

Grown-Ups In The Room Pt.5: “No Shame in Obeying God’s Law.”

I Text:

Old Covenant: *Jeremiah 17:1-11*

New Covenant: *1Peter 1:13-16*

II Doctrine: The Apostle exhorts us to have our mind focused on the Word of God. Our mind must filter the feelings emanating from our heart. The world system teaches us to “follow our heart” because that is how it controls us. A disciplined mind focused on the word of God keeps us from returning to a life of sin. Stoicism had a strong influence on early Christianity because it taught denial of emotions if they were not in agreement with “divine reason”. Even pagans through the light of nature knew not to blindly trust their emotions. Christians are to follow God’s law in this world, to imitate the character of our Father in heaven. Unlike pagans, God’s Spirit gives us the power to resist evil. Jesus Christ cares about our actions as well as our words.

III Comparing Scripture With Scripture:

1) The Apostle exhorts us to have our mind focused on the Word of God. Our mind must filter the feelings emanating from our heart. The world system teaches us to “follow our heart” because that is how it controls us. (*1Peter 1:13; Jeremiah 17:1-11*)

2) A disciplined mind focused on the word of God keeps us from returning to a life of sin. Stoicism had a strong influence on early Christianity because it taught denial of emotions if they were not in agreement with “divine reason”. Even pagans through the light of nature knew not to blindly trust their emotions. (*1Peter 1:14; James 1:2-8*)

3) Christians are to follow God’s law in this world, to imitate the character of our Father in heaven. Unlike pagans, God’s Spirit gives us the power to resist evil. Jesus Christ cares about our actions as well as our words. (*1Peter 1:15,16; James 1:13-25*)

~“If you preach the gospel in all aspects with the exception of the issues which deal specifically with your time —you are not preaching the gospel at all.”

— **Martin Luther** (1483-1546)

“For earthly princes lay aside their power when they rise up against God, and are unworthy to be reckoned among the number of mankind. We ought, rather, to spit upon their heads than to obey them.”

— **John Calvin** (1509-1564)

“Resistance to tyranny is obedience to God.”

“A man with God is always in the majority.”

— **John Knox** (1513-1572)

Definitions:

Stoicism noun

- 1.the endurance of pain or hardship without the display of feelings and without complaint
- 2.an ancient Greek school of philosophy founded at Athens by Zeno of Citium. The school taught that virtue, the highest good, is based on knowledge; the wise live in harmony with the divine Reason (also identified with Fate and Providence) that governs nature, and are indifferent to the vicissitudes of fortune and to pleasure and pain.