Mat 153

Historical trends, divine institution and the need for authority.

 LORD SUPPER

PRAYER over next few days.

Thank you to Chad & Jessica….James and Alison for the recent emails and donations….very uplifting.

Historical trends go either negative or positive….one direction or another they do not have any middle ground.

When we look at historical trends it is the key principle for CA Bels to recognize what is going on around them.

This is one of the clues TLJC gave to us;

/Mat 16:3 “And in the morning, ‘*There will be* a storm today, for the sky is red and threatening.' Do you know how to discern the appearance of the sky, **but cannot *discern* the signs of the times?”\**

There is no prophecy for CA Bels…the Rapture can happen right now… anytime!

That is why you hear pastor-teachers tell you…It is imminent!

There are a handful of prophecies left for the Tribulation and 1000 year reign of TLJC, that’s it folks.

When you hear the term historical trends you should perk your ears up.

You can’t fully understand historical trends without understanding God’s divine institutions. This all takes spiritual growth which gives us discernment.

/Those unable to recognize the laws of God’s 4 divine institutions are either Unbels or Bels with no doctrinal I.Q.;

Free will (personal freedom and the responsibility that goes with that)

Christian marriage (established in the original garden)

Family unit (values and protocol in God’s design of the family)

Nationalism (established laws and respect for maintaining a nation)\

ELABORATE

Anytime you breakdown any of these four institutions it will affect the others because they are woven together in a perfect way by God Himself.

In fact, the chain of command and any human authority are all tied to these four establishments.

The need for power is determined by the laws of divine establishment which define legitimate authority and power in the civil realm.

/One of the first tests of authority in life is parental. How you respond or react to parental authority determines the pattern for your life. When the family unit is broken or lacks the grand design of God working within it, then a weakness is already entered that establishment.\

Very Few people ever recover from total rebellion against their parents. I’m not talking about the arrogant teenager who occasionally test the authority of the parents but a real rebellious nature in a child, especially a teen who is nearing maturity. That can carry over well into the adult life of that child.

Because once we set a standard and practice certain behaviours, we set up patterns in our lives.

This is why the Apostle Paul taught principles like this;

/Col 3:20 Children, be obedient **to your parents in all things**, for this is well-pleasing to the Lord.

This establishes the standard that we obey authority even when we disagree or the authority may be wrong.\

Turn to Ephesians chapter six with me.

The exception to the rule is when it comes to obeying the word of God over the word of man.

ELABORATE (ask do something evil)

God issues the exact right parents for each child.

I know this type of teaching steps on a lot of toes but take it up with God not me.

Even for the abusive household or broken household God either ordained it or allowed that situation, now take into account…God wants ever household to be set up with HIS word and divine principles. (FREE WILL)

When it is not set up by HIS standards that is not HIS fault.

John 3:16 says, “God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, *that whoever believes* in him should not perish but have eternal life.” (Whoever - anybody)

I use a scripture like that because I then ask you…is the whole world saved?

No…because of free will…yet God offers salvation to all???!

2Pet 3:9 tells us God wants everyone to come to salvation that HE wants no one to perish…yet many do perish and will perish in that lake o fire.

The Word of God is either the believer’s authority in life or it is not.

If you had to deal with abuse as a child it was not part of God’s plan but it was the OSN of that abuser and Satan’s cosmic system that ignited that abuse.

REPEAT

God will heal that abuse if you get into a serious relationship with Him. In time GOD can do miracles in the mind and body of a broken person.

 Also, the environment may have made you stronger once you have conquered it thru TLJC. You can then use that past affliction as a way to help others.

There are thousands of examples of those from horrific backgrounds who became winners in life in different realms.

(great movie about this is called the Antwone Fisher story….Denzel is in it)

Now in Ephesians chapter six there is a distinct lesson on authority that Paul is teaching;

/Eph 6:1 Children, **obey your parents in the Lord**, for this is right.

The issue is never about the person in authority it is about the respect you have toward the Lord, HIS commands.\

This set of scriptures in verses one thru five is set in a command form in the present tense…habitually over and over again as part of a disciplined lifestyle. REPEAT

[Eph 6:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/eph/6/2/s_1103002) HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER (which is the first commandment with a promise),

[Eph 6:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/eph/6/3/s_1103003) SO THAT IT MAY BE WELL WITH YOU, AND THAT YOU MAY LIVE LONG ON THE EARTH.

This points us to a standard that never changes in time….CA dispensation or not some basic doctrinal standards never change…the 5th commandment to honor your parents brings you blessing

…always! PROMISED

/[Eph 6:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/eph/6/4/s_1103004) **Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger**, but bring them up in the **discipline and instruction of the Lord**.

This tells us abusive parenting is taken seriously by God. Also, that the parent needs to follow God’s protocol and implement HIS word as instruction in the household.\

[Eph 6:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/eph/6/5/s_1103005) Slaves, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in the sincerity of your heart, as to Christ;

The historic context of this is almost the equivalent of saying Employees obey the Employer…those in authority over you.

ELABORATE

/[Eph 6:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/eph/6/6/s_1103006) **not by way of eyeservice**, as men-pleasers, **but as slaves of Christ**, doing the will of God **from the heart**.

Do your job as unto the Lord, authority is established for a reason, respect is called for because ultimately God allowed that authority at that historic point.\

Just like in the military there is always a chain of command.

Flip backward to Eph chapter 5.

The husband and father of the household is in a position of authority, the pastor is the authority in the communication of doctrine and the supervision of the local church.

There has always been a chain of command in the word of God…it began in the garden it was the man who ultimately was held responsible for that fall from grace. This is what the arrogant male doesn’t realize…they like hearing they are head of household yet they do not like what it truly encompasses.

REPEAT

The fact is it is not a license to be a tyrant in fact the husband is called to be LIKE TLJC. Let me ask you…?

When did you ever read that TLJC bossed His people around like a dictator….when have you read TLJC humiliated or yelled at HIS followers?

In fact, TLJC was very protective of His followers and tried to teach them and nurture them to be good leaders themselves.

Fulfill that as a husband and maybe you have accomplished something in the plan of God.

Eph 5:22 Wives, *be subject* to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

YOUR OWN husband…singular.

/[Eph 5:23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/eph/5/23/s_1102023) For **the husband is the head of the wife,** as **Christ also is the head of the church**, He Himself *being* the Savior of the body.\

[Eph 5:24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/eph/5/24/s_1102024) But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives *ought to be* to their husbands in everything.

IN EVERYTHING.

[Eph 5:25](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/eph/5/25/s_1102025) Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, 26 so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,

That is the call men…not the call of a dictator that is never wrong and always in this position of complete dominance.

In fact…husbands…fathers the call is that you be the first line of defense concerning teaching BD.

You are the one that teaches principles and applies them as the role model.

Look what the another parable about responsibility speaks of ;

/Luk 12:48 but the one who did not know *it,* and committed deeds worthy of a flogging, will receive but few. From **everyone who has been given much, much will be required**; and to whom they entrusted much, of him they **will ask all the more.\**

This includes Bels in all realms but most certainly those who have been given much…those who have been given authority God puts more emphasis on what you do and how you treat His people. REPEAT

There are those who crave recognition and power and they had better realize it comes with a greater responsibility. This points us to the negative aspect of historical trends as well….those who gain power over others determine the direction that group of individuals will head toward.

The demand for power is determined by the motivating evil of cosmic one…those who have a selfish nature, live for power, wealth and approbation and the functional evil of cosmic two… which points to the system of legalism and man-made options & rituals.

/ Legitimate power always functions within the context of legitimate authority delegated by God through the laws of divine establishments, so that authority is defined for personal, social, economic, professional, national and spiritual life.\

When there is no restraint or acceptance of guidance from the word of God that power & authority is easily blown out of proportion and becomes entrenched with evil. REPEAT

This principle is true in a sport where the referee loses control, or maybe the head coach is either a tyrant or a weak leader.

We witness this in a nation where bad decisions from a position of weakness on the part of the government fail to protect the freedom, privacy, property and life of its citizens;or even in a local church where the congregation is to be protected by the teaching of Bible doctrine and privacy enforced;

 or in a home where parents have no control over their children.

/The historical trend for those who ignore God’s principles and divine establishments always brings on weakness & cracks in the foundation. In time it brings about rebellion and arrogance as a new norm and standard in that society/group. Eventually God allows *the reap what you sow* principle and divine discipline creeps in as a result.\ REPEAT

Since we are the products of our own volition rather than environment,motivational and functional evil of the cosmic system can only be restrained through- enforced and genuine humility, while turning back toward the word of God which characterizes the mature person in life. ELABORATE

/A mature person recognizes their own failure and takes responsibility for their own actions. They turn toward God and respect the sovereignty of the Almighty. They do not point the finger of blame on environment, others and circumstances even when there may be a legitimate reason to do so. Maturity demands accountability & clear thinking related to truth.\

The blame game or wallowing in past problems and mistakes or even past attacks that you had to endure never help you gain spiritual momentum.

For the most part it is rehashing something that makes you feel angry, frustrated… ashamed or guilty and it is a vicious cycle.

One that you can do nothing about…it is over and done with. REPEAT

Always address a problem head on get it out of your system and seek the solution not focus on the problem. You don’t ignore it or sweep it under the rug.

Lay it out on the divine courtroom of heaven and take responsibility for anything you did and also allow God to teach you grace and forgiveness for others…get it over with.

Learn and grow do not become trapped and slide backward into negativity.

/Historical trends that are heading into negative territory can only be healed and turned around by allowing God and His principles to do the work. This takes removing distractions, or other priorities that have blocked HIS word out of the way. Replacing them with Bible Doctrine. A small group of positive Bels can be the cure if they are willing to live in & present truth to a lost and dying world.\

For that matter one man or woman can make a huge difference.

/Noah as a family leader (Gen 6:8), Joseph as a government leader (Gen 42:6) & Daniel as a captive leader (Dan 1:8) all represent examples of one person turning the tide of evil by staying strong inside the plan of God.\

We could use Gideon…Joshua…Moses and even men like Paul or Barnabas and Luke as examples of one person who made a huge difference in the plan of God and it touched into the lives of everyone around them.

For the most part it was a historically turning point.

I use the Apostle Paul because he was rejected at first by the 11 original apostles, he had made himself an enemy of Christianity yet he pressed on until he fulfilled his role as possibly the most important Apostle.

And Barnabas and Luke sustained Paul throughout his ministry in many situations. Barnabas was the main link that Paul could rely on at first between him and the true followers of Christ who at first rejected him.

As we close let us remember the most important piece of human history or history throughout the universe which happened at the Cross on Calvary.

We learned about divine authority today;

Let us now prepare to recognize the divine authority of the one true Lord & Savior Jesus Christ as we close.

Royal Family there is no authority greater… there is no historical event greater than, what TLJC embarked upon when HE became flesh…the word became flesh and dwelt among us.

If God was willing to do that for even one of us…why should we have worry or fear right now…why doubt when the greatest event and sacrifice in the universe was completed in our favor for our iniquities. What can mere man do to us compared to what we have in union with Christ.

The victory is already complete in TLJC…whatever we endure is a momentary light affliction that carries a great weight of eternal glory forever and ever only because TLJC did it for us.

On the night He was betrayed HE took the bread and broke it saying this is my body which is broken for you….in remembrance of what the TLJC did for us let us eat that bread.

On that same night Jesus took the cup and said this is my blood…the blood of a new and everlasting covenant and each time you take the bread and drink the cup you bring ME into remembrance and out of respect for HIS divine authority and love for HIM let us remember HIM as we drink the cup. Let us pray.