

Messenger of Truth

"Holding forth the Word of Life" (Phil. 2:16)

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Law

"A law is valuable not because it is the law, but because there is right in it." – Henry Ward Beecher

"A child who has been taught to respect the laws of God will have little difficulty respecting the laws of men." – J. Edgar Hoover

"The law condemns the best of us; but grace saves the worst of us." – Joseph Prince

"No man is above the law and no man is below it: nor do we ask any man's permission when we ask him to obey it." – Theodore Roosevelt

"The law is reason, free from passion." – Aristotle

It is no secret that some men dislike law and order. If some had their way they no doubt would prefer anarchy, much as they did in the day of the judges. "In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes (Judges 17:6; 21:25).

America today is not far from such a notion. People want the right to do whatever they want and be accepted for it. They forget the words of the wise man. "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death" (Prov. 14:12; 16:25).

When ancient Israel left the land of Egypt bound for the Promised Land, God imparted to them His law. The law had a purpose. The law makes us aware of what is right and wrong. "What shall we say then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law..." (Rom. 7:7).

The law may be regarded as a teaching tool. "Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith" (Gal. 3:24). The KJV speaks of the law as a "schoolmaster." Essentially, we are talking about an instructor.

Regretfully, some have looked upon the New Testament as being without law. Some in the religious world have said that grace replaced the law. True, we are "saved by grace" (Eph. 2:8-9), but that does not negate any kind of law at all. There is the distinct reference to "the law of Christ" (Gal. 6:2). James makes reference to "the perfect law of liberty" (James 1:25). To have no law again would invite anarchy.

Today we live under a theocracy. The word of Christ is our law. Did not Jesus Himself say, "If you love Me, keep My commandments" (John 14:15)? And again, "You are My friends if you do whatever I command you" (John 15:14).