

The Gospel Herald

“As the truth is in Jesus” (Ephesians 4:21)

For The LORD’S PILGRIMS, STRANGERS & SOJOURNERS

by
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Can God Have a Double Standard and be Just?

“Thou shalt not kill” (Duet. 5:17).

Oh, I can see the eyebrows raising as many read the title of this composition. God, the Lord of a double standard?

Question: How does one justify the fact that God has commanded his people “not to kill” and yet he destroyed ALL of mankind (excluding eight souls) by the means of the flood?

Question: How do we perceive that God destroyed ALL the inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrah by the means of fire and brimstone for immorality?

Question: How do we justify God opening the earth and causing multitudes of Korah to be swallowed up in the earth? And fire raining down consuming two hundred and fifty others in Numbers chapter sixteen?

Yes, God has done these great calamities in fulfilling his divine predestined purposes. Yet, has commanded and instructed man “Thou shalt not kill.”

I don’t know how many times I have talked with folks that have said, “The god that I believe in would not kill people, but is a god of love, etc., etc.” The problem is the god in these peoples’ minds IS NOT the God of the Holy scriptures! It is merely a god THEY have perceived in their finite mind that fits their idea of an all merciful god to all mankind.

When I have challenged these logical thinking humanists on the fact that God has KILLED PEOPLE, they look with a “deer in the headlights” demeanor? Duh; the ignorance of the scriptures among even professing Christians is sad. Just think how much more profitable time would be spent if professing Christians spent time in the Word of God as they do watching Television? I heard recently that one of the greatest downfalls to our society was the invention of ELECTRICITY and the LIGHT BULB....

Oh, yes, from its invention has come great and wonderful HELPS in the lives of mankind, yet, at high cost.

Instead of going to bed at sundown (as many did before light bulbs), society is up all night watching hell-a-vision or out running to and fro in the hell hole clubs and taverns of our day. Fifty years ago, folks on the most part were HOME with families at meal time to sit at a common table to eat together, today that is rare and few take the time to sup together. And before electricity, folks were not found meandering out and about at 3:00 AM, at night clubs. A hundred years ago, teenagers would have been in their homes due to a lack of “nowhere else to be” after dark.

Haven't we come a long way with our devices and inventions? It is as if for every good use of an item, man has made, TWO wicked uses of the same come from it; and our time is consumed with THINGS rather than the word of God. I got rabbit chasing on this subject pondering the negligence of professing believers having time for EVERYTHING but reading of the scriptures that they would be able to give account of the hope they profess that is within them. Ee enough EMPTY WAGON preaching).

Back to the subject matter, “Thou shalt not kill,” but it is OK to sent our sons and daughters into harm's way in Iraq for the sake of America to kill and be killed? Let me speak to the patriotic heroes of the past wars that are persuaded man's efforts have given us our national liberties.

We as a nation have ONLY been preserved by the sovereign hand of the Almighty to have the prosperity and all the benefits of freedom. Even though God used the MEANS of men to carry out his will in this world, none have ANYTHING IN WHICH THEY CAN GLORY!

If the God of the Bible can make the STONES cry out praise unto God, what is man that he can take credit for ANYTHING? Some one please inform this dumb brother how you can “Love an enemy and kill him” (Matt.5:44)? Is the Christian to be an arm-bearing warmonger in the name of a nation? Someone please give me some New Testament, New Covenant scriptures that I might be informed?

Can you imagine Jesus Christ wearing a camouflage uniform carrying an M-16 seeking out so-called enemy to kill? Do you see something wrong with this picture? HELLO. What about blessed are the PEACEMAKERS and MERCIFUL? (Matt.5:7,9). “Do good to them that hate you” (Matt.5:44).

Now here's where I am going with all this, I see myself as a citizen of this time world by the divine appointment at which time my mother gave birth to me. I also have been MADE a citizen of the Kingdom of God's dear Son by the SECOND BIRTH, a spiritual birth brought about by the sovereign grace of God according to his predestined determined purpose.

Now, which government/kingdom am I to make as a priority? If you were to answer BOTH, you are WRONG! We who have been born of God's Spirit and made New Creatures in Christ Jesus are "In the world, but NOT OF THE WORLD." We are called to life as obedient citizens of the government of this time realm world (Romans 13), yet, NOT to conflict with the commands and instructions of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has NOT summoned every citizen of the United States of America into a declaration of war with Iraq, the Government and it's leaders has, notwithstanding that God has ordained it to come to pass, yet where does the Christian fit into this national conflict? Bear arms? Give me a NT scripture to support it.

I conclude as a Christ following "pacifist" that the Christian is to "pray for those in high places, love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them that despitefully use you, and persecute you; that YOU may be the children of your Father which is in heaven; for He maketh the sun to rise on the evil and on the just and on the unjust" (Matt.5:44,45).

"Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. 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. But overcome evil with good" (Romans 12:19-21).

Shall we send our professing Christian son's and daughter's into the national worldly military to be taught those things contrary to our Lord Jesus Christ? I think not.

If you have not heard one thing in this context, may God give you an ear to hear THIS.

God shall fulfill ALL his determined predestined good pleasure in using the citizens of the time world that have been given a divine desire as servants of this nation by the means of the military that could care less about the God of the Bible. If Bible believing, born again, God fearing believers would refuse to participate in carnal warfare, the wars would still be fought and the outcome the same as God has ordained.

When are professing Christian believers going "WAKE UP" to the fact that we are not in a carnal warfare, but spiritual?

Any Muslim with common sense(if there is such thing) can read Matthew chapter five of the Bible and ask, "Why don't you people of America that call yourselves followers of Christ, obey his word"? Mr. President Bush, do you love your enemy?

Has not God set up the powers of government as rulers over terror and evil for our sake (Christians as well as all citizens), then let the government magistrates do their work without the church interacting? For when those that make up the Lord's church are involved in the government magistrates that is ULTIMATELY the combination of CHURCH and STATE!

Is our priority the kingdom of Christ or not? How can we be in the world, but NOT OF THE WORLD, and be involved in the affairs and operation of the military of this earthly nation?

God can cause the citizens of this worldly nation to fight its battles and be JUST in doing so, yet, he has told his Church "thou shalt not kill" and to "love your enemies."

God's standards are governed by his sovereign divine decreed determined purposes and NOTHING ELSE!

God can KILL and be just, yet, man has been instructed "Thou shalt not KILL." God rules and reigns as he pleases unrestrained and sovereignly omnipotent.

May the Lord God of spiritual Israel, the church of the first born, call away from carnal battle HIS people and let the worldlings fight the carnal battles among the nations. And may the remnant of God's heritage be those that are seen as Christ honoring passive peacemaker's as those which look for a heavenly city whose builder and maker is God.

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NOTE: I make no apology nor excuses for my convictions as set forth as a pilgrim, sojourner and stranger in this present land I press on awaiting my change.