

RESPONSE TO AUTHORITY

The issue of government is one of the most important issues there is. Government has the ability to take a mass of people and unite them into one. It has the ability to bring chaos into harmony, disorder into order. Government has the ability to empower and equip individuals to perform their maximum, even to perform far more than what they could as separate individuals. If one could put a thousand to flight and two ten-thousand, how many more could five or fifty or five-thousand or fifty-thousand put to flight? But the critical element is the uniting factor of government.

Government is to become like God, and this is not meant to be negative. When Yahweh looked down on the sons of men who had built the tower of Babel, He said – “Behold, they are one people, and they all have one language. And this is what they began to do, and now nothing which they purpose to do will be impossible for them” (Genesis 11:6). Their becoming one made them effective to the point that Yahweh said that nothing would be impossible with them. It is said that nothing is impossible with Yahweh (Mark 10:27, Luke 1:37), and the people of Babylon were approaching that same ability. Significantly, this is the same ability promised to those who by faith move the mount of transfiguration – “nothing shall be impossible to you” (Matthew 17:20).

Frankly, this is Yahweh’s goal for man, but not as flesh man who reaches up to God but is earth-based like the tower of Babel, but it is to be accomplished when man becomes one with Him. As Yahshua said – “If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it shall be done for you” (John 15:7). This is oneness. Then He adds – “By this is My Father glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples” (vs. 8). But the oneness here is brought about by government – He is the master and we are His disciples.

In this writing we are going to address the matter of responding to government. It would be much simpler if we only had one government to respond to, but the fact is there are quite a number of governments that effect “dominion” over our lives. There is civil government, including federal, state, and local. There is the government of the home and the government of the church, the kingdom of God. Then there are other governments as well. There is the government of our job and the government of organizations and clubs of which we become members. These are all governments that unite us with others and make us one with them. These governments bring order and purpose and effectual results in our lives. But how is it that we can indeed relate to all of these, what we will call, **collateral governments**? This question is the subject of this writing.

The word “collateral” means “situated or placed side by side (with one another); running side by side, accompanying.” It is like unto parallel. But there is one important difference between “collateral” and “parallel.” Parallel is two things that run side by side but never meet. This is

not true with something that is collateral. In this case the two may overlap each other, and when it comes to a response to collateral governments, this is when confusion can arise.

One of the purposes of this writing is to address the matter of how we can respond to the collateral governments of the home and the church, the kingdom of heaven, or frankly any government that collaterally overlaps with the kingdom of heaven.

To do this, we first have to see how Yahweh views the matter of submission, for it is submission that is at the very crux of what might arise as a conflict between two authorities. When faced with two legitimate governments, to which authority do we submit, and what are our options in doing so?

First, the ways of Yahweh are quite consistent and orderly. One of those ways is that His creations are often in threes, or one could say in trinities. To begin with, He Himself is a trinity – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. He created man as a trinity as well – spirit, soul, and body. And even each of these areas are trinities. The soul is – the mind, the will, and the emotions. And there is the trinity of faith – hearing, believing, and acting. Even as a man is dead when his body ceases to function, so faith is dead when hearing and believing are not followed by acting.

There is the trinity of the word of God, the Scriptures, or even His direct word to us. The word of God is – prophesy, government, and practical. And there is certainly a like trinity in submission.

The trinity of submission is – **authority, honor, and obedience**. And it is in considering this trinity that we can begin to understand how it is that we submit to collateral governments when they overlap. To understand this, we will consider what will be a most revealing example from the Scriptures – Joseph. By going through this example, as well as others, you will begin to understand each of these three parts.

Joseph was delivered into Egypt by the evil actions of his brothers; but, we read that Yahweh intended this evil for good. Following thirteen years of servitude, he was elevated to being in charge of all Egypt under Pharaoh. Thus, the realm of Joseph's authority was all Egypt, as he himself served Pharaoh.

After two years his father and brothers and their families came to Egypt to escape a drought. It is here that we begin to see collateral governments. On the one hand, there existed the government of the home. The father, Jacob, was the head of the home; even though his sons were all grown men, he was still the home's head. The other government was Egypt, and this was the government that Jacob's family came under in order to escape the drought.

So what would happen if Jacob went to his son, Joseph, and directed him to take certain actions in Egypt? Joseph is commanded by Yahweh to obey his father; so given that command, if it was in truth in total, then Jacob could become the actual head of all Egypt. But here is an important error in that. These two governments are collateral governments; they each exist beside each other, but they have different heads, different structures, and different realms of authority.

There is no question that Jacob had ultimate authority in his home, but his home was the extent of that authority. The government of Egypt was a separate authority, and Joseph was obligated to submit to that authority as well and to serve in that authority for the best of Egypt and in his faithfulness to Pharaoh. And in reality, Jacob was actually even under Joseph when it came to his residence in Egypt. So if Jacob had come to Joseph and requested something per Egypt, he would have then stepped outside of his own realm of authority.

From Joseph's standpoint, he would have two authorities to deal with – his father and Pharaoh. If Jacob's request was per the family, then Joseph would have been obligated to listen to and even obey his father, even though civilly he was over him. However, if Jacob's request was per Egypt, he would have been obligated to serve the best interests of Egypt. The family and Egypt were two realms of authority, and Joseph would have to respond appropriately as a man under those two distinct realms.

So what would Joseph do if his father's request was not in the best interests of Egypt? His father was an authority in his life, but so was Pharaoh. And since his father's request was relative to his responsibilities in Egypt, he could not simply do what his father wanted in this specific occasion. Thus, Joseph might seek to honor (the second part of the trinity of submission) his father in some other way. First, he might acknowledge his father's rightful place and even praise him for the way he had fulfilled that role and express his gratitude. He might even discuss with him his request and help him see how he could not do what he asked, something that he would not do for just anyone, especially someone under his authority. To honor his father, he might even try to come to a compromise position, something that would work for both Egypt and his family. This might even be Yahweh's way to effect something in Egypt that was for the good of Egypt. Yahweh would use Joseph's collateral authority, his father, for Egypt's good. Somehow Joseph, while not being able to obey his father, Jacob, could yet honor him in his place as a collateral authority in his life.

The other option is that Jacob could choose to obey his father. But in his role as head of Egypt, he could only do so if it was consistent with the good of Egypt.

Thus we see relative to this matter of submission the presence of authority, and the two options relative to our response to it – to honor it and to obey it. And it is this matter of collateral authority that not only demands a separation of one's actions per each of the areas of authority, but also can alter how one might have to respond to one authority per another authority. Let us examine another example so we can better understand this.

In the relationship of a man and his wife, the wife is clearly under the authority of her husband when it comes to the family. But let us say that the husband wants the wife to do something that is civilly wrong. For example, let us say he wants her to falsify some records or, to take an extreme, he wants her to kill someone. Since the woman is under the authority of her husband, and Ephesians 5:24 says that she is to obey her husband "in everything," is she then obligated to obey him and break civil law, and even God's law? The answer to this question once again comes back to the issue of one's realm of authority and collateral governments. There is no question that if the husband asked the wife to do something that did not violate collateral governments, she would be obligated to fully obey. This is within the realm of his authority.

But if she is asked to do something that exceeds the realm of his authority and violates another authority, then she too has to consider how, based on the other two parts of submission, she can respond to her authority, her husband. Like our example in Joseph, she too could seek to yet honor her husband, but would not be able to obey him, for she would then be liable for violating a collateral authority/government that she is equally obligated to obey – the civil government or even the law of God. Here again her option could be to seek to honor her husband, but still obey the other authority. And who knows, maybe it would save or bring conviction upon her husband.

But let us take another situation here that is not so clear-cut or evident. Let's say the wife is a believer and her husband is not, and let's say the wife wants to go and have fellowship with other believers or study their teachings and the husband does not want it. So what is she to do? This one is not as clear-cut and brings out another important consideration/application of this trinity. On the one hand the husband definitely has authority over his wife; but on the other hand the wife is seeking to find her place within a collateral government – the kingdom of heaven. What is she to do?

Of course she can seek to honor her husband, as she should, and appeal to him. But if she chooses to not obey him on this, she can only do so IF the Authority per the kingdom of heaven directs her not to. Her husband is her head, and Yahweh might tell her to obey him. But Yahweh also has the right to direct otherwise, and as much as she would have to submit to civil authority, she would have to submit to Yahweh's authority as well. The difference in these two authorities though is that civil government does not operate on the principle of faith, and Yahweh does. Frankly, there is no pat answer in this situation and it all depends on how He directs the woman, what she has the faith to do. Again, faith is hearing, believing, and acting. But, she has both options available per this particular matter – to obey him or not to obey him – for once again we are talking about two collateral governments – the home and the kingdom of heaven. But remember ladies, submission to your husband even when he is wrong has the ability to convert him (1 Peter 3:1-2), and most importantly makes him responsible before Yahweh.

Furthermore, don't look at this kind of situation, or for that matter any such situation, as an inconvenience or great obstacle, but as an opportunity to do good and to learn and walk in the ways of Yahweh. The situation may be very uncomfortable and you may not know how it is going to work out; but remember, Yahweh knew from the beginning you would be here, and you will learn to trust in Him through it. These are faith builders. Don't take things personal, but let this be your guide – “Therefore, let those also who suffer according to the will of God entrust their souls to a faithful Creator **in doing what is right**”(1 Peter 4:19). This is an excellent verse to always remember.

Now let us look at another aspect of this matter of response to authority. I will use some personal examples to address this. We read here – “in doing what is right.” So like Pilate asked – What is right, what is truth in a matter? One of the ways to know is to understand the ways and the government of Yahweh. What you are reading here will hopefully provide you understanding regarding His ways. This is certainly not an attempt to just provide you something that is purely intellectual, but something living, something that takes root in you and continues to grow from your heart.

It is absolutely impossible to try to put yourself in God's place and figure out what He would do. But one thing He has given us is His government, and that is unchangeable structure. So when we see government, and if that government is being violated, one can have the confidence that something is amiss. Emotions are not reliable, popular opinions are not reliable, personal desires are not reliable, but government is reliable. (That is what courts are all about. They take you back to the law, to structure, to government.) Let us examine a real-life example of this – my family.

For the sake of her physical wellbeing, I sent my second daughter, Rebekah, to live with a Christian family where she was going to work for them in their home. The wife had had cancer and was recovering, and they had a daughter as well. I let her go based on two requirements: (1) the government of our home was to hold all things in common, and, at her offer, she would honor that government, and (2) if I ever called her back home she would come. Most certainly she agreed to these, for they were truths and principles that we all embraced as a family.

But after awhile this Christian family, the elders of her church, and friends, even mutual friends, convinced her that I was a “false prophet” and that she no longer had to keep her vows to me, and that is what she did. She refused to keep her commitments to me. (The term “vow” is used here because it is a scriptural term. One could equally say – a promise, or she gave her word, or to let your yes be yes and your no be no.) After considerable communication and even a personal trip on my part to talk with her about this, she in truth rejected me as her father and would not keep her vows to me, rejecting family government. I have not seen her since, which is almost four years at the time of this writing. Later, my wife, though supporting me at the time, came to the same position and moved out of our home, equally rejecting family government.

Now, the question is – Am I right or am I wrong in my position that both Rebekah and my wife are wrong in what they did? I can most certainly attest that if you went by emotions or popular opinion, I am definitely wrong. All of my previous Christian friends and family support my wife and daughter in their rejection of me as the head of my home. They justify it on the basis of emotions, feelings, opinions, and a compromised and distorted view of the Scriptures, and it is and has been basically motivated as a reaction to what I believe and teach. But what does government say?

Here once again we have collateral governments in operation. There is the government of the family and the government of the kingdom of heaven. To cut to the chase, my daughter (as well as my wife) is in violation of both governments. First, she made vows to her father and he has not released her from those vows. Was this within my realm of authority? Absolutely! As her father I am the one who has the right to bind or loose her vows to me (Numbers 30:2-5). Did the elders or friends have the right to loose those vows? Absolutely not! They do not have the authority as a collateral government to do so. Thus she and they violated the laws of Yahweh – they were lawless. Despite her age, which is always the argument of many, she is governmentally obligated to obeying me as her father and keeping her word.

But the argument has been raised by them that she/they can honor me but not obey me. That is OK IF there is a collateral government that justly overrules me. (This we saw with Joseph and Jacob.) But in this case this does not exist, for the government of the kingdom clearly gives me

the authority in my home and says that one is to never break one's vow (Numbers 30:2-5). So, not only is she violating the government of the home, but she is violating the government of the kingdom of God. Do their elders agree? Do their Christian supporters agree? No! But that does not make them right. They are clearly in violation of the Scriptures, but are blinded by their prejudices. They have no authority to annul my role as the head of my home, which is what they have sought to do. They seek to nullify me as a father and husband because they disagree with me. Thus, they are lawless in their actions. Though they can disagree with me, that does not give them the right or the authority to change or disregard family government. The fact is, they of all people should have honored it. But they are lawless.

Thus we see that the only time in which the two parts of this trinity of submission – honor and obedience – are separable, is when there are collateral governments and one government, especially the higher one, necessitates non-obedience to the other. Otherwise, **to honor and to obey are inseparable!** You cannot honor a father or a mother and not obey them when they instruct you in things relative to the family.

So am I right in my stance? According to the government of Yahweh I am indeed most right, and in this I, as the father, as the head of my home, take my stand.

Is my wife justified in leaving me? For her to leave me, the only way she justifiably could do so is for a collateral government to be in conflict with me. I have not violated any civil laws in my relationship with her, nor have I violated any of the laws of Yahweh, nor am I in conflict with any of His laws. The fact is she and her Christian friends disagree with me. But that is not sufficient grounds to violate Yahweh's laws. But as it is written, Yahshua said that many would call Him "Lord, Lord," but He does not know them. And what is their guilt? They are lawless (Mathew 7:21-23)! The fact is my wife and her counselors have taken a position of lawlessness. This is an inherent problem with Christianity.

Regarding my family, I take my stand on Yahweh's laws, His government. That is structure, not emotions. I take my stand in doing what is right, and not allowing them to make the government of Yahweh immaterial and mutable and we be found lawless. The government of Yahweh is a standard, it is structure, it is the sturdy branches upon which the true fruit must grow. Anyone who rejects His laws and His government rejects the good fruit, and once again chooses to make the tree in the garden a vine that crawls on its belly in the dust, even as does the serpent. They seek to once again make the tree into a vine, **reducing the laws and government of Yahweh into something that is more like unto them – creatures of this cursed earth.** I will not modify the government of the family for the sake of their sins, their rebellion, their blindness, or their Christian friends, Job's counselors.

Now that we have looked at a negative example here, and learned some important truths, let us consider two examples that are positive. Again I will refer to something personal, for frankly it is through these personal experiences that I have learned these truths.

Around 1980 Yahweh called me into the "pastorate." He clearly spoke to me at that time and said three simple words – "Move to Dallas." Immediately I placed our home on the market and the first person to look at it was a widow lady, and she wanted it at our asking price. But the

elders in the church where I fellowshiped and served did not agree with the move. So what was I to do? What would you have done? On the one hand I had the voice of Yahweh telling me to move to Dallas, but on the other hand the elders told me “no.”

There was only one option for me – I submitted to the elders. Yahweh had placed them as an authority over my life, and by submitting to them, I was submitting to Him. If they were wrong, they would be held accountable, not me. I was obeying, and they were now responsible in this matter. (Remember wives, this is true as well per your husband.) For a year we waited, and finally the elders agreed that we could go and they sent us with their blessings. Quite interestingly though, right after this the church disharmoniously split into five separate groups.

After we arrived in the Dallas area, I eventually had to get a job. Yahweh told me that He was going to teach me the death principle, something that has been a lifelong learning experience. The job was cleaning carpets.

When I applied for the job, my boss asked me to make a one year commitment to him, which I did. But in nine or ten months, a pastor friend whom I very much respected offered me a job at a church that he said was a prelude to a ministry position, which is really what I wanted. When I told my boss about the offer, he reminded me that I had made a twelve month commitment to him. I did not say another word and gave up that opportunity and continued to work for him, actually for a total of fourteen months.

So what can we see from these two situations? **In both cases my obedience and submission to authority was Yahweh’s way of establishing His timing and direction in my life.** My submission to the elders delayed our move to Dallas for one year, whereupon we once again placed the home on the market and once again it was purchased by the first person who came to look at it, and it was again a widow lady who paid what we asked. Then at the last minute Yahweh also provided a home for us near Dallas that we enjoyed for several years.

And by submitting myself to my boss and fulfilling my word to him, Yahweh kept me from another church split where my pastor friend served that took place shortly thereafter. And not only this, but that carpet cleaning job was the very thing Yahweh used to break my heart for the poor, speak to me concerning the corners of the field, and place me in the ministry that He wanted me in. Clearly, it was my submission to authority that protected me and led me to His timely provision and blessing. These two significant choices were critical Y’s in the road in my life, **and Yahweh’s way was guided by my submitting to authority and keeping my word.**

In both of these cases there was no conflict of collateral authorities. In each case I was within the realm of a sole government – the kingdom and my job. Thus, to honor meant to obey. I remember a call from a man recently who was complaining about his pastor teaching too much about tithing, and he did not agree with him. He assumed that I would agree with his criticism, but I did not. The fact is, if the pastor was calling him to tithe, then he should have tithed. Government is government, and any pastor has a right to set forth a specific government and make requests. That pastor is responsible for his actions, and will be judged for them, but so will those under his care who disregard him. Concerning all positions of authority, our regard is not for the man, but for the office and the One who established that office. As is true in the military,

you do not salute and respect the man, but you salute and respect the office! Even when the pastor is wrong, as you saw in my own example, Yahweh uses it for good.

If you find it impossible to submit to a pastor or elders, then if Yahweh so leads you, you can go to one to whom you can submit. But guard your heart and never leave a church or even come out of Christianity unless you know you have Yahweh's leading. Per the Bride, the reason we can come out of Christianity is because Yahweh calls us out – Revelation 18:4-5. We, of great necessity, leave the authority of Christianity, which is under the headship of Satan, and join ourselves to the Bride, and He legally makes the way possible. This is not rebellion, but obedience.

This is the same governmental testimony we find in Acts 5:17-42. The apostles had been Jews under the authority of that religious government, but when Yahshua restored the kingdom of heaven and made possible our entrance into it, they left Judaism and entered into that separate government. So when the angel came to them in the night while they were in jail and released them from that authority, of course they departed, for they were obeying a representative of that collateral government to which they had entered. And when the Sadducees sent officers to bring them back before them and gave them strict orders to not teach these things, the apostles appropriately replied – “We must obey God rather than men” (vs. 29).

My wife's pastor met with me and asked me to submit to a group of men what I was teaching and let them review/judge it. My reply was governmental. I said that if I was a Christian, I would do so, for elders and pastors would be my authority. However, since I am not a Christian, I not only have no responsibility to do so, but it would be wrong for me to do so. Christianity and the Remnant Bride are collateral governments, and actually Christianity will bow down to the Bride, even as did Joseph's brothers and as does the synagogue of Satan (Revelation 3:9).

Let us consider another example of the benefit of and even the covering of submitting to authority. Once my father picked me up at the airport at Tulsa, Oklahoma, and while we were there we stopped to look at some new cars. At my father's encouragement, he made arrangements for me to buy a new car. I drove it off the lot and all the way home back to Texas. But there was something wrong. I knew that car was not mine and struggled with having it. Finally I said – “If this is so right, why does it feel so wrong?” I called my father and told him how I felt and that I had to take the car back. He agreed and paid for the return flight for me after I drove the car all the way back to the Tulsa dealership, which accepted it.

I obeyed the heavenly Father in giving this car up at His urging; I would not hold onto it. But I was under the covering of my father when I did this, and He did not hold this as an error to me. Because of my obedience in this, I have never purchased a car since, and this has been the case for about thirty years. We have driven many cars since then, and some very nice ones, but they have all been given to me. Because I submitted to my father, because I submitted to Yahweh on this point and gave up that car, He has blessed me with cars.

But once again on the negative side, I have not always obeyed authority. In fact it has been my failures that have made me so sensitive to obeying. Like a good hard whipping on the back side, one does not easily forget the consequence(s) of the error.

My first failure to regard authority in my walk with Yahshua made the biggest impact on my life. When Yahweh called me to Him in 1971, shortly thereafter He laid on my heart to begin a Christian coffeehouse near the local college campus. But, I had other plans. I wanted the “security” of a college degree. My pastor at the time was working with me to start the coffeehouse, and when I told him that I was not going to run it but would only help start it, he replied – “If God’s called you to start it, He’s called you to run it.” I didn’t listen to him, and it cost me seven years of my life! I was out of Yahweh’s will for seven years, and the realization of that failure forever fixed within me the uncompromising desire to never miss Him again! And how did I miss Him? Because I was too independent and ignorant to carefully regard and submit to His ordained authority over me. Yahweh spoke to me through my pastor, but I would not listen. Yahweh speaks through authority, and even other people, and we will miss Him if we do not learn to listen, especially to authority.

When we moved after graduating from college, my father gave me some very brief counsel; he said it one time. In both cases these two men did not press me to listen to them. Like the wind gently blowing in the tops of the trees wherein Elijah heard Yahweh, they did not repeat themselves. One has to learn to listen for Yahweh, for He seldom speaks loudly. My father told me that when I went to our new location, I should not buy a home but rent. I didn’t listen to him and bought a home. So, we got what we came to call the “mouse house.” It was mice infested, scorpion infested, too little, an altogether ill experience, and to make it brief, we were absolutely miserable in that house for the year we had it before we could get back into harmony with my father’s counsel and rent. When we rented, our lives became far more fulfilling! Yahweh was teaching me to obey my father.

We did finally buy a home later with Yahweh’s blessings, and on an occasion when my father was visiting us, I laid my head in his lap and bawled like a baby, and made a solemn commitment to him that I would never see anything wrong in him. Never would I ever criticize him or fault him, though he was not a perfect man. But I would honor him. When I was very young, probably around eleven or twelve, my older brother entered into his rebellious years and I saw the hardship and sorrow that it caused my father. I made a vow then that I wanted to live my life in a way that would make my father happy. By Yahweh’s grace I never rebelled against him. I loved him and desired to honor him.

When I entered into the ministry to the poor in 1981, for eleven or twelve years I saw the hope of a sought facility for the poor come and go. One day when we were at my parents, my father expressed his concern at the amount of time that this work was taking, and I still did not have that which I was pursuing. Immediately I placed before him all the work I had put into this and told him that if he wanted me to lay it down, I would do so. But he didn’t. Right after this I was given the use of a ranch where we built a home for women and children; the fulfillment of all of those years of work finally came about. But first, I had to place it into the hands of the one who had the authority in my life to give and to take away – my own earthly father.

Like with Abraham, Yahweh used this to circumcise this work, and in so doing He fulfilled the promise. He used my earthly father to be the way I could give this long sought and yet-unfulfilled work to Him. By submitting this work to my earthly father, my heavenly Father fulfilled it.

Herein we see an example when two collateral authorities were operating in harmony, wherein Yahweh used the honoring of my earthly father in one realm, to effect His fulfillment in the heavenly kingdom realm. This was complete trust on my part that Yahweh would work through my father. This is what I have come to call my "God circle." How big is your God? If you will not allow Him to use other authority in your life to speak to you and to direct you, then you have a very small God. Your God is only as big as you. You in fact limit Him in you. But I include others in my God circle. And the more I include for Him to use to speak to me, the bigger my God becomes. No man is complete in himself, and you will never be complete until you let Him direct you through others. Open your God circle and invite others to come in, so that He can more fully express Himself in and through your life.

My father was always in my God circle. If I made an important decision that affected the family, the extended family, I went to him. My pastor and elders were in my God circle. Brothers were and are in my God circle. My boss was in my God circle. People that I serve in my work are in my God circle. I let God work through people. That makes Him bigger in my life and makes me more complete and trusting. No man is complete in himself. Who are you going to let into your God circle? If you do not let authority in, then your God is little.

As a father and husband, I recognize that there needs to be a process whereby my family can appeal to me to change my position. Likewise, the elders at the church where I was attending and serving who kept me from moving the first year, also changed their minds a year later when I appealed to them.

When my son went to college, he called me and made a request of me. But upon considering it, I denied his request. However, a week later he re-presented his request. I realized that it was more necessary for him than I first considered and granted it. The appeal process is quite viable; even our legal system has appellate courts. If a person's heart is right, an appeal is most welcomed. But there are some times when appeals must be rejected. In the existing case with Rebekah, I will not and cannot compromise the position I have had to take. I did all of my compromising up front when I was trying to save the relationship but was rejected. So at some point the rejection of an appeal simply has to be accepted. That is the nature of authority. You may not like it, but that is the way it is and that is the discretion and responsibility of authority.

In my own case I have even delayed a request just to see how much a family member really wanted it. In the Scriptures, that is called endurance. Three times Elijah told Elisha to stay behind, but he persevered on with the prophet. Eventually Elijah told Elisha – "You have asked a hard thing," but he received it! This is even the kind of endurance that Yahshua said to have when praying, the ultimate appeal process. Read Luke 11:5-10 and 18:1-8. But on the other hand, don't be a nag either, even as it warns in Proverbs 21:9 and 19 and 27:15.

There is no pat answer in this matter of an appeal versus accepting authority. If you push it hard enough, you might even get something that you later wish you did not receive. Consider Balaam. Walking with and obeying Yahweh is a learning process, a walk – one step at a time. The most important thing is to have a heart of submission and a desire to do the will of the Father, and the appeal option works itself out. If you tend to be rebellious, you probably just need to learn to submit. But the appeal process is open to the pure of heart who are truly seeking Yahweh's will.

As was said earlier, this writing is not an attempt to give you something purely intellectual, but something living, something that takes root in you and continues to grow from your heart and produce good fruit. If you are trying to figure a way out of authority, you're the very person who needs it. One who submits under authority has learned to draw a healthy God circle and is coming to know and to walk in the will of the Father.

The purpose of authority is best seen in the first instance in which it is set forth in the Scriptures – in the garden of Eden. Relative to the government of the home, we see that when Eve ate from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, Yahweh placed upon the woman both a curse and a protection. The curse was that in bearing children she would have pain. The protection was that her desire would be for her husband and he would rule over her (Genesis 3:16). Some might assign the dominion of the man over the woman as being a part of the curse, but it is not, any more than a woman having a desire for her husband is in any way a curse.

Why did the woman fail in the first place? 1 Peter 3:7 tells us that the woman is the weaker vessel. 1 Timothy 2:14 reminds us that the woman was quite deceived, while the man was not deceived. Thus in order to protect the woman, Yahweh caused her to desire her husband and placed her under his government.

Thus we see that the first ever purpose of established government was for protection, guidance, continuance in truth, and deliverance from evil. This is echoed in Hebrews 13:17 – “Obey your leaders, and submit to them; for they keep watch over your souls, as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you.”

Is government perfect? Yes, government is perfect; but man who fills those places of governing is not. But these imperfections in man do not justify throwing out Yahweh's established government. The answer to inherent failures is not to change the government, but to improve the governing. Despite the fact that there are flaws in the military, there is no way a military could effectively operate without established authority. Yahweh is the one who set up the home and the church (and for that matter civil governments – Romans 13:1-2), and the one who wants to alter that government is, once again, wanting the tree to crawl on its belly like a serpent, becoming lawless. This writer is not making a case simply for the sake of authority, but for the sake of that which is right and is proven to work.

In the last writing, [2004 Year-end Report, page 2](#), we noted that Yahweh uses evil to effect good. This is true in government as well. Recently the United States carried out attacks on two nations in order to stop an evil that was taking place. But from a standpoint of government, Yahweh used an evil – war – to accomplish good. Yahweh did not take government away from Afghanistan or Iraq, but He replaced tyrannical oppressive governments/rulers. Frankly, this is what happens when Satan is overthrown. He has been the prince of the world and has dearthed the people. Yahweh is the one who establishes and tears down governments and nations (Acts 17:25-26), and He will tear down the oppressive government of Satan.

Even in my own case, the only reason I have been able to see many of the truths that you are reading here is because of the evil that has come upon me through and by my family and Christianity. This was equally true once before when Kyle Nixon afflicted me, and out from the

rock came the waters of the writing, [Joab](#), which also deals with this matter of the government of a father. Unfortunately, Yahweh uses evil to accomplish good.

Let us emphasize again that this writing is not intended to bring one to just an intellectual formula. All of this is about learning to walk in the ways of Yahweh, and it is just that – a walk! It is learning to put one foot in front of another, one step at a time. The end in all that is presented here is one thing – to do the will of the Father, to walk in His ways. But we see that His way is formed on the framework of government.

In the latter years of my father's life, I had to do something that caused him sorrow. At Yahweh's direction, I moved my family to Washington state. He did not oppose it; in fact he helped me load the truck and even rented an additional trailer for us. But my heart was for him and I had to trust that though it would cause him temporary sorrow, in the long run it would provide him exceeding joy.

Only in pure kingdom John do we find Yahshua saying over and over that He did only the will of the Father. This needs to be our heart and will as well. Nothing should take priority over this. Nothing! In order for Yahshua to do this, as most assume, His earthly father was taken away. This prevented any possible conflict between two collateral governments – His Father and His father. Whether you do the will of the Father by obeying your father, or you do the will of the Father by honoring your father and obeying the Father, your heart should always be to do His will. And I must say, it would have broken my heart if I had ever been placed in the position of directly disobeying my father in order to have done the will of the Father. Yahweh never tested me in this, and I do not know if I could have taken it. I am certain that Yahweh molded or expressed in my life the desire to do His will and to give Him pleasure, by first placing in my life the desire to do my father's will and to give him pleasure. To have had a conflict in this would have been shattering.

Today my father is gone; I watched him take his last breath and kissed him goodbye. His last coherent words to me (he had Alzheimer's) were – "Gary, you have a beautiful face; Gary, you have a beautiful face." It was quite amazing he could have even said that, even to know my name. (This is in a writing by that title, ["Gary, you have a beautiful face."](#)) I am glad he is not here now, for he would have been deeply troubled and hurt and would not have understood at all what I have had to go through in the last few years in my life and with my family. It would have troubled me deeply and given me added sorrow. My mother has Alzheimer's as well and she too is delivered from any sorrow. The desire I had as a young boy to give my father pleasure after seeing the affects of my brother's rebellion, is now fulfilled in my desire to please my Father, to give Him pleasure. I desire to do nothing but the will of my Father. My heart longs to know Him and to walk in His ways. This is not easy as a flesh man, for we are so limited in so many ways, but my heart and my will is to do His will and to please Him.

And one of the sure ways to please Him and to follow Him is to acknowledge and walk harmoniously in collateral governments and to not be lawless, the very reason Yahshua said He would reject those who, even so, call Him "Lord, Lord" and perform works in His name. Even as His desire is that we be sanctified entirely, "spirit and soul and body" (1 Thessalonians 5:23), and that faith have its complete fulfillment, to hear, believe, and act, so let submission be

sanctified entirely and have its complete fulfillment – acknowledging authority, giving honor, and obeying.

Let us close this section by noting some revealing testimonies from the Scriptures regarding authority.

- Daniel, through the conflict of collateral governments, gave glory to Yahweh and the mouths of the lions were closed.
- Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, through the conflict of collateral governments, glorified Yahweh by being thrown into the fiery furnace and were not burned, while the fourth One walked among them.
- Yahshua became the savior of the world by submitting to a collateral government and acknowledged that the authority it had was given to it from above.
- A three year drought was brought against David and the sons of Israel because Saul did not honor the covenant that the sons of Israel had made with the Gibeonites, costing the lives of seven sons of Saul.
- Balaam's appeals to Yahweh as to whether to go with the Midianites were sincere, and though his actions were not pleasing to Yahweh, in the end because he was submitting to His authority his life was spared.
- Saul did not keep Yahweh's word to destroy all the Amalekites and all they possessed, and therefore he was rejected from being king.
- Naaman included the young servant girl and Elisha in his God circle, and was healed of his leprosy.
- The Rechabites would not drink the wine offered them by Jeremiah because their father, Rechab, had set forth that the family would not drink wine. For their faithfulness, Yahweh declared that "Rechab shall not lack a man to stand before Me always," and were an example against unfaithful Jerusalem.
- Sarah twice submitted to her husband, Abraham, and went into the house of another man, and Yahweh honored, protected, and blessed her and gave her as an example for all women to follow – 1 Peter 3:5-6.
- Because of Esther's appeal to civil authority, the Jews were delivered from death.
- Joseph proved his faithfulness by first faithfully submitting to and serving those to whom he was placed into submission – Potiphar and the jailer.
- Abigail interceded for her husband, though he was a man of folly and worthless, and because of her faithfulness was elevated to be the wife of him who was to become king.
- To save his life, David had to come out of the house of Saul, even as the Bride must come out of Christianity in order to likewise be preserved alive.

ELIJAH

There will be four more sections to this writing that each relate to this matter of government and authority – this one on the Elijah, one on a most interesting choice that one must make today, one on the issue of good and evil as it relates to responding to authority, and a final look at the Bride

and “the prophet.” What you have just read in this opening section is the core of this matter, but you will find the following sections very supportive of what we just learned.

What we will discuss now is a sober validation of the critical necessity and great relevance of authority and government, this being in the last days Elijah work. Government is critical, and we read in Acts 3:19-23 that a new collateral government will be established in these days that is as separate as the church was legally separate from Judaism. In Acts 3:19-23 we read the following declaration by Peter:

“Repent therefore and return, that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord; and that He may send Jesus, the Messiah appointed for whom heaven must receive until the period of restoration of all things, about which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from ancient time. Moses said, ‘The Lord God shall raise up for you a prophet like me from your brethren; to him you shall give heed in everything he says to you. And it shall be that every soul that does not heed that prophet shall be utterly destroyed from the people.’”

Though this was covered in [The Love of Money, page 14](#), we will review it here again. You will notice that (1) Peter begins by addressing Yahshua – “Jesus, the Messiah.” Then (2) we read that it was appointed that heaven would receive Him and He would be there “until the period of restoration of all things.” Then (3) Peter went on to describe that period that precedes Yahshua’s return – “about which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets.” One such prophet was Moses; and concerning that preceding period, Moses declared that Yahweh would “raise up for you a prophet like me from your brethren.”

Let us pause and note that the period spoken of here that precedes Yahshua’s return after His appointed time of staying in heaven (now for almost 2,000 years), is “the period of restoration of all things.” Where else do we see this stated purpose? In Matthew 17:11 and Mark 9:12 we read the words of Yahshua – “Elijah is coming and will restore all things.” This statement is made after John the Baptist was killed, and it looks to the Elijah that precedes His return. So we already see that Peter was speaking of Elijah, who restores all things and prepares the way for Yahshua’s return from heaven where He has been received.

But there is more evidence to this as well. Moses said that Yahweh would raise up “a prophet like me from your brethren.” First, James 5:17 specifically tells us that “Elijah was a man with a nature like ours.” In other words, he was a man “from your brethren.” Yahshua, though a man, was not “from your brethren.” He specifically tells us that He was from above and that we are from below. He and His Father were not of this world, like all other men (John 8:23). So whoever this prophet is to be, he cannot be the Son of God who is from above, but just a man like us.

Furthermore, when Moses said that Yahweh would raise up a prophet “like me,” who else in the Scriptures ever stood in a place like unto or opposite Moses? There was only one – Elijah! When Yahweh made the promise to Moses in Exodus 33:17-23, it was in fact Elijah who fulfilled it (1 Kings 19). And when it was time for Elijah to ascend alive into heaven, where did he go? He went to the precise place where his predecessor, Moses, went to die – near Mount

Nebo, opposite Jericho, east of the Jordan. And finally, most conclusively, who do we see on the mount of transfiguration with Yahshua with the glory of God on them? Once again we see the two alternate witnesses – Moses and Elijah!

Clearly, the one “like” Moses is none other than the one who was always identified with him – Elijah. And for clear and obvious reasons, it was Elijah who was spoken of here by Peter who would restore all things and prepare the way for Yahshua’s return from His place in heaven. Therefore, **the “prophet” is the Elijah.**

This message found here in Acts 3:19-23 is repeated and confirmed in Jeremiah 30:21 where we read:

“And their leader shall be one of them,
 And their ruler shall come forth from their midst;
 And I will bring him near, and he shall approach Me;
 For who would dare to risk his life to approach Me?” declares Yahweh.

This, once again, is the Elijah, “one of them” who “come(s) forth from their midst,” “a prophet like me from your brethren.” Read all of Jeremiah 30 to better understand this.

Now for the matter of government. What then does Moses say regarding this prophet, this Elijah? He instructs – “to him you shall give heed in everything he says to you. And it shall be that every soul that does not heed that prophet shall be utterly destroyed from the people.” What could speak more vividly concerning authority than this? This is not authority given by man, but authority from above. This is the sober warning that if one does not listen to this man who is raised up as the Elijah, they will be cut off from the people who are a part of this promised restoration of all things that prepares the way for Yahshua’s return. This authority is equally evidenced in the companion verse, Jeremiah 30:21, which speaks of “their leader,” “their ruler.”

Again, this is government. It is structure. It is a new collateral government. And the truth of the trinity of submission will never be more important. If one does not come under the government of this prophet, then he is cut off and remains in the sleeping body of Christ to be resurrected on a latter day.

CHOOSING BETWEEN THE SONS OF TWO FATHERS

There are many choices we make in life that we in no way realize how greatly significant they are. We are caught up in the moment by the things that are seen by our natural senses and processed by our natural mind, and we are totally blind to what is taking place at a higher level. The disciples could not have known the great significance that was taking place when Legion was cast, at his request, into the 2,000 swine. The apostles could not have known the great significance when Peter decided to go fishing and someone called from the bank and told them to cast their nets on the right side of the boat and 153 fish were caught. Most certainly they had no idea of the testimony and significance of their experience on the mount of transfiguration when

they awoke and saw and heard Yahshua speaking to Moses and Elijah. All they wanted to do was to build three natural tabernacles, and there was no way they could have known even the relevance of their own blindness in that request – receiving 3,000 years of natural Christianity.

Moses simply knew that he was leading the sons of Israel out of Egypt and into the promised land; how could he have known that he and the people were a living prelude testimony of the church that would come some 1,500 years later? And how could Samson have known that his life was equally a testimony of the church that would fail in its role as Nazirites and be blinded? Or how could Job or Balaam have known that their lives too were living testimonies regarding the church?

The fact is, Yahweh is working at a level in our lives that we do not even see or recognize. Like the sleeping disciples or blinded Samson, we too are blind to all that is actually taking place around us. We react to what we see in the natural and have no idea what is really going on. We are natural men stuck in natural circumstances with natural senses, and we cannot see beyond them. We think that the world is what we see and discern with our natural senses, and that is the sum of all that life is. But we are actually blind. We are like Elisha's servant who only saw the natural armies of their enemy, when in fact there were horses and chariots of fire all around them. We are like Daniel who was fasting and praying for twenty-one days, and had no idea that his prayers in physical weakness were causing an angelic battle to take place in heaven. Who would have known that while hanging on that cross, Yahshua had 10,000 angels at His disposal? We are like little mice running around in a maze, and Yahweh is the one with the maze in hand and is moving it wherever He wills. May our eyes be opened to see what is going on right now, to see the great significance of a very important choice that is before us today.

When Yahshua stood before Pilate, he was amazed that He would not answer his questions. Pilate thought he was in control, but he was actually carrying out something that even he could not alter, or understand. He made a ruling that he knew was not correct, concerning which his wife had warned him.

There were two men placed before the people that day from which they were to choose – Barabbas or Yahshua. It was Passover and Pilate would release any one prisoner for them. According to Matthew 27:16 Barabbas was a “notorious prisoner.” Mark 15:7 and Luke 23:19 say he was an insurrectionist and murderer. Interestingly, John 18:40 tells us that he was a “robber.” So who would they choose? Of course we know they chose Barabbas. Despite Pilate's reluctance, Barabbas was released to the people and Yahshua was put to death.

Herein, you know at one level what was taking place – the Son of God was being crucified and a criminal was released. But let us look at this more carefully and see what was really going on in that fateful choice that was placed before them. Also, you will see that you too are standing in that crowd and having to make the same choice today.

What was taking place there at a higher level? The answer to this is found in the meaning of the name, “Barabbas.” “Bar” means “son of,” and “abba” means “father.” So, the man whom they chose was “son of father.” But the son of what father? Of course he was the son of a natural father, as are all men; but there was much more to this than the natural.

Barabbas is described as being a notorious prisoner, an insurrectionist, a murderer, and a robber. Some people want to say that this was a testimony of Yahshua dying in our place; but this was much more than that. We read in Matthew 27:20 that the people chose to release Barabbas because they listened to the counsel of the chief priests and the elders. These are the same men to whom Yahshua declared – “You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father.” He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own; for he is a liar, and the father of lies” (John 8:44).

The choice that the people made at that fateful moment, the choice that you make today, is the choice between **the son of your father, the devil, or the Son of the Father, Yahshua**. You are either going to listen to the chief priests and elders of today in Christianity and chose those whose father is the devil and he speaks through them – “he speaks from his own,” which is Christianity – or you will choose the Son of the Father. The same choice that was presented then, is given today. It was a remarkable living testimony of the choice that exists in the church right now.

The masses in that day chose the son of their father, the devil, the murderer, and few, very few, undoubtedly cried out for Yahshua. Today is no different, for the masses still choose Christianity, whose legal covering, whose father figure of authority, is none other than the devil. Yahshua said that the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to death, the two-thirds part of the church, and many are those who enter by it; but few are those who enter by the gate that is small, where the way is narrow, that leads to life, the tree of life – the Remnant Bride (Matthew 7:13-14).

I received an e-mail from a brother who presented quite well the same truth, the same conflict. Jim Neumann, whom you will read about in the next section, wrote:

As far as the church being meant to fail - The only way the bride could come out was if Christianity was put to sleep. But much more concrete was the example of Israel. The church agrees that she follows the patterns of the Hebrew children, but she stops the comparison at the coming of Christ. To me, the comparison never stopped. The leaders of those days are the pastors and priests of these days and the events that occurred to Judah would continue to happen to the church. Of course, we know the result of that.

The result of that is exactly what you see here. When you choose broad Christianity and its broad ways and doctrines, you are making the same choice that the masses made when they chose between the son of their father and the Son of the Father. You are following the inherent problem with man – being natural minded and not spiritual minded, looking at things according to human sight, walking in the way of “your father.”

For the natural minded, you too think that you are doing right, just as they did. You are choosing that which those around you concur is right, just as they did. You are choosing that which the pastors and priests tell you is right, just as they did. You are condemning what others will tell you is a “false prophet,” just as they would have said of Yahshua. You are making the same

error that was made by the concurring masses some 2,000 years ago. You, like them, are choosing the son of your father, the devil.

Yahweh placed before the people a choice, a choice regarding which they had no idea its great significance – the choice of the son of their father, the devil, or the Son of the Father. Because of their blindness they had no idea how significant that choice was. But today that choice is set before us once again. We will either follow the priests and elders of Christianity and choose the son of their father, Satan, or the Son of the Father. This is the choice we have right now. Yahweh has opened our eyes to see this truth, to see truth, and we must respond in truth.

GOOD AND EVIL

When these things were being composed, this writer knew that there was a side to this matter of responding to authority that was not being addressed, and intended to not go into it. But, things happened and continuing revelation came so that it became inevitable that it be added. So, here is the other side of this issue of submission, a side one should not seek but is an unfortunate reality. The better choice is the guidance of section one.

We read concerning the sons of Israel that Yahweh brought them out of Egypt in order to bring them into the land of promise – “and He brought us out from there in order to bring us in, to give us the land which He had sworn to our fathers” (Deuteronomy 6:23). But there was one noted difference here in this intention – a delay in the wilderness due to their disobedience! The fact is they did not obey the authority of Yahweh, and this brought-out-to-bring-in was delayed by a period of wandering and death. This is the other side of response to authority – Yahweh will let us fail!

You have already seen my own failures to obey and how they lead me to never want to miss Him and to obey my father. This is the learned way of obedience, becoming like Yahshua who always did the will of the Father. But even concerning Yahshua we read – “although He was a Son, He (too) learned obedience from the things which He suffered” (Hebrews 5:8). This obedience is the way of the tree of life. But unfortunately, we are in the grave period of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil!!!

As much as this writer hates to address this, Yahweh lets us fail, or one could even say He plans for us to fail; and He uses this in the whole of His purposes to bring us into His promised land. But note, we need not try to fail. We need not try to resist authority. It comes all too natural for us. But even so, our failure is used ultimately for our good. Yes, even as the sons of Israel suffered death and loss and delay for their disobedience, so we too suffer death and loss and delay for our own disobedience.

The unwelcomed reality is that there is an alternate way to our response to authority. It is the same alternative that existed in the garden of Eden. **There are two trees from which we can still choose to eat – the tree of life, which is to obey authority, or the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, which is to reject authority.** And even as eating from the tree of the

knowledge of good and evil led to death and rejection from the garden, so disobedience results in a departure from Yahweh's blessings and our death. But unfortunately this is the way that we as flesh men are so very prone to take, and sometimes in total ignorance (e.g., Christianity).

Let us consider further this matter of these two trees, yet in the larger picture. For 6,000 years since that original garden when Eve and then Adam ate from that cursed tree, man has been in the good and evil period. But even more significantly, for 2,000 years the church has been in this same period. This is very significant to realize. This is the period in which, because of man's disobedience, he experiences the drama of evil and good. It is the period in which Yahweh performs evil in our lives. To restate this from the standpoint of the law of coverings, the tree of life was provided to be our true covering, but the inferior, inadequate, and temporary tree of the knowledge of good and evil with Satan has been our longstanding substitutionary covering. As in the case of all coverings though, in time, very gratefully, the true covering will be restored and the substitutionary covering will be done away with!

In the last writing titled [2004 Year-end Report, page 2](#), we began to look at this matter of Yahweh using evil in order to effect good. We will now consider this even further in this writing. And in order to do this, let me introduce you to someone.

The truth revealed in the first section of this writing came about as a result of communication with a man regarding his father. The man's name is Jim Neumann. Jim came into the understanding of the restoration of all things and that there was no such thing as an eternal hell in which men are tormented as punishment forever (re., [FAQ, fifth question](#)), and his father asked him not to teach this. After reading some of the writings here that deal with one's response to authority, he wondered what he was to do. This brought up a possible conflict between obeying his father, or presenting the truth regarding Yahweh.

I was scheduled to fly to Jim's home to meet him, and I suggested in an e-mail that maybe Yahweh would give us wisdom about this. When I went to lie down and was meditating on a writing in which Jim talks of entering into Yahweh's rest, that which was presented in the first section came to my understanding. I immediately called him and shared this with him, though not in the detail which you have here. Jim met with his father, and he sought to honor him and pursued the appeal process, something I have equally pursued with my father. Jim's father then acknowledged Yahweh's work in his life and the wisdom He has given him, and did not forbid him from teaching what he has learned.

My contact with Jim began on February 2, wherein he provided for my review the subject writing regarding rest. He also provided a brief account about his life. The first thing that impressed me about him was the incredible correlation between our two lives. Jim moved to Washington in 1995. I moved here in 1994. Jim left Washington and began a home for pregnant women, but only had one woman to come, and then Yahweh changed the direction in his life. Before moving to Washington, I started a home for women and children, and also had one woman to come, and then Yahweh changed direction in my life as well. (This is when He brought me into the Remnant Bride truth.) Jim went to the mission field in Africa (prophetic of Christianity – [The Signs That Cause Belief, page 4](#)), was rejected by the missionary group, and gave to those who rejected him the home he had already purchased. I built a home for women

and children, was rejected by the Christian man who owned the property, and also gave everything to him who rejected me.

Jim has five children. I have five children. And the amazing list goes on. But what I then found out when reading his writing, was the incredible fact that what Yahweh had personally led me to understand, He had equally led Jim to understand. No man taught either of us the truths we had been led to see. Jim was taught by Yahweh that Christianity was never planned to stand, but to fall, that it was a wholly corrupt work, that it was filled with witchcraft and magic, and even as called forth in Revelation 18:4-5, we are to come out of it. This is a profound understanding to come to! He did not understand the full significance of all of this, nor the full outcome of it, but he no longer called himself a Christian. And equally significant, he also saw that in like regard a bride had to come out of the sleeping body of Christ.

These are incredible truths to come to, and Jim was the first man I had ever met who had come to this understanding on his own. And to make it even more phenomenal was the uncanny correlation between our lives, including arriving at the same truth. Yahweh took us through the same experiences, paying the same price, in order to bring us to the same understanding.

There is so very much that will be raised here, and as you will see, all of it is an incredible weaving of experiences and truth. And before we add another one of these amazing correlations between our lives, and that being a very significant one, let us continue to address this matter of good and evil.

With all of these correlations in Jim's and my life, needless to say I was not surprised that he had recently written something regarding evil, in his case a very interesting look at the purpose of evil. Here is Jim's reply to a friend who asked him about the difference between evil and sin.

Evil vs. Sin

What we perceive to be life is actually death on another plane or dimension. What we perceive to be the act of dying is actually birth on another plane.

Think of our life as we know it as a state of death. Compare our life on this earth to the life of a child in the womb. That child has not yet been born, but they are not really dead either. However, the only way for that child to "come into life" is to exit life as they know it. They must give up the support system they have come to depend on – the food (body), the blood (soul), the air (liquid) (spirit) and "die" to that life. As a testimony to this, there are three "tubes" in the umbilical cord that attaches a baby to life, that is, the baby's mother. The newborn must come out through the birthing canal into "real" life.

Now, during this lifetime we are in our womb experience. If we resist the move toward "real" life, we will die in our mother's womb, a miscarriage. However, to us, this womb experience is all that we know, and all our instincts and ambitions serve to drive us to continue in this life and avoid death at all costs. Something needs to push us toward death. In the case of a newborn baby, the mother's contractions serve this purpose. In our adult "womb life," that purpose is served by evil.

Evil, as a noun, is the entity or process that pushes us toward death/birth. As we experience evil we are terrified because it pushes toward death. So from the perspective of this dimension – evil is a bad thing. However, it is necessary in order to be born into life. For without our death (birth) we cannot live. If it were not for evil we would resist death and live forever, but in the wrong kind of life!

Notice what happened when Adam and Eve ate of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. First Adam was admonished:

“But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die” (Gen 2:17).

Why then put the tree there? Because we were supposed to eat from it so that we could die!

Then the result:

And the LORD God said, “Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever: ...” (Gen 3:22).

Why did God realize that the first thing Adam and Eve would want to do after being aware of good and evil was to partake of the tree of life? Because now they knew evil and that evil would move them toward death, just as God told them it would. What they didn't know was that they needed to be moved toward death in order to enter into true life, and that is why God created evil in the first place.

“I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these *things*” (Isa 45:7).

Some would tell you that God placed the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the garden in order to give man the free choice to cause his own sin, but that is ridiculous. Why? Because if we were supposed to have free will, then why did God take us out of the garden after we ate the first tree? He stopped our “free will” from eating of the tree of life. He allowed our “free will” to eat of the first tree. If He had wanted us not to eat of that tree, we would not have eaten of it.

That is why He planted the tree where we would be tempted and then sent the devil to tempt us – so that we would fail and evil would begin it's work of bringing creation to death, so that it could be birthed into true life.

Evil is death and the things that induce death.

Sin is the violation of God's character. When someone sins, evil is the result. However, evil can be executed without it being sin. For example, a soldier in a war is committing evil, but in most cases he is doing it without sin. In most cases, the war in the

first place is the result of sin, but even a righteous war (like the ones God commanded) are evil. A virus is committing evil, but it is not committing sin.

Once God has written His law on our hearts we will no longer commit sin. Eventually God will be champion over all, and all will be all in all, and at that point evil will have served its purpose, and that is why the last enemy is death. Once death is no more, evil has no more function because all will have been brought through death into life.

This addresses some very important truth. Jim is certainly right here. The period of man since the beginning, and more importantly the opening 2,000 years of the kingdom of God, or the church, has been the period of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Unfortunately, it is when Yahweh, and man, perform evil as well as good. This means that it is the period when Yahweh must do evil against man in order to bring him into the period of the tree of life. As Jim notes here, the tree of life period is the period when Yahweh writes His law on our hearts and we cease sinning, thus there is no more need for the evil.

So we see that this period of good and evil is the period in which Yahweh performs evil upon man. Of course relative to the church, Hosea 6:1-2 says this best:

“Come, let us return to Yahweh.
 For He has torn us, but He will heal us;
 He has wounded us, but He will bandage us.
 He will revive us after two days (or 2,000 years);
 He will raise us up on the third day (the Millennial reign)
 That we may live before Him.”

This is equally the evil we see in the book of Job where Yahweh sends Satan to afflict Job. This is precisely what Yahweh has done against the church for 2,000 years – He has given it over to Satan. It is the period in which He performs evil against the church, even as Job declared – “Shall we indeed accept good from God and not accept evil?” (Job 2:10). But in the end His purpose is to birth us into good, even into the tree of life period.

This is a very important truth to note. It helps us to understand even better what the period of Christianity is and what yet awaits us.

Now that we have considered further this matter of Yahweh using evil to bring good, and you have met Jim and know a little about him, we will once again draw another very striking similarity between our lives. As has already been said, this is a weaving of amazing truth.

After my wife and family left me in 2003 per their rejection of the Remnant Bride truth, my wife filed in court a legal separation from me. I signed an Agreement in order to buy some time, but it later became evident that that Agreement was going to destroy me because of the financial burden. I tried to get it overturned in court but was railroaded and the Agreement became a court order. However, within a few days a lawyer got the order overturned, and eventually the legal separation was completely dismissed. Thus, my own experience was that I was unjustly taken to court per the matter of my wife and placed under a financially burdensome order that would have

destroyed me. But, that order was overturned. Now let us consider the identical situation in Jim's life, but far more tragic and involved! Here we will see once again that evil came upon Jim in order to bring good.

On November 22, 1993, thirty years to the day after John F. Kennedy was assassinated by a gunshot to the head and the very year that the 120 Jubilees from Adam came to an end, Jim's first wife, Jane, put a shotgun in her mouth and pulled the trigger, killing herself. They had one son at the time, Jonathan. And if this tragedy was not already enough, this is where Jim's nightmare only began.

To try to hide from Jane's family the shame of her suicide, Jim altered the scene and told the investigating authorities that she was murdered. Obviously this did not work, and Jim finally confessed what had actually happened and the authorities determined it a suicide.

Four years later, Jim's in-laws took him to civil court for murder, accusing him of killing Jane. Because of an ill-prepared lawyer and misleading circumstantial evidence, and the will of Yahweh, Jim was found guilty of wrongful death (murder) and was required to pay into Jane's estate \$5.4 million. Since this was filed in civil court, there was no incarceration. The family had hoped to file this in criminal court as well, but there has never been enough evidence to do so.

All of this took its toll on Jim. It was covered in local papers and even gained national attention on CBS's "48 Hours," and follows him wherever he goes.

Then in an appeal case in February, 2001, the \$5.4 million was overturned and Jim agreed to pay approximately \$500,000 that would go to his son. (Again, thank Yahweh for the appeal process.)

Almost two years after Jane's tragic death, Jim married Heather, who was taking care of Jonathan after Jane's death, and she was only available because of the death of her father that same year, which brought her back home. Thus, it was in fact two deaths that brought these two together.

From February 16 through 20 I was in Jim's home, and there is no question in my mind that Jim is innocent, and that Yahweh used this evil to do good. One month following Jane's death, Jim offered to take a lie detector test and passed it with six very direct questions regarding her death. It was also pointed out by the appeal court that there was evidence that Jane's right hand was on the barrel of the shotgun, suggesting that she held it in her mouth, and that there were no signs of violence. Like me, Jim was railroaded.

Thus we see another amazing correlation between Jim and myself. Jim too was unjustly taken to court per the matter of his wife, found guilty, and placed under a financially burdensome order that would have destroyed him. And, that order too was overturned. But what we want to look at here is not so much this correlation, but the testimony of evil being used for good.

There is no question that Jane's death was a tragic evil. But during my visit in Jim and Heather's home, while walking with Jim in the woods of their 55 acres in Missouri, I told him that what happened to Jane and what he now has is a remarkable testimony of how Yahweh uses evil to effect good. My experience in their home was an experience of delight. Jonathan is one of the best-hearted young men I have met in a long time. He loves his father and now-adopted mother, and is very sensitive to honoring them and doing right. All the children have been trained to obey their parents, and are good to do so. They have a happy and healthy home, one that Jim would undoubtedly not have equaled in his former marriage. And with what they have gone through since Jane's death and the trials associated with it, they have learned to not judge too quickly, which this man can attest was a rich virtue to experience. With what this man teaches, and with the addition of a dissenting and even lying voice that came to them in a most unusual set of circumstances, their unwillingness to quickly judge was much welcomed.

Thus we see in a most graphic way how Yahweh uses evil to "birth" one into good. But something else of necessity needs to be added here in order to make this story complete.

You have already read how my submission to my father regarding the purchase of the new car protected me as I came under his covering and was thus led into Yahweh's blessings. This happened with Jim as well.

When Jim got out of the army after serving two years, he met Jane. For two years he wanted to marry her, but his father did not approve. Many would argue that Jim had a right to marry whomever he wished, but Jim waited for his father's approval. He will be the first to tell you though that his wait was not perfect; for though he did obey him, he often objected. But that can be OK, for the bottom line is to obey.

After two years Jim's father approved of the marriage. This waiting upon his father's approval placed him under his covering, and when Jane committed suicide, Jim reaped the blessing of Heather. One sees here and should realize the necessity of submitting to authority in order to receive Yahweh's favor and protection.

This was one of the things that Jim and I briefly discussed on our walk in his woods; let us now consider another most revealing truth we discussed as well.

When Jim and Heather prepared to go to Africa, they sold their home and half of their original 105 acres to a friend. That left them with 50 acres. As they finalized their move to Africa, people came to them and wanted to purchase the remaining 50 acres. But there was a problem. Jim had agreed to lease the grazing rights to someone for five years, so anyone who wanted to buy the land had to honor that lease. When the man who had the lease found this out, he told Jim that he did not have to hold to it. But no, Jim felt that he had made the agreement and he should keep his word. In the end, this protected Jim, for when the missionary group rejected him, he still possessed the property. What happened next was Yahweh's provision for his faithfulness. A lady on five acres adjoining Jim's 50 acres died, and they were able to purchase her home and five acres, giving him his present 55 acres with a home. Jim was willing to give up his home and 55 acres, and even sacrifice for awhile, and Yahweh gave him back a home and 55 acres. But

how did He do this? **By Jim keeping his word.** Let us add here an e-mail from Jim regarding this.

One point I neglected to tell you is that when the offers came on our land, we were in the midst of trying to go to Africa; raising money for this move was a paramount "concern" of ours.

The \$55,000 in cash that would have resulted in our selling of the land would have greatly aided in our ability to get to Africa and could have even been seen as a "sign" that God was working things for us to go.

However, to see the offers as a sign from God and take the money would have required violating our word to the man to whom we were leasing the land.

So a choice had to be made – was God giving us money? After all, He had given us the word to go to Africa. We determined that if God wanted to give us money toward Africa, then He would have to give us the money some other way – a way that did not cause us to violate the instruction of "letting our yes be yes."

When Jim shared this with me there in the woods, the truth of Galatians 3:24 immediately stood out – "Therefore the Law has become our (lit.) child-conductor to lead us to Christ, that we may be justified by faith." What we see here is a very important principle! The role of the "child-conductor" was to meet the child at a location and then conduct them home, or wherever they were going. They were a guide, an escort, a protector to the child. Such is the law, as we read here.

So how did the law protect Jim and get him to where he needed to be? In this case it was the law of keeping his word that protected him and caused him to keep the land that Yahweh wanted him to have and even to add to, as he walked in faith.

This is the same thing Yahweh did for me when I honored that twelve-month commitment to my boss. That law was my "child-conductor" to the ministry and place where Yahweh wanted me to be as well. Our faithfulness to our word, to the word of Yahweh, and to authorities, is the child-conductor to Yahweh's promised blessings. And that law of coming under the authority of our fathers was the child-conductor for Jim and me when we submitted our wills to them. And it is this law that will guide, protect, and lead you if you will honor Yahweh's established authorities, following the trinity of submission – authority, honor, and obedience.

Taking a quick look at Jim's life, we find a man that at the ages of 11 and 12 was molested by a traveling evangelist, his wife committed suicide and he was taken to court by his in-laws for her death, he began a ministry to pregnant women and only took in one lady, actually two times he tried to go to Africa and was turned down, and Heather had a mid-term miscarriage. In many regard we see a man with whom Yahweh has dealt harshly. As we read in Jeremiah 30:21 – "For who would dare to risk his life to approach Me?" Such has been the price Jim Neumann has had to pay. He has suffered molestation from a minister, wrongful accusations, and has looked like a failure in his walk of faith with Yahweh. Such has been the price of His training. But He has

given him an enduring Elisha heart and a will to obey Him and His law, and to trust in Him, and most importantly He has given him the word of truth.

This leads us to another thing I greatly appreciate and admire concerning Jim – he is a man who walks by faith. I asked him why he bought the land in Missouri and if he had a job opportunity there when he did so. No, he bought the land because he/they knew it was right. That is faith. Faith is not based on intellect or reasoning, but is to hear, to believe, and to act.

Jim also responded in complete faith when on two occasions he made plans to move to Africa. In both cases he and Heather sold almost all they had. I admire that kind of obedience and trust and sacrifice.

Now we are going to cover something that is additionally unique regarding this matter of lawlessness. On one occasion during our visit, Jim made the comment that “breaking” the law is not lawlessness IF one pays the consequences. This is certainly true. For example, Yahweh has a number of laws that if you commit certain acts, there are resulting consequences. Thus, if you commit the act and pay the consequence, then you are not lawless. However, if you commit the act and escape the consequence, then you are lawless.

Yahweh holds Himself to His own laws. For example, in Exodus 21:26 we read that if a man strikes his slave and blinds him, he must let the slave go free. This is what Yahweh has done to man – He has struck him with blindness and is thus obligated to set him free.

In Exodus 21:28-29, if a man has an ox that has a habit of goring people, and if it gores someone and they die, then the owner must also die. Yahweh has a beast who is Satan who has gored many a man to death. Since Yahweh has not taken precautions to prevent Satan from doing so, Yahshua had to be put to death. This is the same requirement per Deuteronomy 22:8 where if a man builds a house and does not build a parapet, a protective barrier, on the roof to prevent someone from falling off, then blood-gilt is on the house if someone falls from it. This is true with the house of God, the church, where many a man have fallen to death. Yahweh will not be lawless in this regard but takes responsibility through the death of His Son.

And in the writing, [Carmel, page 7](#), we saw how Yahweh judged Himself in regard to the first Remnant and the death of Christianity by placing them in a situation whereby Satan would kill them.

Thus, it must be noted here that lawlessness is also to escape the consequences of doing wrong. But if the consequences are paid, then the person is not lawless.

This is the very purpose for disciplining children, or even adults. By disciplining someone, it keeps them from being lawless. When Yahshua says that there are those who call Him “Lord, Lord” and prophecy and cast out demons and heal in His name, yet He will declare that He does not know them, He does so because they “practice lawlessness” (Matthew 7:21-23). They are performing aberrant deeds for which they are not being held accountable.

This was occurring in the church when Paul was writing. In 1 Corinthians 11:27-32 we read that since they were not correctly judging the body of Christ, many of them were sick and weak, and a number of them were dying. On the larger scale, this is true when one does not judge the true state of the body of Christ, Christianity, and come out of it. You too will die with the body.

On another note, this is why it is so important that parents and other authority train and instruct and discipline those under their authority – so as to lead them away from lawlessness. This is not an easy task. For example, my daughter, Rebekah, made vows to me and later decided to dishonor those vows without my consent. So what was I to do? Christians have told her that what she did was OK. But as her father, I have the responsibility to hold her to consequences until she repents. **Otherwise, I train and lead my daughter into lawlessness**, the very reason for which Yahshua will reject those who call Him Lord and perform works in His name. It is never easy to hold people under one's authority to consequences, but for their sake this must be done. For those who do not keep His law, Yahshua will regard as workers of lawlessness and will reject them – “I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness” – both today and in time to come.

Is our examination here regarding authority entirely complete? Undoubtedly not. But it is sufficient to guide us in the correct way regarding our right response to authority, to collateral authorities, and to help us judge between truth and error. There is the issue of mercy as well. But mercy is not given with absolute abandonment of law, especially when being granted by authority, which again is the subject of this writing. How we relate to one another on an even level is entirely different. In that case mercy and forgiveness must be a standard practice. But one is to remember that both mercy and law are given to effect good. Good should always be the ultimate goal of authority – the tree of life. And there are two ways which will bring one to that tree – obedience to law, or disobedience and resulting evil.

Jim's writing, *This Is My House*, regarding entering into His rest is an excellent writing, and can be read by [clicking here](#).

THE BRIDE AND THE PROPHET

It has been noted in this writing that it is a weaving of truth. A weaving is something where union is created by fibers appearing and disappearing among each other, uniting each other together. This writing will exhibit that characteristic here as once again we bring up a matter that has been addressed somewhat in page two. But we will begin by looking at a very revealing testimony regarding the hidden two-part Bride as seen in the two occasions when Sarah was placed in the house of another man.

Many do not realize that Sarah was placed in another man's house not once but twice! The first time was when Abraham journeyed to Egypt during a famine in the land (Genesis 12:10-20). Abraham had Sarah to say she was his sister (she was indeed his half-sister), and because of her beauty, she was taken into the house of Pharaoh. As a result, “Yahweh struck Pharaoh and his house with great plagues.” Thereupon Pharaoh sent Sarah to Abraham and sent them away.

The second time was at Gerar when once again Abraham said Sarah was his sister, and this time Abimelech took her into his house (Genesis 20). God then came to Abimelech in a dream and said – “Behold, you are a dead man because of the woman whom you have taken, for she is married to a husband.” Abimelech pled his innocence in this matter – “In the integrity of my heart and the innocence of my hands I have done this.” Yahweh then instructed him to restore Sarah to Abraham, and he did so, giving him 1,000 pieces of silver as Sarah’s vindication, along with livestock and servants and told him to settle wherever he pleased in his land.

Thus we see that even as the Bride is hidden twice in the body of Christ, the house of another man, so Sarah was hidden twice in the house of another man. The first Remnant was placed into the body of Christ when there was a famine on the word, and this resulted in the very thing that it meant for Pharaoh’s house – Yahweh struck Christianity with great plagues for its entire duration. What then of the second Remnant?

The second Remnant Bride is the bride that must come out of the sleeping body of Christ, thus we see the proclamation to Abimelech – “Behold, you are a dead man”! But it is equally true that, even as Abimelech was innocent inasmuch that he did not know what was taking place, so Christianity is innocent. They too have no idea that the Bride is in their midst. And as Yahweh had mercy on Abimelech, and Sarah was brought out of his house to be restored to Abraham, so the Bride will come out of the house of the body of Christ, and Yahweh will have mercy on the body.

It is quite revealing that Abraham was given 1,000 pieces of silver as vindication for Sarah, and that they could live wherever they pleased in Abimelech’s land. Equally, the Remnant receive the third-part Shelah period of the church, the Millennial reign, as vindication, and will inhabit the land of Christianity. Yahweh has mercy on Christianity and cuts their days short from 3,000 years to 2,000 years, giving the third part to the Bride. Thus we see written here the fate of the church if Yahweh did otherwise and did not reveal and release the hidden Bride – “But if you do not restore her, know that you shall surely die, you and all who are yours.”

All of this is quite revealing and confirming, but there is another important matter here we want to address. There is only one time in all the Scriptures that Abraham is ever called a “prophet,” and it is here in this second Remnant testimony per the house of Abimelech. Yahweh declared to Abimelech – “Now therefore restore the man’s wife, for he is a prophet, and he will pray for you, and you will live.”

In page 2 under “Elijah,” we saw that the “prophet” spoken of in Acts 3:19-23 was not Yahshua, but the Elijah. Quite obviously, in this clear and outstanding testimony regarding the second Remnant Bride, this sole identification here of Abraham as a prophet is a reference to this as well. One attesting evidence to this is, as you will notice, Abraham was to pray for Abimelech.

There is a woman by the name of Debbie who has been a great encouragement to me and used of Yahweh to speak to this man various truths, including the initial introduction regarding Barabbas and Yahshua. While I was at Jim’s, Debbie sent me something that was quite remarkable. She had “been meditating on the correlation and similarities among Michael, Elijah, and Joseph of

Arimathea who were all chosen by the Spirit of God to contend for the dead bodies of Moses and Yahshua.”

But Michael the archangel, when he disputed with the devil and argued about the body of Moses did not dare pronounce against him a railing judgment, but said, “The Lord rebuke you” (Jude 1:9).

And some of those who were standing there, when they heard it, began saying, “This man is calling for Elijah.” And immediately one of them ran, and taking a sponge, he filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed, and gave Him a drink. But the rest of them said, “Let us see whether Elijah will come to save Him.” And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit (Matthew 27:47-50).

And behold, a man named Joseph, who was a member of the Council, a good and righteous man, (he had not consented to their plan and action) a man from Arimathea, a city of the Jews, who was waiting for the kingdom of God, this man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus (Luke 23:50-52).

And we could add another one here as well – Abigail. Like Abimelech, her husband, Nabal, was as good as dead. David had come to kill him and equally every man in his house. But like these three, Abigail likewise interceded for her “dead” husband.

This is the like intercession we find in Job where he was to pray for his three counselors, against whom Yahweh’s wrath was kindled (Job 42:7-9). These are the three periods of Christianity which have not spoken of Yahweh “what is right.”

Here concerning Abraham, the prophet, we see the same message – he was to pray for the one who was “a dead man.”

In all these testimonies we find the message that the Elijah work, the prophet, will intercede for the dead body of Christ. (We have also seen this truth in such writings as [The Covering Bride](#) and [Carmel, page 3](#). Also, read [Prepare the Way, page 2](#), to understand better this work of hope and deliverance in the Elijah.) While the people at Yahshua’s crucifixion had not discerned what Yahshua said when He uttered “Eli, Eli lama sabachthani?,” it remains quite relevant and revealing as to their response – “Let us see whether Elijah will come to save Him.” This is not here in the Scriptures just to note their apparent misunderstanding, but inasmuch this clearly relates to these other similar messages, it presents a very relevant and revealing truth – the Elijah, the prophet, will indeed come to save the body of Christ that has drank from the cup and is about to die (lest “no flesh would have been saved”).

And let us consider here a personal testimony as well that relates directly to this matter regarding Sarah and the issue of authority. Even as Sarah was placed in the house of another man, and that house was held accountable for this, so my wife is in the house of another man, the body of Christ, and they too will be held accountable – “Behold, you are a dead man because of the woman whom you have taken, for she is married to a husband.”

My wife is married to a husband, and it is illegal/lawless for her to be in the house of another man. As it stands, my wife is in rebellion against her head, and has taken our children into rebellion as well. Thus she is guilty. But, since Christianity has opened its doors and not only welcomed her but even encouraged and justified her rebellion against me, she has in fact come under their covering, their responsibility. Therefore, since she is now under their covering, **they are held accountable for her wrong**, even as Pharaoh and Abimelech were held accountable for Sarah. Therefore, Christianity has set itself to be judged for their lawless actions regarding my wife and family.

As an intercession, I could thus relate to and even thereby saw the great relevance of these passages regarding Sarah. And as is true with intercession, it gives authority. Given Yahweh's clear message about the Bride coming out of another man's house, I watch with great interest and hope as to what Yahweh might do per my own wife who is "married to a husband."

While each of these sections are useful in their own regard, the last four serve to augment that which was presented in the opening section on the trinity of submission – authority, honor, and obedience. As was stated earlier, in that section we find the crux of this entire matter of responding to authority. May you consider it carefully. May Yahweh grant to us the tree of life.

ADDENDUM: In this section, Debbie is mentioned per how Yahweh has used her in this man's life to encourage him and to point him to truth. After this writing was completed, I replied to a most interesting e-mail from her wherein she provided her testimony. She also once again pointed out something that revealed an incredible truth regarding the Remnant Bride. This was in regard to Tamar, David's daughter, and his son, Amnon, who violated her. It is absolutely amazing what Yahweh has for us in this message! To read Debbie's testimony and my reply, [click here](#).