

God's Laws Supersede Civil Laws

The rhetoric that is coming out of the mouths of many of our United States leaders and politicians is at times alarming. Godly principles are not the value system they stand on, nor live by. Sadly, the majority will say about anything to draw a following and to appease the ears of citizens along a divided spectrum. As contrary winds blow, leadership is tossed back and forth because soundness and uprightness have gone to the wayside.

When those in power and those wanting to be in power promote agendas that say laws need to be changed, citizens and voters should be asking and examining – which laws. Government is to be fulfilling its God-given purpose (cf. Romans 13:1-7). Civil laws play an important role in carrying out justice and upholding peace. Laws are to be obeyed. But the rhetoric that should alert Christians is the kind that states that matters of faith just need to be changed, that people should automatically change what they believe is right and wrong because of what civil law authorizes or does not authorize. Beware when the powers of the land view themselves as the sole lawgivers of a new standard of acceptable behavior.

The apostle Paul wrote about people who “*exchanged the truth of God for a lie,*” or who “*not knowing about God’s righteousness and seeking to establish their own*” did not obey Christ (Romans 1:25; 10:3). The general character of man has not changed since the first century. People today believe lies because falsehood condones sinful pleasures. People establish their own standard of defining and determining righteousness because they do not want to obey God’s righteousness.

God the Father gave “*all authority*” to His Son Jesus (Matthew 28:18). He has been seated “*far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named*” (Ephesians 1:21). Thus, men ought to obey Him; they ought to obey His commandments and doctrine. All souls will be judged on the last day according to His word of righteousness (John 12:48). When citizens of the King of kings are placed in predicaments of having to choose between God’s laws or man’s laws, “*We must obey God rather than men*” (Acts 5:29).