

# Law, Grace, and Citizenship

## Labor Day Conference—2012

### Session #3 (2 Sep): "What Real 'Social Justice' Looks Like--Part 1"

#### I. REVIEW & TRANSITION

9th major concept: A continuing "war" exists between God's injection of special revelation, His interfering works in history vs. paganized Noahic civilization which is corrupted and enthralled with the vision of Babel: "man makes himself"

10th major concept: God's righteousness and justice define "social justice", not man; the Mosaic law manifests true justice

#### II. GOD'S REVELATION OF SOCIAL JUSTICE

##### 10 commandments via case-law

Does the Law apply today?

**John 1:17**

**Rom 2:12-**

**Rom 3:19-20**

**Rom 6:14-15**

**Rom 7:7-11**

Church doesn't live in Israel's theocracy--it lives in [pagan] cultures so it has "Body ethics" designed for it in its historic situation. HOWEVER, the Law contains some stipulations unique to Israel but many universal to mankind because of God's design

New Covenant (Jer 30-31; Ezek 36:24-32):

Millennial reign of Christ: (Ps 2)

**Rom 1:32**

#### III. STRUCTURE OF MOSES' 2nd EXPOSITION OF THE TORAH (Deut 5:1-26:19)

<b>5:1-26:19 2<sup>nd</sup> Exposition of the Torah = <i>proper response</i> to Yahweh in heart and soul</b>
5:1-11:32 Loving Yahweh with <i>all the heart</i>
12:1-26:19 Loving Yahweh with <i>all the soul (nephesh=life)</i>
12:1-13:18 Theological unity of Israel's tribes and its Enforcement (esp 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , and by implication the corresponding 9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> commandments)
14:1-21 Enforcement of Distinct Cultural Sustenance from Life to Death (a witness consistent with Yahweh's name, see 3rd commandment)
14:22-16:17 A Distinct Culture of Theocentric Faith in God's Economic Order (with emphasis upon the 4 <sup>th</sup> and by implication the corresponding 8 <sup>th</sup> commandment)
16:18-18:22 A Distinct Culture of Human Authority Under God's Justice (emphasis upon human authority starting in the home—the 5 <sup>th</sup> commandment and by implication the 7 <sup>th</sup> commandment)
19:1-21:23 Protocols for Implementing True "Social Justice" (emphasis upon dealing

with deployment of civil authority's lethal force—6 <sup>th</sup> commandment)
22:1-23:18 A Distinct Culture of Life-Protecting Boundaries (emphasis upon purity of national life—the context of the 7 <sup>th</sup> commandment)
23:19-24:7 A Distinct Culture of Respect for “Human Rights” (emphasis upon the implications of the 8 <sup>th</sup> commandment)
24:8-25:4 A Distinct Culture of True Representation (emphasis upon the implications of the 9 <sup>th</sup> commandment)
25:5-19 Heart rebellion against Yahweh’s Rule (emphasis upon the implications of the 10 <sup>th</sup> commandment)
26:1-19 Conclusion of the 2nd Exhortation

#### IV. SAMPLES OF SOCIAL JUSTICE IN SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES

**1st, 2nd commandments** (heart allegiance--to God or to fallen, Satan-influenced self.

**12:1 statutes and judgments**

**12:2 utterly destroy**

**12:3 destroy their names**

**12:4**

see (**Jud 16:23** and **1 Sam 5:1-7**)(also **1 Cor 10:14-22**)

**16:18-17:1** false religion ==> false [values] & false [justice]

**1 Kings 12:25-33** sin of Jeroboam

*Civil government, as it always does in the one-level view of reality, becomes the epistemological authority that defines the "authorized" religion of the community.*

**10th commandment** also involves the heart ("I don't feel like doing God's will")

**25:5-10**

**25:17-19**

Finish the job or it will rise up and bite you!!

#### V. CONCLUSION

Must start with the true definition of justice so who decides--God or man?

Major concepts 9 & 10 define the conflict:

Babel (gov't defines religion) or God defines gov't

Today:

- Government wants to define **educational curriculum (family responsibility under 5th commandment)** for goals that *it wants for*

- society* vs. Christian parents who want to define the goals that *they want for their children*.
- Government wants to define **health-care values (value of life 6th commandment)** vs. health-care workers and patients and payers of health insurance
  - Government (usually local government) is intimidated by anti-Christian bigots to *selectively* use occupancy and zoning regulations **against house meetings for prayer and Bible study (worship protocols of 1st commandment)**.