

**Session #5: LABOR AND REWARD IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND IN THE KINGDOM OF MAN --Part 2**

**I. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> Commandments = ultimate metaphysical reality**

A. 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>: Everyone must act as though the Bible is true in order for there to be a rational, predictable, and meaningful environment to work in. (Systematic hypocrisy of unbelief)  
“Multi-culturalism” is destructive of the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> commandments because it

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The battle for biblical faith is at the cultural center—the family (cf **Deut 6**)

“Education is. . . a most powerful ally of Humanism, and every American public school is a school of Humanism. What can the theistic Sunday-school, meeting for an hour once a week, and teaching only a fraction of the children, do to stem the tide of a five-day program of humanistic teaching.?” Charles Potter, Humanism A New Religion (1930)

Resolution = “liberty of conscience”

- a. Keep asking the 3 basic questions
- b. Keep asking who do they say Jesus Christ is

B. 10<sup>th</sup>: Envy and coveting is the handmade of “egalitarianism.” Dissatisfaction with the God’s design of economic laws that enforce consequences of choices evokes the mental attitude sin of envy that leads to the idea that all people are entitled to \_\_\_\_\_ (see **Gen. 26:12-15**).  
The “pieces of the pie” or “zero-sum” theory denies \_\_\_\_\_.

**II. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>:Commandments = basis of science, jurisprudence, and economics (contractual agreements, accounting, labeling—including money).**

A. 3<sup>rd</sup>: Important basis of human knowledge capacity

B. 9<sup>th</sup>: Integrity in courts (society’s centerpiece of justice) so rich and poor have equal access and receive equal justification or condemnation:

**Lev 19:15** “You shall do no injustice in judgment: you shall not be partial to the poor nor defer to the great, but you are to judge your neighbor fairly.”

**Prov 20:23** “Diverse weights are an abomination to the LORD, and dishonest scales are not good”

**Deut 19:14 landmark** = legal record manipulated

**1 Cor 15:15** errant proclamation = false witnessing

**Justice in the Bible** = rendering *impartially* to each his due in accordance with God’s standard (objective value source). Economic needs are not within this domain → civil government incapable of ascertaining objective economic value.

**III. 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Commandments –labor is to be done with dependency upon God’s labor & its reward—wealth & property—are to be respected.**

A. 4<sup>th</sup>: 6 day workweek—the Sabbath purpose (Deut 8; **Ps 127:2** “*It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows; for so He gives His beloved sleep.*”

“Proof-texts” of Christian Socialism:

Sabbath Year = **Deut 15:1-3**

Jubilee Year = **Lev 25:8-34**

So-called “communism” in the early Church = **Acts 2:44-45** and **4:34-35**

B. 8<sup>th</sup>: this command implies private property rights

Legitimacy of private ownership: **Matt 20:15; Acts 5:4; 1 Kings 21**

Respect for property: **Exod 22:1-15** (restitution); **Deut 22:1-4; 24:14-15**

Therapy for thieves: **Eph 4:28**

God’s ownership & personal generosity: **Ps 50:10; Exod 22:26-27; Prov 23:10; Deut 15:7-11; 18:1-5; 23:19-20; 24:19-22**

**IV. CONCLUSION:**

Labor and reward in the Kingdom of God and in the Kingdom of Man

Taxes to supply what goes beyond civil authority's legitimate functions is also theft: **1 Sam 8:7-19** → shows the "normal" state of labor and reward in the Kingdom of Man ("thou should not steal unless thou art the king") A democracy can become just as much a tyranny as a dictatorship when *vox populi* becomes *vox dei*.

**Exod 23:2** "You shall not follow a multitude in doing evil, nor shall you testify in a dispute so as to turn aside after a multitude to pervert justice."

<b>Civil Government &amp; Property</b>	
Legitimate Power	Illegitimate Power
1. Enforce the 8 <sup>th</sup> commandment against destruction of property & records of ownership 2. Exercise control when other peoples' rights under the Decalogue are threatened by owner's control.	1. Eminent domain applied after ownership begins 2. Exercise control without threat to other peoples' rights under the Decalogue (e.g., rent & price controls, inflation of the currency)

Legitimate taxes:

**Exod 30:15** "The rich shall not give more, and the poor shall not give less" (Poll tax---a/2 shekel paid by every male 20yrs or older for the civil functioning.

**Lev. 27:32** the 1<sup>st</sup> tithe went to the priest and Levites scattered throughout Israel (some civil duties, but mostly education, welfare, public health; the 2<sup>nd</sup> tithe went to the poor. But central government did not control where it went!