



**Berachah Church Bible Studies: The Problem of Judicial Tyranny: R. B. Thieme, Jr., on the Divine Institutions of Marriage & Family; Essay: Biblical Orientation to Judicial Tyranny**

28. The Mosaic Law set up marriage as a system of order that provided stability to client nation Israel:

**Vos, Howard E. *Nelson's New Illustrated Bible Manners & Customs: How the People of the Bible Really Lived.* (Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1999), 103-104:**

**Family Affairs.** Through marriage the Hebrews found personal fulfillment. Through bearing children they kept the Hebrews from extinction among the nations and fulfilled a responsibility to the family to raise up an inheritance. In this context the Mosaic Law sought to guard the home, protect parents, control children, regularize marriage relationships, set limits on sexual activity and spell out laws of inheritance. (p. 103)

Numerous controls regulated marriage and divorce. If a man committed adultery with a married woman, both of them were to be executed (Deuteronomy 22:22). Divorce could only be undertaken with a written certificate of divorce (Deuteronomy 24:1).

Men and women could practice sex only in the marriage relationship. God did not countenance adultery, homosexuality, mating with beasts, and various sexual liaisons within the family or with near relatives (Leviticus 20:10-21; cf. Exodus 22:19, 22). (p. 104)

29. The stability of the divine institutions of marriage and family is crucial to the survival of a client nation. This principle is emphasized in a very lucid summary of the two by:

**Thieme, R. B., Jr. *Freedom through Military Victory.* 4<sup>th</sup> ed. (Houston: R. B. Thieme, Jr., Bible Ministries, 2003), 8-11:**

**Marriage.** Marriage provides the structure for stability in society, the foundation of civilization. God's plan for husband and wife prohibits fornication, adultery, promiscuity, homosexuality, communal living, polygamy, and frivolous divorce. When the divine design for marriage is spurned by enough people, degeneracy permeates society and the nation declines.

God designed one specific man for one specific woman. The marriage of the right man to the right woman: (1) forms the most basic unit in society, (2) provides the framework for conjugal love and the only legitimate environment for sex; and (3) becomes the foundation for the third divine institution—the family.

**Family.** This fundamental organization of society combines with marriage to form a second biblical safeguard for the perpetuation of the human race. Two parents, mother and father, create the environment for raising children. An infant enters the world helpless, needing protection and training until able to sustain himself. The family offers material provision, security, discipline, and guidance enveloped in parental love.

In addition to these staples of nurturing, parents are mandated to instill in their children norms and standards. Authority in the family is vested in the parents. Parents must teach children obedience, the difference between right and wrong, and inculcate them with the principles of self-discipline, manners, and respect for others. Training and correction within the family convey stability to the individual, as well as to the national entity. (p. 9)



When basic principles of authority and self-discipline are not taught early in a child's life, they often reject all forms of authority as teenagers and young adults. Without authority orientation taught in the home that includes personal humility and respect for adult supervision, juveniles become insolent and defiant. Devoid of boundaries and self-absorbed, they reject divine establishment norms and standards. Peer pressure replaces adult authority. Self-gratification replaces the authority of law. These young people turn to alcohol abuse, illegal drugs, illicit sex, or gang activity. Violence becomes rampant, criminality is commonplace. If a significant number of young people defy authority, mindless rebellion overwhelms as entire generation.

When parents do not fulfill their responsibility and children do not "honor" their parents, the nation suffers from insecurity, instability, and eventual loss of liberty. National disintegration begins in the family. (p. 10)

The cycle of insecurity starts with the dissolution of the family and ends with the internal self-destruction of a nation. Therefore, maintaining stability and freedom depend on the integrity and standards of marital and parental authority. When parents have no virtue, the next generation lacks virtue, becomes insecure, and the nation declines. (p. 11)

30. From these excerpts satanic strategy becomes clear: in order to destroy a client nation first attack and demolish its cultural underpinnings beginning with the divine institutions.
31. The advent of homosexual marriage is simply one of many dominoes that has fallen in America's tumble during the progressive reconstruction of our culture.
32. The loss of the Judeo-Christian ethic has been gaining momentum for some while, enabling those who can interpret historical trends to predict the acceptance of homosexual matrimony.
33. George Will addresses this subject in a recent column:

**Will, George. "The Law Can Do what the Culture Has Undone," *Conservative Chronicle*, 10 Dec. 2003, 7:**

When Massachusetts' highest court asserted that same-sex marriage is a right protected by the state's constitution and entailed by recent U.S. Supreme Court reasoning about the U.S. Constitution, the president vowed to "do what is legally necessary to defend the sanctity of marriage." His vow implied ... premises for which conclusive evidence is lacking: ... law can do what the culture has undone.

More than 40 percent of America's first marriages end in divorce. Cohabitation by unmarried heterosexual couples has risen rapidly from 523,000 in 1970 to 4.9 million today. Procreation outside of marriage, although the seedbed of millions of individual tragedies and myriad social pathologies, has lost much of its stigma now that 33 percent of births—including about 60 percent of births of women younger than 25—occur to unmarried mothers.

So the "sanctity" of American marriage is problematic.

34. Homosexuality is but one of the stains that blots the escutcheon of our client nation. You will note that the "sexually immoral, idolaters, and adulterers" precede "homosexuals who are submissive sodomites, and homosexuals who are assertive sodomites" in 1 Corinthians 6:9.
35. Those who tolerate immorality in one area will be forced to accept immorality in other areas. One can't trumpet the sanctity of marriage as a defense when the institution of marriage has been flouted for half a century. We have sown the wind, now we reap the whirlwind.



36. Opposition to homosexuals marrying should not be based on Constitutional amendments, laws passed by Congress, or state legislatures issuing resolutions to restrict the institution to heterosexuals. It should be based on the principle that it is impossible for two individuals of the same sex to enter into a relationship that is historically and biblically defined as a union between one man and one woman.
- PRINCIPLE: Marriage is the divinely invented boundary in which one man and one woman can engage in conjugal union for the enjoyment of sex and the perpetuation of family and culture through the rearing of children.
37. However, the stark reality is that there is no longer any legal ground for restricting marriage to just those of the opposite sex. As George Will concludes in his column:
- There is no evidence that either the Massachusetts court or the U.S. Supreme Court realize how far the logic of their recent rulings goes. Taken together, the rulings point toward a constitutional right to, among other things, polygamy.
38. George is right. And the reason he is right is that the “equal protection” clause is now the basis for all court decisions that grant a broad spectrum of rights to every conceivable class of people. There is no end to how far it can go.
39. Consequently, those of traditionalist beliefs are going to encounter a continuous erosion of establishment and doctrinal viewpoints as the years progress.
40. Nevertheless, the accurate communication of the Word of God and the willingness of believers to live it and defend it are imperatives for the Christian. When doctrine is silenced then false teachers have open season on the souls of the vulnerable.
41. I have written an essay to address this dilemma that challenges the divine obligation placed upon us to become good soldiers for Christ:

### The Biblical Orientation to Judicial Tyranny

Christians of every sect and denomination must face the fact that our struggle attempts to revive a time, a tradition, and a culture that is now officially dead and we are going to have to get used to it. We are now the subjects of an unrestrained judicial tyranny that defies the clear restraints placed on government by the Constitution and its Bill of Rights.

What to do? First of all, we are to reference **Romans 13:1**, “Let every person be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God. (v. 2) Therefore he who resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves.”

Jesus Christ, who told Pilate, “You would have no authority over Me, unless it had been given you from above (John 19:11),” submitted not only to Pilate but also to that madman in Rome, Tiberius Claudius Caesar.



Paul was imprisoned twice by Nero but wrote the words “honor the king.” Peter was also persecuted by Nero but wrote the words in **1 Peter 2:13**, “Submit yourselves for the Lord’s sake to every human institution, whether to a king as one in authority, (v. 14) or to governors as sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and the praise of those who do right. (v. 15) For such is the will of God.”

Like it or not we live in a country far removed from that we knew as children growing up in our home towns. Things have changed. The rules are different. We must admit it. These changes have occurred because a free people have allowed them to take place. Our duty in the midst of this inversion of thought is to orient to this reality, but to adjust biblically.

The one thing that has not changed is the freedom of pastors to teach Scripture from the pulpits of America, if they would only accept the challenge. Parents may also instruct their children from the Scriptures in the privacy of their own homes, if they only will. If these two simple freedoms are utilized consistently for the next couple of generations then there is the possibility that we can recover biblical thought and restore order. Most of us will be dead and with the Lord before that day arrives.

The full context for this study addresses homosexuality and recent court decisions related to it. The homosexual issue is just one component of our domestic War of Cultures. This warfare pits progressives, motivated by satanic influence, versus traditionalists, motivated by establishment and/or doctrinal influence. The Cultural Marxists have done their assigned tasks well and have *legally* converted our culture from traditional to progressive. The operative word here is “legally.” In addition they have successfully propagandized four generations of American students into the thinking of progressivism. Judicially, this worldview has done its duty by interpreting the Constitution progressively. Consequently, what the Constitution used to say and mean has been distorted and spun to mean quite something else.

In my opinion the culprit that enabled this to occur is the Fourteenth Amendment which applies its “equal protection” and “due process” clauses to the States. If all are equal as the progressives maintain and if the Fourteenth guarantees people “equal protection” under the law, then all “speech, religion, and press” are equally “free” and may not be restrained by governmental decree, national or local. Whereas in pre-Fourteenth America, community standards regulated State and local issues, in post-Fourteenth America community standards must submit to the Amendment’s “equal protection” and “due process” clauses. Like it or not the Fourteenth IS the Constitution. We have a tendency to want to interpret the Constitution from a traditional worldview but legally we cannot. The Fourteenth must always be considered in our evaluation of an issue. This is how I predicted that Alabama’s Chief Justice Harold Moore would lose his case. If one person is “offended” by the Ten Commandments monument then under “due process” he has the constitutional right to be “equally protected” from it. It’s like shooting ducks at the county fair. It’s easy to be a lawyer today. Whatever the issue, quote the “equal protection” clause of the Fourteenth and you’ll win. We don’t like this, yet we fail to recognize that it is a constitutionally valid rationale. Therefore, a question must arise: how does a traditionalist comply with a system of laws that is based on progressive ideologies that have been legalized by a Constitution that contradicts itself? This makes it very difficult to balance one’s respect for the law and one’s obedience to divine mandates. Here are my suggestions on how this might be accomplished based on three principles I learned from the Colonel:

1. The believer must learn to be flexible with regard to non-essential issues and inflexible about essential issues. This gives a person a sense of order in knowing how to pick his battles.
2. Human solutions are no solutions; the divine solution is the only solution.
3. Jesus Christ controls history.



With these in mind I submit that, until order is restored, the believer must develop the following rationales:

- (1) "On the one hand, he must be willing to suppress traditionalist beliefs and submit to and comply with the laws of the progressives as long as they do not require him to reject what biblical mandates condone."

We "suppress traditional beliefs" quite often in order to "comply with the laws of the progressives." I buckle my seat belt, I walk through metal detectors, and I pump ethanol into my gas tank. None of these rejects a biblical mandate. I have been able to opt out of Social Security but I will be forced in about three years to become a card-carrying member of MediCare. I pay taxes on my investments and property. All these are renderings to Caesar that are nontraditional but also nonessentials.

- (2) "On the other hand, the believer must be prepared to submit to traditional beliefs and reject the laws of the progressives whenever they require him to submit to and comply with what biblical mandates condemn."

I am prepared to "submit to traditional beliefs and reject the laws of the progressives" when they put essential doctrines to challenge. On subject, I will never marry homosexuals although this may well become a legally mandated obligation in the future based on the Fourteenth, cited repeatedly in *Lawrence v. Texas* and *Goodridge v. Dept. of Public Health*. I'll stand by doctrine and take the consequences. I will always show up to teach Bible class and will not compromise the message, actions that may soon run afoul of the progressives' Thought Police. I will not compromise the gospel or the superiority of Christianity over religion. We could build a long list. But I and my church presently remain free to carry out the five essentials of client nation function which are executed by the church and its membership. Therefore, the laws of the progressives do not, as yet, negatively affect any essential doctrines as far as the local church is concerned.

Next principle: Human solutions are no solutions; the divine solution is the only solution.

The Fourteenth is law. It is entrenched into precedent and case law. To buck decisions that have been made based on this amendment lead to crusader arrogance. Nothing good can be accomplished, those who try will lose, and doctrine will not be magnified. This happened to Judge Moore. It was predictable. This does not mean that I do not sympathize with his effort but the Judge sought to play by the rules of engagement that were in place when the traditionalist worldview was the norm. The rules of engagement have changed. The progressive worldview is in power. They have the Constitution behind them. They are "legally" right. In order to maintain our traditionalist beliefs while obeying the law requires us to orient and adjust to the present Zeitgeist. To do so we must be organized in our thinking and have a set of principles that enables us to evaluate circumstances in order to make the right decisions.

Principle: Be flexible on the nonessentials and inflexible on the essentials.

Principle: Human solutions are no solutions; the divine solution is the only solution.

Principle: Jesus Christ controls history.

He is controlling it now. The country is experiencing the early stages of national discipline. When the Sons of Hagar attack a client nation you can be assured it is not Morning in America. Pressure, terror, fear, guilt, and confusion will serve to bring many to the Lord and others to destruction. We must be prepared and ready to offer truth to the positive in their moment of objectivity. The divine solution places a duty upon us to continue to grow in grace and let God execute perfect justice. To do otherwise is to buck the tiger. The odds are all on the house. Again, the progressives are legally right and have the power. Only God can sort this out and we need to stay out of His way. While He takes care of His business our duty is to take care of His through the execution of the sophisticated spiritual life.



Presently, believers must stand fast behind the garrison of truth in their souls: evangelize the lost, teach Scripture to the saved, and voice their firm belief that true freedom and domestic order can only be realized and maintained by broad public acceptance of the absolute truths found in the Word of God. We must press on with confident assurance that in the end, be it in this generation or one to follow, believers will ultimately witness the validation of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's refrain, "The wrong shall fail, the right prevail." This won't signal peace on earth, but peace will once again prevail in this client nation, for "God is not dead, nor doth He sleep!"

### Prayer:

Heavenly father, we are indeed comforted by the knowledge that our Lord controls history on our behalf. This assurance gives us the confidence and courage we need to continue our assigned duties in the Invisible War. We now pray that this assurance will enable us to perform the temporal tasks set before us: to continue our advance in Your perfect plan so that we might become front-rankers in the double-column phalanx; good soldiers for Christ in the raging conflict of cultures; and undistracted by the propaganda of the day that seeks to distract us from the objective of spiritual advance.

We stand prepared to achieve these responsibilities because we have had our souls armored by the power of Your infinite thought communicated to us faithfully by our pastor-teacher, Robert B. Thieme, Jr. We are privileged to have been assigned such an esteemed warrior of the Word to instruct us in the strategies and tactics of the sophisticated spiritual life. We lift our prayers of appreciation for him and Mrs. Thieme who for over fifty years have exhibited principles of stability and virtue to this congregation; a guidon to which those wearied by spiritual combat could rally; a beacon by which those who have deviated can reorient, a motivation for those who have pressed the attack and kept the faith.

May this congregation be undaunted in its obligation to seize the colors and to keep the columns moving forward thus achieving the individual victories that are intended for each. So that momentum might not be lost, we pray that the Board of Deacons and the members of this congregation at Fortress Berachah might be guided by the Holy Spirit in their selection of the next pastor-teacher of this church. Give them clarity of thought, objectivity of purpose, and courage of execution as they select the next *polemarch* of the Berachah Battalion. And may this choice enable this church to maintain its position on the high ground of Protestant biblical exposition for yet another generation in this client nation.

And we lift our prayers in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who is *Yahweh Sabaoth*, the Lord of the Armies. Amen.