

**Priests & Judges Collaborate To Apply the Bible to Civics**

The collaboration between the Ecclesiastical Representative & Judicial expert provided for ...

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Decisions must be accepted w/o presumption (bold \_\_\_\_\_ & groundless \_\_\_\_\_ confidence in God's favor)

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**Deut. 17: 14-17 Sinful Kings Are Like Quicksand To Their Societies**

16Only he must not acquire many horses for himself or cause the people to return to Egypt in order to acquire many horses, since the LORD has said to you, 'You shall never return that way again.'

17And he shall not acquire many wives for himself, lest his heart turn away, nor shall he acquire for himself excessive silver and gold.

**I Sam 8: 10-18 Samuel's Warning Against Kings**

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**Deut 17: 14-17 3 Things Undo Kings**

God wants leaders to cast aside \_\_\_\_\_ Confidence, and not

- 1) <sup>16</sup>accumulate \_\_\_\_\_ in alliance with Egypt, (= "arm of flesh") since the LORD has said to you, 'You shall never return that way again.' (Is. 31:1)
  - 2) <sup>17</sup>acquire a vast \_\_\_\_\_ lest his heart turn away,
  - 3) <sup>17</sup>nor acquire \_\_\_\_\_ accumulations of silver and gold, precious metals, as much for ostentation as for either luxury
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**Leaders Must Rule by Relying God's Laws.**

- <sup>18</sup>Writing the law is a way to the \_\_\_\_\_ Law.
  - He must \_\_\_\_\_ upon the Levites to learn how to apply the law.
  - His heart must must Fear the Lord & not get \_\_\_\_\_ up with Pride
- Kings last longer by leaning on the Lord!**
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Discovering Deuteronomy's Divine Duties #17

**Deuteronomy 17: 1-20**

**Kings Serve Citizens by Complying With Gods Commands**

**Deut. 17: 1 Imperfect Offerings & Idol Worship Insult God**

**Lev. 22:20 (NIV) Do Not Bring Anything With a Defect, Because It Will Not Be Accepted on Your Behalf.**

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**Deut 17:1 Only Stainless Sacrifices Are Acceptable**

<sup>1</sup>"You shall not sacrifice to the LORD your God an ox or a sheep in which is a blemish, any defect whatever, for that is an abomination to the LORD your God.

**Sacrifice = Make An \_\_\_\_\_**

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**Blemish = Stain, Marked With a \_\_\_\_\_.**

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**Abomination = Disgusting & Abhorrent \_\_\_\_\_ to God (arousing revulsion or strong indignation), which also is God's reaction to idol worship.**

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**Deut. 17: 2-7 God Demands Corporal Punishment For Crossing 10 Commandments 1 & 2**

Rev 21:8 But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death."

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Deuteronomy 17: 1-20

Kings Serve Citizens by Complying With Gods Commands

**Polytheistic Idol Worship = Ascribing the Characteristics of the \_\_\_\_\_ to Things That Are \_\_\_\_\_ the Trinity**

Gen 1:1 the \_\_\_\_\_ of God was hovering over the face of the waters. 26Then God said, "Let \_\_\_\_\_ make man in \_\_\_\_\_ image,

John 1:1-3 1 In the beginning was the \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_, the Word in the \_\_\_\_\_), and the Word was with God, and the Word \_\_\_\_\_ God.

2He was in the beginning with God. 3All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

Acts 17:24 The \_\_\_\_\_ who \_\_\_\_\_ the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man,

Romans 1:22 - 27 Polytheism / Idol Worship Exchanges The **Glory** of God for the **gory behaviors** of the created things, animals, bugs, natural phenomenon, weather, the sun, moon, stars etc...

**The God Of The Bible Reveals Himself as a Holy Trinity "God in Three Persons, Blessed Trinity"**

Matt 3:16-17, Mark 1:9-11, Luke 3:21-22,

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**Deuteronomy 17: 5-7 (ESV)**

**2-3 Witnesses Are Required & Responsible To Administer Corporal Punishment**

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**Deut 17: 8-13 "Supreme Courts Are A \_\_\_\_\_ Of Church And State" Not A "Separation Of Church & State"**

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**John 7:24 (NAS) Do not judge by the outward appearance, but judge with righteous judgment."**

**Righteous judgement Requires God's Biblical Application to Assess Human Events**

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**Deut. 17: 6 2 or More Witnesses Provide Evidence**

**A witness provides verbal Testimony ( \_\_\_\_\_ or affirmation to establish or prove a \_\_\_\_\_) Is Evidence**

**A Witness is one who ...**

- a) has first-hand knowledge (not second-hand gossip)
- b) gives verbal testimony to prove something that is binding = secures an obligation that cannot be broken! Has life & death consequences! Our testimony of Christ having worked in us to be born again has consequences of eternal life
- c) operates under Ten Commandment 9, not to bear false witness
- d) was to put stone throwing action behind what his/her mouth confesses

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**We are Witnesses of Christ.**

God accepts our verbal testimony is evidence of our faith.

John 3:16, Romans 10:9

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**Deut. 17:5 Stoning, Which Is a Really Severe Circumstance That May Model or Reflect a Harsh Reality About Christ Christ, the Stone of Offense!**

**Michael Card: "Scandalon 1 Peter 2:4-8"**

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**Footnotes:**

**a 7** Septuagint *drive out*; also verse 12

**b 7** Or *evil person*; also verse 12

**c 18** Hebrew *from before*

ESV Text Edition® (2016).



**Deuteronomy 17: 1-20**

**Kings Serve Citizens by Complying With Gods Commands**

**Sermon Reading Slides Notes**

**TODAY'S SCRIPTURE SLIDES**

**Today's Scripture Reading Slides**

**(For long passages, select for public reading the specific Scripture passages that will be discussed in this message)**

**Slide 1) Deut. Deuteronomy 17: 1 (ESV) Only A Sacrifice Without Spot Or Blemish Is Acceptable To The Lord**

<sup>1</sup>“You shall not sacrifice to the LORD your God an ox or a sheep in which is a blemish, any defect whatever, for that is an abomination to the LORD your God.

**Slide 2) Deut 17: 2-4 (ESV) Worshipping Other Than The Trinity Is An Abominable Transgression**

<sup>2</sup>If there is found among you, within any of your towns that the LORD your God is giving you, a man or woman who does what is evil in the sight of the LORD your God, in transgressing his covenant, <sup>3</sup>and has gone and served other gods and worshiped them, or the sun or the moon or any of the host of heaven, which I have forbidden, <sup>4</sup>and it is told you and you hear of it, then you shall inquire diligently, and if it is true and certain that such an abomination has been done in Israel,

**Slide 3) Deut 17: 5-7 (ESV) 2-3 Witnesses Are Required & Responsible To Administer Corporal Punishment**

<sup>8</sup>“If any case arises requiring decision between one kind of homicide ..., legal right ..., or one kind of assault and another, ... within your towns that is too difficult for you, then you shall arise and go up to the place that the LORD your God will choose. <sup>9</sup>And you shall come to the Levitical priests and to the judge who is in office in those days, and you shall consult them, and they shall declare to you the decision. <sup>10</sup>Then ... you shall be careful to do according to all that they direct you.

**Slide 4) Deut 17: 8-10 (ESV) 2-3 Priests & Judges Form Superior Courts To Collaborate On Controversial Cases**

<sup>8</sup>“If any case arises requiring decision between one kind of homicide ..., legal right ..., or one kind of assault and another, ... within your towns that is too difficult for you, then you shall arise and go up to the place that the LORD your God will choose. <sup>9</sup>And you shall come to the Levitical priests and to the judge who is in office in those days, and you shall consult them, and they shall declare to you the decision. <sup>10</sup>Then ... you shall be careful to do according to all that they direct you.

**Slide 5) Deut 17: 11-13 (ESV) Decisions Of The Superior Church & State Courts Are Constitutionally Binding**

<sup>11</sup>According to the instructions that they give you, and according to the decision which they pronounce to you, you shall do. You shall not turn aside from the verdict that they declare to you, either to the right hand or to the left. <sup>12</sup>The man who acts presumptuously by not obeying the priest who stands to minister there before the LORD your God, or the judge, that man shall die. So you shall purge the evil from Israel. <sup>13</sup>And all the people shall hear and fear and not act presumptuously again.

## Slide 6) Deut 17: 14-16 (ESV) Only Brothers Can Be Kings But They Must Not Accumulate Horses In Alliance With Egypt

<sup>14</sup>“When you come to the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and ... say, ‘I will set a king over me, like all the nations that are around me,’ <sup>15</sup>... One from among your brothers you shall set as king over you. You may not put a foreigner over you, who is not your brother. <sup>16</sup>Only he must not acquire many horses for himself or cause the people to return to Egypt in order to acquire many horses, since the LORD has said to you, ‘You shall never return that way again.’”

## Slide 7) Deut 17: 17-18 (ESV) He King Shall Write & Memo-rize God’s Law Not Want More Wives & Money

<sup>17</sup>And he shall not acquire many wives for himself, lest his heart turn away, nor shall he acquire for himself excessive silver and gold.

<sup>18</sup>“And when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write for himself in a book a copy of this law, approved by<sup>c</sup> the Levitical priests.

## Slide 8) Deut 17: 19-20 (ESV) The Longevity Of The King & His Line Is Linked To Heartfelt Humble Law Keeping

### The King’s longevity is Linked to Heartfelt Law Keeping

<sup>19</sup>And it shall be with him, and he shall read in it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God by keeping all the words of this law and these statutes, and doing them, <sup>20</sup>that his heart may not be lifted up above his brothers, and that he may not turn aside from the commandment, either to the right hand or to the left, so that he may continue long in his kingdom, he and his children, in Israel.



## TODAY’S MESSAGE & SLIDES

**Slide 9) Message Map: LCF Saturday 11/13/22 MESSAGE MAP: Deut 16:1-22**

**Discovering Deuteronomy’s Divine Duties #17  
“Kings Serve Citizens By Complying With Gods Commandments”**

- 1) Deut. 17: 1 Imperfect Offerings Insult God
- 2) Deut. 17: 2-7 God Commands Corporal Consequences For Crossing 10 Cmd’s 1 & 2
- 3) Deut. 17: 8-13 Superior (Supreme) Courts Are A Collaboration Of Church & State
- 4) Deut. 17: 14-17 Sinful Kings Are Like Quicksand To Their Societies
- 5) Deut. 17: 18-20 Long Living Kings Live By God’s Law

## Slide 10) Part 1) Deut. 17: 1 Imperfect Offerings & Idol Worship Insult God

Leviticus 22:20 (NIV) Do not bring anything with a defect, because it will not be accepted on your behalf.

**Slide 11) Deut 17:1 Only Stainless Sacrifices Are Acceptable**

<sup>1</sup>“You shall not sacrifice to the LORD your God an ox or a sheep in which is a blemish, any defect whatever, for that is an abomination to the LORD your God.

**Sacrifice = Make An OFFERING**

**Blemish = Stain, Marked With a DEFORMITY.**

**Abomination = Disgusting & Abhorrent REPULSIVE to God (arousing revulsion or strong indignation), which also is God’s reaction to idol worship.**

That which is an abomination to God can be evil doctrines from which spring forth idol worship, and practices, which are moral defilements, (Bad company corrupts good character. 2 Cor. 15:33)

### **Webster's 1828 Offering:**

**OFFERING**, noun That which is presented in divine service; an animal or a portion of bread or corn, or of gold and silver, or other valuable articles, presented to God as an atonement for sin, or as a return of thanks for his favors, or for other religious purpose; a sacrifice; an oblation. In the Mosaic economy, there were burnt-offerings, sin-offerings, peace-offerings, trespass-offerings, thank-offerings, wave-offerings, and wood-offerings. Pagan nations also present offerings to their deities. Christ by the offering of himself has superseded the use of all other offerings, having made atonement for all men.

### **Slide 12) Deut 17:1 Only Stainless Sacrifices Are Acceptable**

**Offerings (Webster's 1828) Are Presented to God as a [Temporary] Atonement for Sin, or as a Response of Thanks for his Favors, or for Other Religious Purpose;**

**Burnt-Offerings** = Ex 40:20, Lev 1:6, 3:5, 5:7, 6:9, 7:8, 16:24, Num 28: 10 & 23, Num 29:6

**Drink-Offerings** = Num 15:24

**Free Will—Offerings** = Xxx Eek 46:12

**Sin-Offerings** = Lev 4:3, 14, 4:28, 5:6, 6:25, 7:37, 9:7, 15, Num 6:14, 15:25, 18:9, 29:11,16, 2Chron 29:24, Ezra 8:35, Heb 7:27, 10:8

**Peace-Offerings** = Exodus 32:6, Lev 3:1, 7:29, 22:21, 1Sam 13:9, 2Sam 24:25, 1Chron 21:26, 2Chron 29:35, 1Kings 9:25,

**Trespass-Offerings** = Xxx

**Thank-Offerings** = Xxx

**Wave-Offerings** = Xxx

### **Slide 13) Eph. 4: 8-10 Abraham's Bosom The Place Of Remission But Not Redemption**

<sup>8</sup>Therefore it says, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men."<sup>a</sup>

<sup>9</sup>(In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth?<sup>b</sup> <sup>10</sup>He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) Luke 16: 19-31

1. In the O.T. you were given the moral law, and the ceremonial law of sacrifices since we couldn't keep the moral law.
2. Luke 16: 19-31 explains that when someone died during O.T. times, you either went to Hades, a place of torment and fire, or To Abraham's Bosom, which was a place of comfort. Under the O.T. ceremonial law you could obtain Remission, not Redemption! You didn't go to Heaven, because Christ had not yet made the one time, all-atoning sacrifice for sin.
3. Christ is buried and descends per 1 Peter 3:19 By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison;

### **Christ Is The Mediator of The New Covenant That Provides Redemption Through His Blood**

Heb. 9: 11- 15 Redemption Through the Blood of Christ

<sup>11</sup>But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, <sup>e</sup>then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) <sup>12</sup>he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. <sup>13</sup>For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, <sup>14</sup>how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

<sup>15</sup>Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant

**(Some Are Resurrected To Comfort – Others To Torment)**

**Slide Xx) Part 2) Deut. 17: 2-7 God Demands Corporal Punishment for Crossing 10 Commandments 1 & 2**

**Rev 21:8 the cowardly, faithless, detestable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars ... will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, ...the second death."**

Rev 21:8 8But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death."

**Cowardly** = a person who loses their "moral gumption (fortitude)" that is needed to follow the Lord.

**Slide 15) Deuteronomy 17: 2-4 (ESV)**

**Deut 17: 2-4 – God Defines**

**The Ultimate Evil As "Wrong Worship"**

**Evil in the sight of the LORD is transgressing his covenant by failing to worship the TRINITY**

2"If there is found among you, within any of your towns that the LORD your God is giving you, a man or woman who does what is evil in the sight of the LORD your God, in transgressing his covenant, 3and has gone and **served other gods and worshiped them**, or the sun or the moon or any of the host of heaven, which I have forbidden, 4and it is told you and you hear of it, then you shall inquire diligently, and if it is true and certain that such an abomination has been done in Israel,

**Transgress** = 1) cross over & **ALIENATE** God, 3) become invalid, obsolete, of law 4) be alienated, pass into other hands [of the enemy] 5) devote children to (b) heathen god — as children will do what you do, not necessarily what we say. 5) be arrogant, put oneself in a fury, 6) turn away

Covenant = treaty, alliance, league: constitution, a compact, ordinance, between monarch and subjects: agreement, pledge between God and man

Serve — as in other gods, has the connotation you are laboring after to place yourself in **BONDAGE** to it, and making yourself a **SUBJECT** to it.

Romans 1:25 because **they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator**, who is blessed forever! Amen.

If the Holy Spirit wrote the Bible and inspires worshipping the Trinity: God, Jesus, Holy Spirit, then **Satan** inspires worship of everything else!

Host of Heaven = the entire creation vs. The Creator!

Matthew Henry's Concise Commentary

17:1-7 No creature which had any blemish was to be offered in sacrifice to God. We are thus called to remember the perfect, pure, and spotless sacrifice of Christ, and reminded to serve God with the best of our abilities, time, and possession, or our pretended obedience will be hateful to him. So great a punishment as death, so remarkable a death as stoning, must be inflicted on the Jewish idolater. Let all who in our day set up idols in their hearts, remember how God punished this crime in Israel.

Acts 7:58 They stoned Stephen supposing him to be an idol worshipper for being a disciple of Christ.

Acts 6:13

where they presented false witnesses who said, "This man never stops speaking against this holy place and against the law.

Matthew 12:30 He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me ...

... "Whoever is not with me is against me, and ... . "Anyone who is not for me is really against me ... anyone who does not help me gather is really scattering. Anyone ...

<https://biblehub.com/matthew/12-30.htm>

Luke 11:23 He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me ...

#### Jamieson-Fausset-Brown Bible Commentary

De 17:2-7. Idolaters Must Be Slain.

2-7. If there be found among you ... man or woman, that hath wrought wickedness—The grand object contemplated in choosing Israel was to preserve the knowledge and worship of the one true God; and hence idolatry of any kind, whether of the heavenly bodies or in some grosser form, is called "a transgression of His covenant." No rank or sex could palliate this crime. Every reported case, even a flying rumor of the perpetration of so heinous an offense, was to be judicially examined; and if proved by the testimony of competent witnesses, the offender was to be taken without the gates and stoned to death, the witnesses casting the first stone at him. The object of this special arrangement was partly to deter the witnesses from making a rash accusation by the prominent part they had to act as executioners, and partly to give a public assurance that the crime had met its due punishment.

2 Kings 21:3 NLT He rebuilt the pagan shrines his father, Hezekiah, had destroyed. He constructed altars for Baal and set up an Asherah pole, just as King Ahab of Israel had done. He also bowed before all the powers of the heavens and worshiped them.

2 Kings 21:3 ESV For he rebuilt the high places that Hezekiah his father had destroyed, and he erected altars for Baal and made an Asherah, as Ahab king of Israel had done, and worshiped all the host of heaven and served them.

2 Kings 21:3 KJB For he built up again the high places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed; and he reared up altars for Baal, and made a grove, as did Ahab king of Israel; and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served them.

#### Barnes' Notes on the Bible

The first step in the re-establishment of idolatry seems to have been the restoration of the high places where Yahweh was professedly worshipped 2 Kings 18:22, but with idolatrous rites 1 Kings 14:23. The next was to re-introduce the favorite idolatry of Israel, Baal-worship, which had formerly flourished in Judaea under Athaliah 2 Kings 11:18, and Ahaz 2 Chronicles 28:2. After this, Manasseh seems to have especially affected Sabaism, which had been previously unknown in Judaea (compare 2 Kings 17:16 and note).

Worshipped all the host of heaven - Sabaism, or pure star-worship, without images, and without astrological superstitions, included a reverence for the sun, the moon, the chief stars, and the twelve signs of the Zodiac (2 Kings 23:5 note). The main worship was by altars, on which incense was burned Jeremiah 19:13. These altars were placed either upon the ground 2 Kings 21:5, or upon the house-tops 2 Kings 23:12; Zephaniah 1:5. The sun was worshipped with the face toward the east Ezekiel 8:16; chariots and horses were dedicated to him 2 Kings 23:11. The star-worship of the Jews has far more the character of an Arabian than an Assyrian or Chaldaean cult. It obtained its hold at a time when Assyria and Babylonia had but little communication with Judaea - i. e., during the reign of Manasseh. It crept in probably from the same quarter as the Molech worship, with which it is here (and in 2 Chronicles 33:3-6) conjoined.

#### Jamieson-Fausset-Brown Bible Commentary

CHAPTER 21

2Ki 21:1-18. Manasseh's Wicked Reign, and Great Idolatry.

1-3. Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign— He must have been born three years after his father's recovery;

and his minority, spent under the influence of guardians who were hostile to the religious principles and reforming policy of his father, may account in part for the anti-theocratic principles of his reign. **The work of religious reformation which Hezekiah had zealously carried on was but partially accomplished. There was little appearance of its influence on the heart and manners of the people at large. On the contrary, the true fear of God had vanished from the mass of the people; corruption and vice increased, and were openly practised (Isa 28:7, &c.) by the degenerate leaders, who, having got the young prince Manasseh into their power, directed his education, trained him up in their views, and seduced him into the open patronage of idolatry. Hence, when he became sovereign, he introduced the worship of idols, the restoration of high places, and the erection of altars or pillars to Baal, and the placing, in the temple of God itself, a graven image of Asherah, the sacred or symbolic tree, which represented "all the host of heaven."** This was not idolatry, but pure star-worship, of Chaldaic and Assyrian origin [Keil]. The sun, as among the Persians, had chariots and horses consecrated to it (2Ki 23:11); and incense was offered to the stars on the housetops (2Ki 23:12; 2Ch 33:5; Jer 19:13; Zep 1:5), and in the temple area with the face turned toward the sunrise (Eze 8:16).

Deuteronomy 4:19 — And beware lest you raise your eyes to heaven, and when you see the sun and the moon and the stars, all the host of heaven, you be drawn away and bow down to them and serve them, things that the LORD your God has allotted to all the peoples under the whole heaven.

Which the Lord thy God hath divided unto all nations.--The heavenly bodies could never be regarded as special protectors of any one nation. But Jehovah was pledged to be the God of Israel. This appears to be the argument of Deuteronomy 4:19-20. Slide x) xxx

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**(Slide 16) Polytheistic Idol Worship = Ascribing the Characteristics of the TRINITY to to Things That Are NOT the Trinity**

Gen 1:1 the **SPIRIT** of God was hovering over the face of the waters. 26Then God said, "Let **US** make man in **OUR** image,

John 1:1-3 1 In the beginning was the **WORD (JESUS, the Word in the FLESH)**, and the Word was with God, and the Word **WAS** God. 2He was in the beginning with God. 3All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

Acts 17:24 The **GOD** who **MADE** the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man,

Romans 1:22 - 27 Polytheism / Idol Worship Exchanges The **Glor**y of God for the **gory behaviors** of the created things, animals, bugs, natural phenomenon, weather, the sun, moon, stars etc...

Romans 1:22 - 27 22Claiming to be wise, they became fools, 23and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things. 24Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, 25because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen. 26For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; 27and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.

**(Slide 17) The God Of The Bible Reveals Himself  
As A Holy Trinity “God In Three Persons, Blessed Trinity”**

**Matt 3:16-17, Mark 1:9-11, Luke 3:21-22,**

**Luke 3:21-22** 21... and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, 22and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son;c with you I am well pleased.”

**Matt 3:16-17** 16And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him,c and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; 17and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved son,d with whom I am well pleased.”

**Mark 1:9-11** 9In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. 11And a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son;d with you I am well pleased.”

**Slide 18) Deuteronomy 17: 5-7 (ESV)  
2-3 Witnesses Are Required & Responsible To Administer  
Corporal Punishment**

5then you shall bring out to your gates that man or woman who has done this evil thing, and you shall stone that man or woman to death with stones. 6On the evidence of two witnesses or of three witnesses the one who is to die shall be put to death; a person shall not be put to death on the evidence of one witness. 7The hand of the witnesses shall be first against him to put him to death, and afterward the hand of all the people. So you shall purge the evil from your midst.

To fulfill the mandate in Deut 17:2-7, to bring charges against one: “who does what is evil in the sight of the LORD your God, in transgressing his covenant, requires ...

- a) knowing God’s commands
- b) respecting God’s commands
- c) being committed to God’s commands
- d) understanding the things the commandments tell us not to worship,

**Slide 19) Deut. 17: 6 2 or More Witnesses Provide Evidence**

6On the evidence of two witnesses or of three witnesses the one who is to die shall be put to death; a person shall not be put to death on the evidence of one witness

**A witness provides verbal Testimony (DECLARATION or affirmation to establish or prove a FACT) Is Evidence**

**A Witness is one who ...**

- a) has first-hand knowledge (not second-hand gossip)
- b) gives verbal testimony to prove something that is binding = secures an obligation that cannot be broken! Has life & death consequences! Our testimony of Christ having worked in us to be born again has consequences of eternal life
- c) operates under Ten Commandment 9, not to bear false witness
- d) was to put stone throwing action behind what his/her mouth confesses

**We are witnesses for Christ.**

God accepts our verbal testimony is evidence of our faith. John 3:16, Romans 10:9

John 3:16 - When we profess that we believe, God accepts that as the evidence/proof required for us to enter into His salvation.

Romans 10:9 because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Webster’s 1828 **Witness**

WITNESS, noun

1. Testimony; attestation of a fact or event.



a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” 7So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” 8and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

*If we **FALL** before Christ in repentance we get **BROKEN** of flesh & sin. If Christ falls on us in judgement, we get **CRUSHED!!!***

Lyrics from Michael Card’s Song: “The Scandalon” (Christ the Scandalous One)

**The seers & the prophets had foretold it long ago that the long awaited one would make men stumble.**

**He would be the Truth and would offend them one and all.**

**A stone that makes men stumble and a rock that makes men fall.**

**And many will be broken So He can make them whole**

**And many will be crushed And lose their own soul**

Romans 9:33 , “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

Isaiah 8:14 And he will become a sanctuary and a stone of offense and a rock of stumbling to both houses of Israel, a trap and a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

### **1 Peter 2:8**

#### **New International Version**

and, “A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

#### **New Living Translation**

And, “He is the stone that makes people stumble, the rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they do not obey

God’s word, and so they meet the fate that was planned for them.

#### **English Standard Version**

and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

#### **Berean Standard Bible**

and, “A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the word—and to this they were appointed.

#### **Berean Literal Bible**

and, “A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense.” They stumble at being disobedient to the word, to which also they were appointed.

#### **King James Bible**

And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.

#### **New King James Version**

and “A stone of stumbling And a rock of offense.” They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed.

#### **New American Standard Bible**

and, “A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE”; for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to this they were also appointed.

#### **NASB 1995**

and, “A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE”; for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to this doom they were also appointed.

#### **NASB 1977**

and, “A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE”;for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to this doom they were also appointed.

#### **Amplified Bible**

and, "A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE"; for they stumble because they disobey the word [of God], and to this they [who reject Him as Savior] were also appointed.

#### **Christian Standard Bible**

and A stone to stumble over, and a rock to trip over. They stumble because they disobey the word; they were destined for this.

#### **Holman Christian Standard Bible**

and A stone to stumble over, and a rock to trip over. They stumble because they disobey the message; they were destined for this.

#### **American Standard Version**

and, A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence; for they stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.

#### **Aramaic Bible in Plain English**

He is a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense, and they stumble on it, in that they do not obey the word, for they are appointed to this.

#### **Contemporary English Version**

They disobeyed the message and stumbled and fell over this stone, because they were doomed.

#### **Douay-Rheims Bible**

And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of scandal, to them who stumble at the word, neither do believe, whereunto also they are set.

#### **Good News Translation**

And another scripture says, "This is the stone that will make people stumble, the rock that will make them fall." They stumbled because they did not believe in the word; such was God's will for them.

#### **International Standard Version**

a stone they stumble over and a rock they trip on." They keep on stumbling because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

#### **Literal Standard Version**

and a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense—who are stumbling at the word, being unbelieving—to which they were also set.

#### **New American Bible**

and "A stone that will make people stumble, and a rock that will make them fall." They stumble by disobeying the word, as is their destiny.

#### **NET Bible**

and a stumbling-stone and a rock to trip over. They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

#### **New Revised Standard Version**

and "A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

#### **New Heart English Bible**

and, "a stone to stumble over, and a rock to trip over." For they stumble at the word, being disobedient, to which also they were appointed.

#### **Weymouth New Testament**

and "a Stone for the foot to strike against, and a Rock to stumble over." Their foot strikes against it because they are disobedient to God's Message, and to this they were appointed.

#### **World English Bible**

and, "a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense." For they stumble at the word, being disobedient, to which also they were appointed.

#### **Young's Literal Translation**

and a stone of stumbling and a rock of offence -- who are stumbling at the word, being unbelieving, -- to which also they were set;

Additional Translations ...

Context

**The Living Stone**

...7To you who believe, then, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, "The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," 8and, "A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense." They stumble because they disobey the word — and to this they were appointed. 9But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, to proclaim the virtues of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light....

Berean Standard Bible · Download

### Cross References

Isaiah 8:14

And He will be a sanctuary--but to both houses of Israel a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense, to the dwellers of Jerusalem a trap and a snare.

Isaiah 37:26

Have you not heard? Long ago I ordained it; in days of old I planned it. Now I have brought it to pass, that you should crush fortified cities into piles of rubble.

Luke 2:34

Then Simeon blessed them and said to His mother Mary: "Behold, this Child is appointed to cause the rise and fall of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against,

Romans 9:22

What if God, intending to show His wrath and make His power known, bore with great patience the vessels of His wrath, prepared for destruction?

Romans 9:32

Why not? Because their pursuit was not by faith, but as if it were by works. They stumbled over the stumbling stone,

1 Corinthians 1:23

but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,

Galatians 5:11

Now, brothers, if I am still preaching circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been abolished.

### Treasury of Scripture

And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.

a stone.

Isaiah 8:14

And he shall be for a sanctuary; but for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

Isaiah 57:14

And shall say, Cast ye up, cast ye up, prepare the way, take up the stumblingblock out of the way of my people.

Luke 2:34

And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother, Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against;

being.

1 Peter 2:7

Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,

whereunto.

Exodus 9:16

And in very deed for this cause have I raised thee up, for to shew in thee my power; and that my name may be declared throughout all the earth.

Romans 9:22

What if God, willing to shew his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction:

1 Thessalonians 5:9

For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

### **Ellicott's Commentary for English Readers**

(8) And a stone of stumbling and a rock of offence.--Another quotation, no doubt suggested by the word "a stone," but conveying a totally different metaphor. Here there is no thought whatever of the stone as a material for building; the thought is that of a mass of rock on the road, on which the terror-stricken fugitives stumble and fall. The words are taken from Isaiah 8:14, and are translated directly from the Hebrew. The LXX. not only makes nonsense, but can again be hardly acquitted of "guile" (1Peter 2:1) in its endeavour to make out the best possible case for Israel by deliberately inserting the word "not" twice over. We shall find St. Peter in 1Peter 3:14 quoting the verses which immediately precede our present citation, and again the point lies in the context. The words are no mere phrase hastily caught up to serve the turn. They come out of the great Immanuel section of Isaiah, and immediately involve, like the quotation in 1Peter 2:6, the sharp contrast between the Jews who trust in Immanuel (the presence of God with Israel) and the Jews who do not, but rely on "confederacies." To the one party, the Lord of Hosts will be "for a sanctuary;" but to the other party, who are described as "both houses of Israel," and specially as the "inhabitant of Jerusalem," He will be "for a stone of striking, and for a rock of stumbling over," and also "for a snare." The "sanctuary" does not seem to mean a temple

(though this would connect it with the preceding words of St. Peter), but rather such a "sanctuary" as that of Bethel (Genesis 28:18), a consecrated stone to which a man might flee as an asylum. In the flight of terror before the face of the Assyrians the very stone which afforded right of sanctuary to those who recognised and trusted it, was a vexatious and dangerous obstacle, a trap full in the way to those who did not. Once more, therefore, the Hebrews of the Dispersion, in separating themselves from "both houses of Israel" and the "inhabitant of Jerusalem," were obeying the warnings of the Immanuel prophecy, which every Hebrew recognised as Messianic. Though the coupling of these passages of the Old Testament together certainly seems to show traces of the influence of St. Paul (comp. Romans 9:32-33), yet St. Peter must have been present and heard "the Lord of Hosts" Himself put them together (Luke 20:17-18), and probably St. Paul's use of the passages is itself to be traced back to the same origin. . . .

### **Pulpit Commentary**

Verse 8. - And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense. St. Peter combines Isaiah 8:14 with his first quotations, as St. Paul also does (Rom. 9:33), both apostles quoting from the Hebrew, not from the Septuagint, which is quite different, inserting two negatives. The living Stone is not only made the Head of the corner to the confusion of the disobedient, but becomes also to their destruction a Stone of stumbling; they fall on that Stone, and are broken (Matthew 21:44). That Stone is a Rock (πέτρα), the Rock of Ages, the Rock on which the Church is built; but to the disobedient it is a Rock of offense (πέτρα σκανδάλου). Σκάνδαλον (in Attic Greek σκανδάληθρον) is properly the catch or spring of a trap, which makes animals fall into the trap; then a stumbling-block - anything which causes men to fall. We cannot fail to notice how St. Peter echoes the well-remembered words of our Lord, recorded in Matthew 16:18, 23. Peter was himself then a πέτρα σκανδάλου, a rock of offense. Even to them which stumble at the Word, being disobedient; literally, who being disobedient stumble at the Word - the relative referring back to "them which be disobedient" in ver. 7. This

seems better than (with Huther and others) to take τῷ λόγῳ with ἀπειθοῦντες, "who stumble, being disobedient to the Word." Ἀπειθοῦντες, literally, "unbelieving," contains here, as frequently, the idea of disobedience, willful opposition. St. Peter seems to come very near to St. John's use of Λόγος for the personal Word, the Lord Jesus Christ. Whereunto also they were appointed. "Whereunto" (εἰς ὃ) cannot refer back to ver. 5; God had appointed them to be built up in his spiritual house, but they were disobedient. It must refer either to ἀπειθοῦντες - sin is punished by sin; for sin in God's awful judgment hardens the heart; the disobedient are in danger of eternal sin (Mark 3:29, according to the two oldest manuscripts) - or, more probably, to προσκόπουσιν; it is God's ordinance that disobedience should end in stumbling; but that stumbling does not necessarily imply condemnation (see Romans 11:11). The word, the preaching of Christ crucified, was to the Jews a stumbling-block (1 Corinthians 1:23). But not all stumbled that they might fall. Nevertheless, perseverance in disobedience must end in everlasting death.

1 Peter 2:4-8 ESV 4As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, 5you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 6For it stands in Scripture:

"Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

7So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,"

8and "A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

NT Letters: 1 Peter 2:8 And a stone of stumbling (1 Pet. 1P iP i Pet)

1 Peter 2:71 Peter 2:9Top of PageTop of Page

Psalm 118:22 The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

Zechariah 4:7 Who art thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel thou shalt become a plain: and he shall bring forth the headstone thereof with shoutings, crying, Grace, grace unto it

Matthew 21:42 Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: 'The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. This is from the Lord, and it is marvelous in our eyes'?"

Luke 20:17 And he beheld them, and said, What is this then that is written, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner?

Ephesians 2:20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus Himself as the cornerstone.

**Slide 21) Part 3 Deut 17: 8-13 Superior & Supreme Courts Are a COLLABORATION of Church and State**

**Deut 17: 8-13 Superior & Supreme Courts Are A Collaboration Of Church And State**

**Not A "Separation Of Church & State"**

**John 7:24 (NAS) Do not judge by the outward appearance, but judge with righteous judgment."**

**Righteous judgement Requires God's Biblical Application to Assess Human Events**

- We can't judge righteously unless we can apply the Biblical Perspective to what is going on here on earth, whether it be between two or more people, or organizations, nations, etc...
- We have to have the the Biblical Perspective and actually ascertain the reality of what is going on in the Early Perspective.
- To judge righteously, an event or happening must be viewed from both perspectives.
- God and Jesus judge righteously, for they are omniscient & omnipresent (John 5:22 For the Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son,).
- Thus, "There are 3 sides to every story: 1) Yours, 2) Mine & 3) God's

### Slide 22) the Collaboration of Priests & Judges

#### Applies the Bible to Civics

8 "If any case arises requiring decision between one kind of homicide ..., legal right ..., or one kind of assault and another, ... within your towns that is too difficult for you, then you shall arise and go up to the place that the LORD your God will choose. 9 And you shall come to the Levitical priests and to the judge who is in office in those days, and you shall consult them, and they shall declare to you the decision. 10 Then ... you shall be careful to do according to all that they direct you.

11 According to the instructions that they give you, and according to the decision which they pronounce to you, you shall do. You shall not turn aside from the verdict that they declare to you, either to the right hand or to the left. 12 The man who acts presumptuously by not obeying the priest who stands to minister there before the LORD your God, or the judge, that man shall die. So you shall purge the evil from Israel. 13 And all the people shall hear and fear and not act presumptuously again.

11 According to the instructions that they give you, and according to the decision which they pronounce to you, you

shall do. You shall not turn aside from the verdict that they declare to you, either to the right hand or to the left. 12 The man who acts presumptuously by not obeying the priest who stands to minister there before the LORD your God, or the judge, that man shall die. So you shall purge the evil from Israel. 13 And all the people shall hear and fear and not act presumptuously again.

#### The collaboration between the Ecclesiastical Representative & Judicial expert provided for

- a) ensuring priests are as well paid as judges
- b) the judicial decision to be consistent with God's Constitution / Covenant of Commandments
- c) separation of church and state
- d) a priest to be available to perform last rights for cases involving corporal punishment

Decisions must be accepted w/o presumption (bold **DEFIANCE** & groundless **VAIN** confidence in God's favor)

### Slide 23) Part 4) Deut. 17: 14-17 Sinful Kings Are Like Quicksand to Their Societies

1 Sam 8: 10-18 <sup>11</sup>the king ... will take your sons ... thousands ... and some to plow his ground and to reap his harvest, ...

14 "When you come to the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and ... say, 'I will set a king over me, like all the nations that are around me,' 15 ... One from among your brothers you shall set as king over you. You may not put a foreigner over you, who is not your brother. 16 Only he must not acquire many horses for himself or cause the people to return to Egypt in order to acquire many horses, since the LORD has said to you, 'You shall never return that way again.' 17 And he shall not acquire many wives for himself, lest his heart turn away, nor shall he acquire for himself excessive silver and gold.

17And he shall not acquire many wives for himself, lest his heart turn away, nor shall he acquire for himself excessive silver and gold.

### **I Sam 8: 10-18 Samuel's Warning Against Kings**

10So Samuel told all the words of the LORD to the people who were asking for a king from him. 11He said, "These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen and to run before his chariots. 12And he will appoint for himself commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and some to plow his ground and to reap his harvest, and to make his implements of war and the equipment of his chariots. 13He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers. 14He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive orchards and give them to his servants. 15He will take the tenth of your grain and of your vineyards and give it to his officers and to his servants. 16He will take your male servants and female servants and the best of your young men and your donkeys, and put them to his work. 17He will take the tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his slaves. 18And in that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves, but the LORD will not answer you in that day."

- QuickSand is loose wet sand that yields easily to pressure and sucks in anything resting on or falling into it:
- Sinful Kings suck the life out of their societies
- Many horses and wives, mean more taxes must be extracted and people brought under servitude to support them.
- Solomon violated all the prohibitions in Deut 17: 14-17
- Solomon's salary contains the numbers 666
- 1 Kings 10:14 Now the weight of gold that came to Solomon in one year was 666 talents of gold, & 2 Chronicles 9:13 Now the weight of gold that came to Solomon in one year was 666 talents of gold,

**Slide 24) Deuteronomy 17: 14-17 3 Things Undo Kings**  
God wants leaders to cast aside **CARNAL** Confidence, and not

- 1) <sup>16</sup>accumulate **HORSES** in alliance with Egypt, (= "arm of flesh") since the LORD has said to you, 'You shall never return that way again.' (Is. 31:1)
- 2) <sup>17</sup>acquire a vast **HAREM** lest his heart turn away,
- 3) <sup>17</sup>nor acquire **HUGE** accumulations of silver and gold, precious metals, as much for ostentation as for either luxury

Isaiah 31:1 Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help and rely on horses, who trust in chariots because they are many and in horsemen because they are very strong, but do not look to the Holy One of Israel or consult the LORD!

**Slide 25) Part 5) Deut. 17: 18-20 Long Living Kings Live by God's Law**

**The King Shall Write & Memorize God's Law  
Not Want More Wives & Money**

18"And when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write for himself in a book a copy of this law, approved by the Levitical priests.

**Deut 6: 6These Words That I Command You ... Shall Be On Your Heart. 8You Shall Bind Them ... On Your Hand, ...And Between Your Eyes. 9You Shall Write Them On The Doorposts Of Your House And On Your Gates.**

Deut 6: 4-8 4"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. 5You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. 6And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. 7You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and

when you lie down, and when you rise. 8You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 9You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

### **The Longevity Of The King & His Line Is Linked To Heartfelt Humble Law Keeping**

#### **The King's Longevity Is Linked To Heartfelt Law Keeping**

19And it shall be with him, and he shall read in it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God by keeping all the words of this law and these statutes, and doing them, 20that his heart may not be lifted up above his brothers, and that he may not turn aside from the commandment, either to the right hand or to the left, so that he may continue long in his kingdom, he and his children, in Israel.

17And he shall not acquire many wives for himself, lest his heart turn away, nor shall he acquire for himself excessive silver and gold.

### **Slide 26) Deut 17: 18“and When He Sits on the Throne of his Kingdom, He Shall Write for Himself in a Book a Copy of This Law, Approved by the Levitical Priests.**

19And it shall be with him, and he shall read in it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God by keeping all the words of this law and these statutes, and doing them, 20that his heart may not be lifted up above his brothers, and that he may not turn aside from the commandment, either to the right hand or to the left, so that he may continue long in his kingdom, he and his children, in Israel.

### **Leaders Must Rule by Relying God's Laws.**

- <sup>18</sup>Writing the law is a way to the **LEARN** Law.
- the king must **LEAN** upon the Levites to learn how to apply the law.

- The king must not let his heart get **LIFTED** up with Pride, but must Fear the Lord  
**Kings last longer by leaning on the Lord!**

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**Slide X) Xxx**

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**Slide X) Xxx**

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**X**

**Slide X) Xxx**

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**Slide Xx) Let's Pray 1**

Lord, we thank you for your amazing word that teaches us how to worship You in Spirit and in truth!

Give us grace to walk in obedience to your will. Give us the mind of Christ to serve you, according to Your will.

Confirm and Comfort us with Your Presence, and make us more than conquerors, through Christ Jesus, who loves us! Use us to

serve you for the salvation of souls and restoring our beloved USA to once again submit to You!

In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen!.



**Anne's LCF Opening 6-4-24**

Welcome to LCF on this sunny Saturday evening! We are glad you are joining us to worship the God of the Bible, and our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

Tonight we continue our series "Investigating The Insights of Isaiah, and will see in chapter 63 that for both us and Israel that What God starts in and through us us by grace only can be maintained by us resting in God's grace.

Before we worship in God's Word, let's turn our hearts to prayer, and then worship in song!

**Suggested Prayer:**

Lord, we come before You in Jesus's name, and we turn this service over to You. Please meet each of us in worship tonight and speak to our hearts from Your Word. Build us up and grow us in Christ, through this service we pray.

And all God's people say, Amen!



**Mark's Introduction To Today's Scripture Reading**

Tonight we continue our series "Investigating The Insights of Isaiah, and will be in chapter 63, with a message about "What God Starts In Grace Must Be Maintained By Us Relying Upon And Resting In God's Grace."

Before Pastor Earl lead us through Isaiah 63, let's read its 18 verses together from the slides on the screen.

As we read today's Scripture slides, I'll read the slide headers, and then we'll read the passages together.

