when man decides that he can do a better job of defining good and evil than God can.

Romans 12 is a discussion on how the Government of God is to be instituted among the people. One of the several offices - and I find it very noticeable that in the Government of God there are just a few offices. As opposed to the little g governments of men where there are literally millions of offices - but one of those offices - possibly the one of greatest significance in the community - is found in Romans 12:8. Before we read verse 8, I think it best that we go back and begin in verse 1.

[1] I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

[2] And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

[3] For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

[4] For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office:

Again, this is talking about the body. Why is that we can listen to modern quote "politicians" and they refer to their senate - as a "body" - and we immediately know they are talking about their quote "body of legislators, their mode or method of government." That's what they call their gathering. But when it comes to Christians reading Romans 12, we never think for a second that this passage is talking about Government - the body of Christ - the body of the King - the Governing method by which the King wants His Father's will on earth as it is in heaven. But that is exactly what's going on here. Verse 5.

[5] So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

One of the many things that really concerns me about quote "Christians so-called" and their failure to understand what their U.S. citizenship has done to them - and I'm directly talking about the title of their own little government. "The united states of America. We the people. We the united people." Simplistic yes. And so simplistic that for reason I can't understand, seemingly smart people, educated people - still don't get it. They are united with the sodomites. They are united with the atheists. United with the abortionists, the satanists, the transvestites - fill in the blank - they are one body - members of the same society one of another.

Why do we not understand this? Why is okay to be united with unbelievers in a form of quote "government" but when the Scriptures say exactly the same thing that world has tried to mimic - we fail to see that WE have a command from our King to be a body - a Government - with offices - with duties to carry out the Will of God in society. Verse 6.

[6] Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;

[7] Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;

[8] Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity;

Then, last, certainly not least -

he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.

I believe there is a reason why the office of ruler is listed last. It's because that office - the office of ruler - is going to continue on with greater explanation in the upcoming verses - particularly when we get to chapter 13 - which pretty much exclusively deals with the office of ruler.

I want you to remember that - at least what I told in Bible college - and I realize that is very risky to say the least - but the original text did not have chapters. In other words, the book of Romans, was one continuous block of text. There wasn't a chapter 1, 2, 3 - there wasn't a chapter 12 or chapter 13. Men put those chapters in.

I believe by making distinct chapters between 12 and 13 has caused a great amount of confusion - and quite possibly - an argument could be made that it appears to be

purposefully done.

When I was growing up in the quote “churchian world” I never one time - at least to my recollection - remember a message on Romans 13 - that was preceded by a study of Romans 12. Not once can I recall.

There is nothing, nothing in the text that should make us think for one second - that the rulers in Romans 12:8 are somehow magically different from the rulers in Romans 13.

Let's try to quickly get through the rest of chapter 12. Let's see if there is anything indicating to us that the discussion changes. Is there anything there that would make us think the conversation changes to something else. Verse 9.

[9] Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

Is there anything here that would leave us to believe that the definition of evil is anything other than what God has defined as “evil?” Anything make us think that the discussion is anything other than what God calls “good?” I don't see it. Verse 10.

[10] Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;

Well, this certainly should be the foundational principle in dealing with people in the Kingdom of God. If people would do this - wow - what a different place the world would be. How hard is it to be kind to people? We have a choice - in every single situation that arises - and I know it isn't always easy - but kindness is not terribly difficult. If you have a problem being kind - work on it. And if you can't get it done - then I'll tell you like I used to tell my kids when they were growing up - fake it. It's like the old saying, “If you don't have something nice to say to someone, don't say it.” Now, of course, I'm speaking generally, I hope you know that.

There's a time for harshness. There's a time for tough words. I'm talking about normal, everyday occurrences. S kind smile. A soft word. Be kind - as much as you possibly can - be kind to people. Verse 11.

[11] Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;

Here we are being told how to Govern our businesses. And it's pretty simple. There isn't

a need for some giant governmental agency to be created to make sure that people's businesses function a certain way.

[12] Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;

[13] Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.

Once again, the simplicity of the Government of God doesn't need massive government agencies to over complicate things in the lives of the people. If we, as individuals, institute these simple principles in our lives - in our individual lives - there isn't a need for massive government agencies to do - or at least think they can do - what individuals cannot do on a small, local, even family level.

[14] Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not.

[15] Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

[16] Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.

[17] Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

There's not many explanation that needs to be said here. Be honest with people - provide things honest in the sight of all men. Well, that pretty much eliminates what we see today as quote "government." Even the politicians themselves say - call each other liars and deceivers. Every one of them. It's all they say about each other. So, well, they must all be liars - aren't they? The Government of God is based on people being honest, and,

[18] If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

[19] Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

[20] 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.

Friends, please think this through clearly - in light of all Scripture - when we read passages that seem to be hard or not clear - we've got to look at the body of Scripture as a whole - knowing that Scriptures work together - they don't contradict. This isn't saying that if your land gets invaded - you offer the invaders a place to stay in your home. If a robber breaks in at night and tries to steal or rape or kill - you just let him do what he wants.

I had a man once tell me that if a rapist broke into his home to attack his wife or daughters - he would stand by and do nothing. I just shook my head. This is one of those hard passages. It's tough, I admit it. But I'll assure you this - this is not a free pass for those who do evil to just do what they want to Christians without any fear of response.

[21] Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

Let's continue.

[1] Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

[2] Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.

[3] For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil.

Now notice that I did not say chapter 13. There's nothing in the text that tells us to change what we were learning in chapter 12 - and move onto a completely different line of thinking. Chapter 13 is just continuing chapter 12. It's the same line of thinking, the same concept of what was started in chapter 12, 11, 10, 9 etc. This is the body of Christ - establishing the Government of God in Ecclesia - the called out Christian community of believers.

The rulers in verse 3 are the same rulers from chapter 12, verse 8. These are the men who are "ruling" measuring the actions of the people - settling disputes among people - according to the definitions of good and evil, right and wrong - defined by God - and God alone - as contained in the written Word and even in nature itself.

Rulers - that office established in and for the body of Christ in Romans 12 are not a terror to good works - but to the evil. This alone - should provide enough information for people who claim to be followers of Christ to know - beyond any shadow of a doubt - that these are the Christian rulers set up in Romans 12. They are not quote "rulers" in men's little g governments. First of all, the quote "rulers" in men's little g governments are enforcing their definitions of evil works.

They have an entire body of quote "law" that reaches to the moon and back concerning what they have defined to be quote "evil." They call it "crime." And the biggest majority of what they have defined as "crime" is not defined as "evil" or "sin" by God. They have taken it upon themselves to define what they call "crime/evil" and then their quote

“rulers” become terrorists to anyone who dares defy their definitions.

This past week, Randy sent me an article, with several video links showing a group of “churchians” in Idaho, I think, who were singing - outdoors - with no masks - and several of them got arrested. And, ironically, the video shows two men and a woman getting arrested, while the rest of them just continue on acting as if nothing is happening. “Rulers” quote unquote, made a quote “law” they probably tried to call it an “ordinance” to rob from the Scriptures to try to make their wicked actions more palatable - but they made a quote “mask ordinance” and then arrested people who refused to abide by their quote “mask ordinance.” These are not the “rulers” of Romans 12. These are impostors, usurpers, rebellious, wicked, evil men who think they have been given the power to define good and evil - then - through forms of terror - try to force men and women, boys and girls, to obey their definitions of good and evil.

This is at the very heart, the core, of refusing to understand that the Old Covenant World ended. Christ established a whole new world - He made all things new. He put an end to the days where men could set up kings like all the other nations. Those days are over.

In the New World, “rulers” are a blessing to those who follow the definitions of good according to God - and they are a terror only to those who act wickedly in defiance to the definitions of evil - sin - as contained in the Word of God and in nature itself.

Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same:

[4] For he is the minister of God to thee for good.

When I have preached sermons dedicated solely to these verses, I have brought out the fact that the word minister here in the Greek is diakonos, which means a Christian teacher or pastor. It's Christian. It's not jewish. It's not islam. It's Christian.

To apply this verse to anything other than a Christian teacher or pastor is to twist the Scripture into something it was never intended to be meant for - and is the epitome of quote “wresting the Scriptures to their own destruction.” II Peter 3:16.

This is another undeniable truth that the rulers of chapter 13 are the same ones as chapter 12, verse 8. The text is talking about the Government of God - the Ecclesia - the called out Christian community of believers.

But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil.

Once again, the minister of God - a revenger to execute wrath - same Greek word as verse 4 - diakonos - Christian teacher or pastor. It's where the word deacon comes from. And,

Ok. I get it. If thou do that which is evil. The definition of evil as defined by God - and God alone. Definitions of evil that are found in the Scriptures and even in nature itself. It is a fatal mistake - to fail to recognize that it is the ultimate rebellion of man - when man takes upon himself the power to define good and evil.

Yes, I understand that God told man to take dominion. I know that. But God clearly established the boundaries of man's habitation. God did not give man the power or authority to become just like Him - as in One Who has the power to define good and evil. Good and evil has already been defined. The only thing someone can do is redefine good and evil. And to redefine good and evil - or to think they have the power to make their own definitions - is to put themself in the place of God - to be God. Isn't that one of the main - if not the main - principles man was supposed to learn from the story of the garden of Eden? This isn't difficult. It's not esoteric, hidden that only the mystics were able to uncover. God - and God alone defined good and evil - and man - while taking dominion as God instructed - must still do so inside the boundaries of what God established as good and evil. This isn't difficult.

But, when you have people convincing others that the Kingdom of God is future, and that God Himself did away with His Law and gave that power to mere men so they could rule over and dominate each other - this is the result.

The rulers of Romans 13 are the same as Romans 12 and they are Christian teachers and pastors established in Romans 12:8 as an office in the body of Christ. It's simple. That's what they are and anyone or anything that comes between that truth is there to try to keep people in the Old Covenant world and keep them from believing and understanding that the King came, set up His Kingdom, and it is the responsibility of every living, breathing creature to conform to that Kingdom - right now. Verse 5.

[5] Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake.

[6] For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending

continually upon this very thing.

For they are God's ministers. Again. We don't need the Greek. We really don't need to be Greek scholars. They English tells us - they are God's ministers.

Yes, in the Old Covenant World, He set up good kings and bad kings. That's what He did. But He did that - He set up the bad ones - so that we would look back and say, "Let's not make the same mistakes they did."

He didn't set up a bad king in the New World. He set up the Great King. He set up the Only One capable of not perverting justice, He set up the Only capable of instituting His Father's Will and His Father's Laws. In the Government of God, it is the ministers of God - that have the office of ruler. And they continually rule inside the boundaries of God's Law. Verse 7:

[7] Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.

[8] Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.

This week, I received an email from a very nice man. He was expressing the fact that Ted lost the debate / trial concerning the U.S. CONstitution and it's compatibility with the Bible. And I don't mean this tongue in cheek, the man was very nice and we've had some nice conversations this week.

But he said something to me that was very striking. In his defense of the CONstitution, he was quick to point out that the CONstitution was not based on the 10 commandments. Of course it isn't. And, I explained to him that not only was the CON not Biblically compatible - but it is antithetical to the Bible in nearly every single article, clause, etc. I don't think I even commented to him regarding his 10 Commandments statement - but I have been unable to get it out of my mind since.

I did tell him things like, I find it incomprehensible that supposed "Christian" men would put together a document establishing their quote "government" and the only recognition of Christ in the document was a time-stamp. True Christians could never enter into Government or society without making Christ first and foremost - the top priority. It's just not possible. Christ has the preeminence in all things for the believer.

But his 10 commandments - the CONs lack of the 10 commandments will not leave me

alone this week.

In another absolute, without a doubt - teaching that Romans 13 is a continuation of Romans 12 - and that it is talking about the Government of God - the Kingdom of Christ - and cannot possibly be talking about men's little g governments carried over from the Old Covenant World - all the while keeping in mind that the rulers of Romans 13:4-6 and Romans 12:8 are one and the same - when discussing the Government in Romans 13 - look at verse 9.

[9] For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

[10] Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Forgive me if I'm just stupid...but isn't this a clear, 100% reference to the 10 commandments? A Romans 13 Government has foundations in the 10 commandments according to Romans 13:9-10. Isn't this clear?

The ministers are Christian teachers and pastors, deacons. The good and evil definitions are clearly Yahweh's. And the text reminds us that the definitions of good and evil - derive themselves from the 10 commandments - namely - adulteration, murder, stealing and bearing false witness - the fundamental issues that face men in society when dealing with one another. This is God's Government in a nice, neat, clear, simple 10 verses. As opposed to man's version which has hundreds and thousands of offices, "laws" quote unquote that reach to the stars and back. Definitions of quote "crime" that are so numerable no one even knows how many there are.

Be not conformed to this world.

That is the Old Covenant World where God allowed men to have kings like all the other nations. It was a world where He allowed the nations to walk in their own ways. But - those days are over. Those days ended in the first century - which was also the last century. The last century of the Old Covenant World. The times where God raised up little g governments - the good - the bad - those days are over.

In the New World - He made all things new. Today, since the New World began - there is One King, One Lawgiver, One God - and besides Him there is no other. This is the Gospel. This is the Gospel of the Kingdom. This is the message we must preach. This is

what we need to be sharing with a lost world - that remains in the muck and the mire of the Old Covenant World.

And for those who call themselves Christians - followers of Christ - this administration of the Kingdom of God - this is what is meant by Ecclesia. It's the Government of God. And if we cannot see this in our own communities, we need to be considering the idea of moving together with like minded believers to establish these Ecclesias - these called out Christian communities who will institute - obey the command of God - to institute these offices in the body - in the community - to show our lost and dying generation that Christ is King and His Government is real.