

GOD AND GOVERNMENT

I. BIBLICAL OVERVIEW OF GOD'S PURPOSE FOR GOVERNMENT

A. Is, 9:6-7 Gods' True Purpose For Government Is To Uphold His Standards Of Righteousness Within Society

B. Eccless. 10:2 God's Eternal Model For Right & Left Wing Global Party Politics

"A wise man's heart directs him toward the *right*, but a foolish man's heart directs him toward the *left*."

1. The *Left* stands for leftist, which ultimately leads to an unrighteous Socialistic/Communitistic style of godless government which ultimately enslaves the people.
2. The *Right* stands for righteousness, which is supposed to uphold the biblical standards for righteous living that sets people free.
 - However – GOP does not stand for **God's Own Party**
 - Jesus is not a Republican – He's a high priest, Torah observant Jew

C. **God's Three-Fold Standard Of Righteousness**

1. Imputed Righteousness (Saving Righteousness)

Lev. 4:20, 26, 31, 35 Atoning/Saving Righteousness is received through faith in the blood of the sacrifice

Rom. 3:21-26 Salvation is complete in Jesus' sacrifice

1 Peter 1:22-23 We are born again of God's imperishable seed
²² "Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart,²³ for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and abiding word of God."

2. Behavioral Righteousness (Life-Style Righteousness)

1 John 3:7 The righteous practice God's righteousness

“Little children, let no one deceive you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous”

2 Tim 3:16-17 Torah explains how to practice God's righteousness

Ps 119:172 God's standards for behavioral righteousness

“Let my tongue sing of Thy word, for all Thy commandments are righteousness.”

- God's Word is righteous (Ps. 119:123)
- God's Testimonies are righteous (Ps. 119:144)
- God's Ordinances are righteous (Ps. 119:62)
- God's Judgments are righteous (Ps. 119:7; Rev. 19:2)

Pr. 11:30 The righteous extend God's life to the unsaved

“The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who is wise wins souls.”

- The righteous praise and worship God (Ps. 118:15)
- The righteous desire good (Pr. 9:9)
- The righteous are quick to bless (Pr. 10:6)
- The righteous help people grow spiritually (Pr. 10:21)
- The righteous walk in integrity (Pr. 20:7)
- The righteous are givers (Pr. 21:26)
- The righteous are courageous (Pr. 28:1)
- The righteous are scorned about the poor (Pr. 29:7)
- Righteous live by faith (Hab. 2:4; Rom. 1:17)

3. Community Righteousness (Relational Righteousness)

- Righteous relationship toward “one another” (25 in the N.T.)
- Corporate righteousness requires accountability
- Corporate righteousness requires justice among “one another”
- Securing justice for the Community requires a Justice System

D. Three Aspects of God’s Divine Nature Are Appointed To Oversee Community Righteousness, Accountability, and Judgment

1. **Isaiah 33:22** Judicial – Legislative – Executive
 “The Lord is our judge [*judicial branch*], the Lord is our law giver [*legislative branch*], the Lord is our king [*executive branch*]. He will save us.”

2. The Tabernacle/Temple Design Provided The Governmental Structure That Governed God’s Kingdom On Earth

The Ark of the Covenant (Legislative House) Laws of Community Righteousness and Judgment were Kept There	
The Alter (House of the King)	The Beit Din (House of Judgment – Court House)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Salvation and Spiritual Laws <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focused on relationship 2. Ministry to the Lord <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Love the Lord (Cs 1-4) 3. Ministry to “one another” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Love your neighbor (Cs 5-10) • Law & the Prophets 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Judged application of God’s laws among the brethren 2. Administered justice within the Community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restitution • Excommunication • Death

E. Hosea 6:7 Adam Was The First To Experience God’s Judgment For Breaking The Covenant

“But like Adam they have transgressed the covenant; there they have dealt treacherously against Me.

1. **1 Sam 8:4-6** Israel Wanted To Be Judged Like The Other Nations
⁴ “Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah; ⁵ and they said to him, ‘Behold, you have grown old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint a king for us to judge us like all the nations.’ ⁶ But the thing was displeasing in the sight of Samuel when they said, ‘Give us a king to judge us.’
 - Saul took Israel from a Sacred Theocracy into a Secular Monarchy

II. MOST KINGS (SECULAR GOVERNMENTS) HAVE TRIED TO ESTABLISH CIVIL LAWS AND JUDGMENTS BASED ON THE 10 Cs

Crimes Against The Public	Scripture	Association to 10 Commandments	Penalty
1. Bribery	Ex. 23:8 Dt. 16:19 Pr. 17:23	8 th , 9 th , 10 th	Active
2. Contempt of Court	Nm. 15:30	5 th , 9 th	Active
3. Perjury	Ex. 20:16 Lev. 19:12	9 th	Active
4. Obstructing of Justice	Ex. 23:1-6 Lev. 19:15 Ps. 82:2	9 th	Active
5. Conspiracy	Ex. 23:1-2 2 Sam. 15:10-12	9 th	Active

Crimes Against People	Scripture	Association to 10 Commandments	Penalty
1. Murder • 6 th Commandment)	Gen. 9:6 Ex. 20:13 Lev. 24:17	6 th	Active, but penalty reduced in some states
2. Manslaughter	Ex. 21:12-14 Josh. 20:3-6	6 th	Active
3. Assault	Ex. 21:18, 26	6 th	Active
4. Kidnapping	Ex. 21:16 Dt. 24:7	6 th , 8 th , 9 th , 10 th	Active
5. Slander	Lev. 19:16	6 th , 9 th	Active

Crimes Against Property	Scripture	Association to 10 Commandments	Penalty
1. Stealing • 8 th Commandment	Ex. 20:15 Ex. 22:1-12	8 th , 10 th	Active
2. Arson	Ex. 22:6	8 th , 10 th	Active
3. Moving Boundary Markers	Dt. 19:14	8 th , 9 th , 10 th	Active

Crimes of Immorality	Scripture	Association to 10 Commandments	Penalty
1. Adultery • 7 th Commandment	Ex. 20:14 Dt. 5:18	7 th , 8 th , 9 th , 10 th	Mostly abolished
2. Rape	Dt. 22:25-26	7 th , 8 th	Active
3. Prostitution	Dt. 23:17	7 th , 8 th , 9 th , 10 th	Mostly active, but abolished in some jurisdictions
4. Seduction	Ex. 22:16-17	7 th , 9 th	Mostly abolished
5. Incest	Lev. 18:6-18 Dt. 22:30	7 th , 9 th	Active, but under attack
6. Sodomy (Homosexuality)	Lev. 18:22-23 Dt. 23:17	7 th , 9 th	Mostly abolished

A. God's Judicial System And Its Protocols Are Outlined In The Torah And Are Reflected In The Government's Judicial System

1. The Formal Structure (Ex. 18)
2. General Guide Lines for the Judges (Ex. 21-23)
3. The Plea for Fair and Equitable Judgment (Deut. 6:18-20)
4. The Need for Investigation (Deut. 19:18-20)
 - Testimony of reliable witnesses
 - Implies the Practices of Cross-Examination
5. The requirement of Two or Three Witnesses – Especially in Capital Crimes that qualify for the Death Penalty (Deut. 17:6-7)
6. Judicial Appeal System (Deut. 17:8-11)

B. Romans 13:1-7 Partly Why We Are Supposed To Be Submitted To Every Human Institution (See also 1 Pet. 2:13)

1. They are ministers of God for good (righteousness)
 - They punish evil doers (A secular Beit Din – House of Judgment)
2. **Vs. 6** Because of this you pay taxes
 - Taxes pay for the civil government to maintain order
3. **Luke 3:12-14** John the Baptist instructed Jews, who were tax collectors, how to collect Roman Taxes
 - They worked for the Roman IRS (NWO system of their day)
4. **Matt. 17:24-27** Jesus paid the Temple Tax
 - He was not obligated, but didn't want to offend them
 - Same principle can be carried over to civil taxes
5. **Matt. 22:15-22** Jesus Paid Rome's Civil Taxes
 - Money is decorated with government leaders and monuments
 - Taxes are due the government so give them the taxes
 - You can lobby for lower taxes, but whatever is do – is do
6. Jesus Supported Both Systems Because They Are Both Necessary

IV. THE CHURCH STILL NEEDS A BEIT DIN THAT GOVERNS BIBLICAL LAW AND ADMINISTERS JUDGMENT IN THE BODY

A. Matt. 18:15-20 Jesus Refers To A Biblical Beit Din

1. Establishes certain facts
 - Transgressor is found guilty by two or three witnesses
 - Transgressor is unrepentant
2. Judicial authority rests in the Torah Community (Beit Din)
 - “Bind or Loose” are Hebraic terms meaning “Forbid or Permit”
 - “Bind” a person to a contract or “loose” a person from a contract
3. **Matt. 16:16-18** Jesus will build His Church (Congregation) and the gates of hell will not prevail against it
 - Requires Biblical Government within the church
 - “Keys of the Kingdom” is the authority to “bind or loose”
i.e. – “forbid or permit” certain conduct according to biblical law

▶ **Example #1: A Man In An Adulterous Affair**

1. Civil Beit Din (Court) says it’s OK – “No Fault Divorce”
2. Church Beit Din says it’s not OK – “Repent or Excommunicate”
3. If the church Does Not judge the matter and excommunicate the unrepentant, then the “gates of hell (sin) prevail against it”

▶ **Example #2: Same Sex Marriages**

1. Secular governments and their courts are legalizing homosexual marriages
2. Church must have a Beit Din to maintain biblical law and the authority to “bind” or “forbid” such behavior in the church
3. **1 Cor 5:1-5; 6:1-11** Paul refers to the Beit Din

B. Matt. 18: 18-20 Divine Guidance And Authority Comes When Two or Three Qualified Church Elders Gather Together in Agreement

1. Jesus is in Their Midst to Help Them Make the Right Decision and provide the Power of God’s Spirit to Enforce it