



Ambassador Demons Haunt the Supreme Court; Case Law Assaults Traditional Culture; Joash's Reversionism Leads to a Compromise with the Baal Cult

- 11) Case law is the aggregate of reported cases which form a body of law on a given subject and supercede legal statutes. For example, the accumulation of case law related to the "establishment" clause of the First Amendment now supercedes statutes that governed church-state relationships prior to *Everson vs. Board of Education* in 1947.
- 12) Christianity in the United States is being compromised by an evolving cultural transition which is drifting away from a traditional worldview and into a progressive worldview.

"Justice: Can Constitution Make It in Global Age?" *WorldNetDaily.com*, 7 July 2003:

http://www.wnd.com/news/printer-friendly.asp?ARTICLE_ID=33444

Justice: Can Constitution make it in global age?

July 7, 2003

In a rare appearance on a television news show, Supreme Court Justice Stephen G. Breyer questioned whether the U.S. Constitution, the oldest governing document in use in the world today, will continue to be relevant in an age of globalism.

Speaking with ABC News' "This Week" host George Stephanopoulos and his colleague Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, Breyer took issue with Justice Antonin Scalia, who, in a dissent in last month's Texas sodomy ruling, contended the views of foreign jurists are irrelevant under the U.S. Constitution.

Breyer had held that a ruling by the European Court of Human Rights that homosexuals had a fundamental right to privacy in their sexual behavior showed that the Supreme Court's earlier decision to the contrary was unfounded in the Western tradition.

"We see all the time, Justice O'Connor and I, and the others, how the world really – it's trite but it's true – is growing together," Breyer said. "Through commerce, through globalization, through the spread of democratic institutions, through immigration to America, it's becoming more and more one world of many different kinds of people. And how they're going to live together across the world will be the challenge, and whether our Constitution and how it fits into the governing documents of other nations, I think will be a challenge for the next generations."

In the *Lawrence v Texas* case decided June 26, Justice Anthony Kennedy gave as a reason for overturning a Supreme Court ruling of 17 years earlier upholding sodomy laws that it was devoid of any reliance on the views of a "wider civilization."

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Kohl, Herbert. *From Archetype to Zeitgeist*. (Boston: Little, Brown and Co., 1992), 158:

There are a number of words used to indicate the nature and direction of social, political, and economic change. The status quo is the current historical situation in a particular community, state, or nation. **(Traditionalists)** are people who want to maintain the status quo. **Progressives** are people who advocate a new social, political, or economic order that provides for more personal and group freedom, and a greater equalization of opportunity, wealth, and power. **Reactionaries** are people who want to return to an older order characterized by some traditional authoritarian rule.



- 13) As a result, those in various areas of leadership are willing to allow establishment and doctrinal principles to be altered by this transition of thought. Certain expressions of the prevailing public opinion that emerge from the progressive ideology include the following which appear on the cover of:

Israel My Glory, March/April 2003, 1:

Christian conservatives have declared war on civil libertarians for the soul of America. — Dahleen Glanton, *Chicago Tribune*.

The problem isn't with Bush's sincerity, but with his evident conviction that he's doing God's will. —Martin E. Marty, *Newsweek*.

I tend to disagree with evangelicals on almost everything, and I see no problem with aggressively pointing out the dismal consequences of this increasing religious influence. — Nicholas D. Kristof, *The New York Times*.

- 14) These statements reflect the growing hostility felt by progressives toward traditional Christianity. To be fair, believers have no love lost for progressives. But the issue is not the conflict but the willingness of Christians to be intimidated by the verbal blasts of the anti-religious.
- 15) When leadership compromises truth in order to comply with prevailing public opinion then divine discipline is sure to follow. This is what faced Joash when the officials of Judah petitioned him for permission to reinstitute the worship of Baal.
- 16) The pusillanimous Joash complied and soon prophets began to preach against his hypocrisy. They pointed out that for Joash to remain a follower of Jehovah but to allow the worship of Baal in a client nation would rob it of its prosperity and call down divine discipline.
- 17) Zechariah, the grandson of Jehoiada, was the most outspoken and his admonitions against the Baal cult were so threatening to the newly establish return to power by the ambassador demons that the worshipers of Baal were motivated to demand his execution.
- 18) Joash is a believer in reversionism. The problem with reversionism is that it blots out divine viewpoint and the ability to recall and apply doctrine is neutralized. A definition of reversionism is found in:

Thieme, R. B., Jr. *Reversionism*. 2d ed. (Houston: R. B. Thieme, Jr., Bible Ministries, 1978), 8-9:

Many terms in fundamentalism have been used to describe reversionism, such as "backsliding" and "falling away from God," but these terms have failed to fully define the concept.

Reversionism is a maladjustment to the justice of God. For the unbeliever, the basic maladjustment is rejection of salvation; in the carnal believer, it is failure to rebound; but in the sphere of spiritual growth, maladjustment is reversionism, a state of spiritual decadence brought on by rejection or neglect of Bible doctrine. When a believer fails to grow spiritually or recedes, it is evidence of reversionism. Consequently, reversionism is the condition of the believer who is negative toward Bible doctrine and refuses to function under GAP. As a result, he remains in a state of carnality and is therefore under perpetual divine discipline. Mankind must either adjust to the justice of God, or the justice of God adjusts to him in cursing or punitive action.



- 19) Joash was a reversionist and as such did not have the moral courage to stand up to the proponents of Baalism. When Zechariah's message turned out to be more than they could bear, they demanded that the king dispense with him.