VI. Laws of Divine Establishment and the Royal Family Honor Code: Leviticus 26

Thomas Paine is not really one of our Founders although his pamphlet, "Common Sense" helped inspire the colonists to issue the Declaration of Independence. His "Crisis Papers" were issued during the time of the War for Independence, the first appearing when Washington's army was on the verge of disintegration at Valley Forge.

Washington ordered the pamphlet read to all the troops. It's fiery opening lines are well known to all:

"These are the times that try men's souls: The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in the crisis, shrink from the service of his country; but he that stands it NOW, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph."

Such writings inspired the colonists to continue the struggle against the mother country but, in 1787, Paine left for Europe and became involved in the aftermath of the French Revolution. It was during this time that he transformed from John Peter Zenger into Franklin Delano Roosevelt and became a raging liberal. His obituary printed in the New York Citizen read in part: "He had lived long, did some good and much harm."

Paine was a Deist. When he returned to the United States in 1802 his former services had been forgotten and he was regarded as the world's greatest infidel.

Now, I have told you all this so I can now quote him. This quote had no theological implication in the mind of Paine who was an unbeliever, but by taking some poetic interpretive license, we can transform it into a powerful principle from our study of the separation of church and state:

"He whose heart is firm, and whose conscience approves his conduct, will pursue his principles unto death."

A "firm heart" is one which contains maximum doctrine circulating the seven compartments of the stream of consciousness.

One "whose conscience approves his conduct" possess norms and standards and a scale of values which are based on the absolute principles of biblical truth and which inspire confidence in the doctrinal conclusions reached under the enabling power of the Holy Spirit.

Such an individual has a personal sense of destiny and a precise understanding of freedom under God.

Such a person will pursue principles which are based on the inflexibility of absolute truth, and do so "unto death."

Such a person is neither a "summer soldier" nor a "sunshine patriot." He is a person of Establishment and Christian Integrity.

J. Some Additional Documentation

We have drawn heavily on the research of David Barton in his book, The Myth of Separation. Although much of what we noted were direct quotes from our Founding Fathers, some may question the authenticity of Barton's research, e.g., he was biased toward his premise, he quoted the Founders out of context, or he misinterpreted what they said.

In order to counter any such arguments, I offer excerpts from the following article by:

Evans, M. Stanton. "What Wall?: The Myth of Strict Separation." National Review 23 Jan., 1995, pp. 56-60,76.

[NOTE: Because of Quentin Swafford's report on Glenhaven Youth Ranch scheduled for the second session, the reading of this article was delayed until Tuesday's class, 7 February, 1995.]

What we have learned from our study is that the Angelic Conflict rages within a system of order we have classified by a number of titles: (1) The Laws of Divine Establishment; (2) Category One Truth, and (3) Establishment Morality. Our Founding Fathers called this system the "Laws of Nature and Nature's God."

Mankind, which is bound within a closed system called Planet Earth, may wish to escape this system of divine order.

When he does, he is always motivated by human viewpoint which is manifest by human good and evil.

God has established His system of establishment authority so that it compensates for and adjusts to the thoughts, decisions, and actions of mankind.

Whatever happens in a given society is a result of its citizens' collective thoughts, decisions, and actions.

If a positive result occurs then it is because they were in agreement with the divine system. If a negative result occurs it is because they were in opposition to the divine system.

Man cannot escape this system. He can only adjust to it.

Establishment order is so constructed that good is always prospered and rewarded while evil is always disciplined and judged.

In the Church Age, God does not need actively involved in human history except in very extreme cases when the Pivot must be protected.

Bad decisions accumulate so as to lead to the ultimate downfall of a society.

Good decisions accumulate so as to lead to the ultimate prosperity of a society.

Those who refuse to submit to establishment challenge a system which cannot be defeated.

These types really have only two choices: Resist and loose, adjust and win.

The application of this principle on a national scale is taught in Scripture with reference to Israel:

Leviticus 26:1 - You shall not make for yourselves idols, nor shall you set up for yourselves an image or a sacred pillar, nor shall you place a figured stone in your land to bow down to it; for I am the Lord your God.

Leviticus 26:2 - You shall keep My sabbaths and reverence My sanctuary; I am the Lord.

This was for starters. The message is that if a client nation is to be blessed it must be free of widespread idolatry among the people while believers worship God.

Leviticus 26:3, Leviticus 26:4 indicate that in addition to consistent worship function, they were also to keep God's statutes and His commandments.

If the Mosaic Law's three areas of responsibility—the Order, Establishment, and Spiritual codes—are honored then the entire nation will be blessed.

The nature of those blessings is outlined in Leviticus 26:4-Leviticus 26:13.

When the three codes are ignored, twisted, or forgotten so that people do not obey them, then national discipline results.

This is the doctrine of the five cycles of discipline whose analysis begins in:

Leviticus 26:14 - But if you do not obey Me and do not carry out all of these mandates

Leviticus 26:15 - If, instead, you reject My statutes, and if your soul abhors My laws so as not to carry out all My commandments, and so break My covenant,

Leviticus 26:16 - I, in turn, will do this to you:

What follows is a general description of national discipline which God imposes on a negative population. They are interlocked into five major cycles.

Please note the three categories of divine mandates which, if rejected, motivate divine justice to administer this discipline: "statutes," "laws," and "commandments."

"If you reject My statutes...:

CHUQQAH: Statute or regulation. Used in Exodus 25:1-Exodus 31:10 to describe Codex #3 of the Mosaic Law, what we call the Spiritual Code.

"... and if your soul abhors My laws...:

MISHPAT: Judgment or rights. Used in Exodus 21:1-23:9 to describe Codex #2 of the Mosaic Law, what we call the Establishment Code.

"...so as to carry out all My commandments...:

MITSWAH: Commandments. Used in Exodus 20:1-17 to describe Codex #1 of the Mosaic Law, what we call the Order Code.

Leviticus 26:15 inverts the sequence of the Mosaic Codes from how they are generally presented in Scripture.

The normal sequence is Codex # l, the Order Code, followed by Codex # 2, the Establishment Code, and then, finally, Codex # 3, the Spiritual Code.

The first Codex mentioned is the Order Code. Its purpose is to provide an environment of freedom so that under the Establishment Code citizens are free to worship God and pursue happiness.

Consequently, the Order and Establishment Codes provides a system of laws by which freedom may result under law and worship may function under grace.

In Leviticus 26:15 that order is reversed.

In the dispensation of Israel, the Spiritual Code required believers to worship through a specialized priesthood which functioned inside the Tabernacle and the Temple.

In the dispensation of the Church, the Spiritual Code requires believers to worship through the privacy of one's priesthood functioning inside the Divine Power System.

The failure of believers to exploit their advantages under the Spiritual Code means that eventually their impact on Establishment law will diminish.

Once spiritual impact on establishment law becomes ineffectual, then loss of order in the society quickly follows.

This results in the administration of the five cycles of discipline. The root cause is the loss of the Pivot's spiritual impact on the nation.

The permanent things promoted by biblical truth erode from the civil and criminal legal codes.

Disorder erupts and becomes a part of the cycles of discipline.

This reminds us of two quotes we have noted in our recent studies on morality and integrity and which relate to national decline:

Cicero, The Republic Book V

"Before our own time, the customs of our ancestors produced excellent men, and eminent men preserved our ancient customs and the institutions of their forefathers. What is now left of the 'ancient customs'...? They have been so completely buried in oblivion that they are not only no longer practiced, but are already unknown. And what shall I say of the men? The loss of our customs is due to our lack of men and for this great evil we must ... give an account."

This is summarized nicely by Russell Kirk in his book, America's British Culture, where he reminds us of the consequences "if we forget the ashes of our fathers and the temples of our gods."

The ashes of our Founding Fathers still speak through the founding documents of our nation. The temple of our God is found in the souls of those who have accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior.

We glorify both when we adjust to contemporary circumstances under the mental attitude of an ambassador and orient to the plan of God through the function of our priesthood.