

THE UPWARD CALL

*Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet;
but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead,
**I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God
IN CHRIST JESUS.**
(Philippians 3:13-14 NASB)*

#03-09155

Lawlessness

August 25, 2009

And then I will declare to them, I never knew you; “depart from Me, those working lawlessness!” Psa. 6:8 (Matthew 7:23 LITV)

The Lord Jesus spoke these words to His disciples as He taught them about the entrance into and exclusion from the kingdom of the heavens. Lawlessness is a very serious matter to God, the Creator and Upholder of all things. All creation is meant to be held together by His divine law, and when any of His created beings step outside the bounds of His law, it is called lawlessness.

Unfortunately, mankind has come to erroneously believe that God's law is either an intrusion on life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness or, worse, a form of punishment. God's law is often seen as not good and not needed. It is seen as inhibiting man's freedom rather than being a pathway to true freedom. This is not to be confused with Jesus is the Way.

Some might consider ancient Israel and see that they were unable to live up to the law given through Moses, and it led to much hardship. However, hardship came upon them because they turned from God's law, not because they had been obedient to it. The fact of the matter is that the law of jubilee required that liberty be proclaimed every fifty years. **And you shall proclaim liberty in the land to those living in it; it shall be a jubilee to you** (Leviticus 25:10a LITV).

In other words, God's law itself was meant to restore liberties that might have been lost over the intervening years. The Lord judged Israel when they failed to follow the law of jubilee (Jeremiah 34:17). So, it was not the law that led to hardship but disobedience to it.

In large measure, the church has followed in the footsteps of ancient Israel by either rejecting God's law or selectively applying some of the law according to the letter, not the spirit. "Tithe or be cursed" is probably the best and most notorious example. Many Christians have been taught that, according to Paul, we are **no longer under law but under grace** (Romans 6:14). This is true, but Paul also wrote that **the law is good** (1 Timothy 1:8) and **the law is spiritual** (Romans 7:14). Paul did not put the law aside anymore than Jesus did (Matthew 5:17-18).

The church has failed to see that all of God's law is still in force, not according to the letter but according to the spirit. In other words, we are to take the law to a much higher level than ancient Israel ever did, even at its highest level of obedience. We are to be **servants of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life** (2 Corinthians 3:6 NASB).

Besides, if His law is no longer operative, why is it that God puts His laws into the minds and on the hearts of all who have come into His new covenant (Hebrews 8:10-11)? This is the ultimate lot for all mankind when God is *All* in all new, for it is then that all mankind shall know the Lord and all will experience His love. So the law is good, for when it is in the mind and on the heart, people will no longer have to be told or taught what is righteous, for they will know it without question because they will know the Lord their Righteousness. This is the law of the Spirit that gives life and liberty.

For more on the law, please see the short series *The Law Is Good*, issues #02-0831, June 27, 2008, and #02-0832, July 5, 2008, as well as issues #02-0833, July 11, 2008, *The Law Is Made For The Lawless*, and #02-0862, July 1, 2008, *Keep My Commandments*.

If God's people (both ancient Israel and the modern-day church) had followed God's law, then the world would have seen true liberty and desired to follow God's people. The failure of God's people to follow God's law has not only failed to lead modern man to embrace God's law but also caused man to reject it. The result has been to cause much suffering and hardship as many have been put under bondage to

other men (often tyrants) and their self-interests. It is safe to state that man's law is often partial as opposed to **God's law that is impartial**. For example, **socialism** seeks to achieve equal results for all people by taking away the rights of some or even the majority. In other words, equal rights (impartiality) are cast aside (partiality) for equal results. In the end, no one truly has equal rights because no one has a right over his life; this right is given over to the state.

The Founding Fathers of the United States understood **the law of impartiality** (equal rights) as revealed in the opening lines of the Declaration of Independence (1776). They mandated **equal rights** but did not expect **equal results**.

In the last issue (#03-09154, August 24, 2009, *Whoever Humbles Himself Shall Be Exalted*), I made the point that the US was yoked to **the Federal Reserve System** in 1913-1914 and that this is **the financial beast of mystery Babylon**. I refer you to issue #02-08131, October 17, 2008, *The Titanic and Waterloo*, and article #9, May 2008, *A Mystery, The Great City Babylon*.

The Federal Reserve was crafted in secret, and it has been run in secret ever since. It was an act of lawlessness that circumvented the US Constitution (USC). This has come into question lately. A few politicians have requested the Federal Reserve (Fed) to open its books for public scrutiny. To date, the Fed has been clear that they will do no such thing. Why? Could it be that it might raise a lot of questions about their practices and possibly their intent? It might also reveal that the entire banking system continues to be close to failure. Some have described the actions of the Federal Reserve as a Ponzi scheme that is directly responsible for the adverse effects of all the so-called economic bubbles and bursts that the US economy has experienced, including depressions, recessions, and inflation.

An interesting exposition on the Federal Reserve is found in the book *The Creature from Jekyll Island, A Second Look at the Federal Reserve* by G. Edward Griffin (American Media, 1994).

I believe another lawless act occurred in 1914 when the 16th amendment to the USC was ratified. It states: "The Congress shall have the power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several States, and without regard to any census or enumeration." In the years that followed, the Federal government began taxing every form of income imaginable; at one point, tax rates exceeded 90% on high incomes. Today, taking into account all taxes, many Americans lose over 50% of their income to taxes. This is not equal rights; it is a grand move toward equal results. It is as bad as usury, which is against God's law as well.

God's **kingdom tax** (tithe) is only on that which comes forth from His creation, not from man's labor, and it never exceeds **10-12%**. Man's tax laws are so confiscatory that they rob the people of their right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; it is the working of lawlessness.

Now, one might wonder how it can be asserted that in 1913-1914 the US, along with the entire world, was brought into captivity to the financial beast of mystery Babylon. The answer is discovered in a prophetic time-cycle that is repeated in history and that parallels ancient Israel's history. Historically, the Federal Reserve Act (1914 AD) was enacted precisely 2,520 years after the rise of the ancient Babylonian empire (604 BC). President Woodrow Wilson signed it into law in December 1913, but it did not go onto effect until 60 days later in 1914. This created the modern-day mystery Babylon that we all now live under and that will be crushed by the Stone Kingdom.

I have given a few more details about this cycle in issues #03-09137, June 25, 2009, *The Number and Year 1776*, and #03-09126, May 28, 2009, *Jacob's Distress: 21 & 210-Year Cycles*.

FYI: ancient Babylon conquered Jerusalem in 604 BC, and exactly 2,520 years later, in 1917, General Allenby freed Jerusalem from the Turks. The years 1914 and 1917 are significant in God's end-time plan. As a reminder, I saw the year 1917 in a dream along with the sinking of the Titanic (see issue referenced earlier, as well as article #18, February 2009, *When the Day Comes [The Year 2010]*).

Lawlessness is very serious business. It is time for the Lord's people to repent for ignoring God's spiritual law. In His mercy, God has prospered His modern-day people while in Babylonian captivity, just as He prospered His ancient people while in Babylonian captivity in Daniel's day. The Lord has spoken to us in our prosperity. Have we listened (Jeremiah 22:21) [see issue #02-08129, October 13, 2008, *I Spoke To You In Your Prosperity*]? It is time to listen to the Spirit and repent of all lawlessness.