

New Name Ministries

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Insider's View

By Beecher Cameron

The Law is Not Enough

We are a nation of laws, not of men; everyone has heard this. It is widely interpreted to mean that no matter a person's station or status in life, the law will be applied equally to all. It has always seemed to me that another meaning can be read into it. Judgement is not necessary, and the concept of degree can get lost. It's a binary decision. The law was violated, or it was not. A penalty is ascribed, and the matter is closed.

"Let he who is without sin cast the first stone." Those words, that idea, introduce mercy and Kingdom relationship in human interaction. Jesus' authority to speak on the place of law is absolute. He is not advocating disobedience; He's requiring us to understand that

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Please Welcome our New Arrivals

David Cohen
Larry Strickland
David Stone

Congratulation to our Most Recent Graduates

Johnnie Gonzales
Matthew McMurray

From the Father's Heart

By Pastor Jon Cordeiro

Let Truth be Your Stronghold

Just when you thought you'd seen it all – POOF! Everything changes! Many of you have been dreaming of "The Big Day", you know, the day when you are released into the "Free World". The day when "everything changes!" This so called "Free World" has been the enemy's playground since Adam and Eve (not Steve) messed up the best deal ever: "Hey, you two! I'm putting you both over all of My creation. And, I want you to enjoy yourselves freely; eat, sleep and make sure you procreate to populate!" "Oh, just one thing, do not eat of the tree of evil and good in the middle of the garden- it'll make you sick."

Sick, what's sick mean? They had no clue about sin. Nor about disease, regret, doubt, hatred, judgement, sorrow, and especially fear. Heck, they KNEW they were God's creation and that He could do anything – He made them! Yet, as time went on, complacency covered their hearts and they forgot who's they were and what they were created for – they looked outside themselves for their identity and fell into a trap of biblical proportion. Identity theft still seems to be a problem for His beloved today.

There is nothing new under the sun -

though always something new for us when under The Son! If we get distracted and focus on what's going on around us rather than seeking to see what's going on in the Kingdom of Heaven (that we're supposed to bringing to earth), we'll be eating rotten apples, again, and soon find ourselves sick from the inside out wishing we'd not listened to that snake oil salesman.

Prison is a place where some folks fabricate and cogitate to pass the time away. Sometimes so much so, that they start believing their own stories, or the tales of others, as they engage in the negativity of this world. In Romans 12:2 the Word of God tells us "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind." I suspect that if we don't renew our mind with His Word, it will be renewed by the World around us. Much of life is learned through osmosis; people assimilating and emulating all that goes on around them.

Quick example: Donna's mom would often prepare a roast every Sunday for the family meal. As a youngster, Donna would help in the kitchen and learned how to cook by watching her mom. Her mom would always cut the ends of the roast off before placing it in the pan to cook. Years later, Donna's mom

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Insider's View

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human relationships are more important, and they, not the law, are what makes the Kingdom of God.

Our lives are full of relationships, intimate, formal, temporary, even momentary. They all should have honor at their core. The law creates an organized and structured society, but it does little or nothing toward making it a desirable place to live. That responsibility lies not with presidents, legislators, judges, or the clergy. It is a shared responsibility of each person accomplished through relationships. Constructive interactions between people enhance life and bring stability at all levels of human organization. People try harder and sacrifice willingly not because a law requires it; they do these things to honor the greatness within themselves and others.

As we publish this quarter's newsletter the nation and the world are in midst of the Covid-19 pandemic. It is a different and more uncertain world than just three short weeks ago, and certainly a more fearful one. Government at all levels is reacting with restrictions intended to prevent or slow the spread of the virus, and it is proper and necessary that they do so. Still, many people are reacting out of fear, stripping grocery store shelves and hoarding items making it difficult for others to obtain needed items.

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Father's Heart

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was visiting her daughter and family for a Sunday meal, a roast of course.

Offering to help in the kitchen, her mom saw her cutting the ends off the roast before placing it in the pan to be cooked. Confused, her mother asked why she did so? Donna simply said "Well, that's how you always did it when I was growing up." Her mother laughed aloud, and told her "Sweetie, that was because I didn't have a large enough pan!"

One doesn't need to go to prison to become institutionalized, there are plenty of dysfunctional messes in this so-called free world that are the result of intentional and unintentional conditioning through repeated lies and/or experiences. Once you hear or see something enough, it becomes your baseline, effectually triggering how, when, where and why you react or respond to life's challenges and problems. These mindsets become strongholds that keep the Truth from operating within and without.

Insight: How do banks train their Tellers to know counterfeit bills? They have them study the real bills so they'll know the phony ones.

Philippians 4:8 (NIV) says "Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things." Everything begins with a thought – think about it.

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Lessons from the Rearview Mirror

By David Cohen

We have all heard it said, even religiously quoted by the "scholars", that no man who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the Kingdom of God (Lk. 9:22). I want you to understand that I agree with this in dealing with our lives in Christ. Why would you want to be delivered from your sin just to go back? However, this article addresses what I have learned during my first month free after 19 years, 2 months, and seven days in prison. (But who's really counting?)

We have all committed crimes that have led to incarceration or probation, and in some cases both. The biggest problem that I have noticed since being released is that there are quite a few people who are taking Luke 9:22 and setting themselves up for failure. Yes, the Holy Spirit of God can change your desires, addictions, and perversions. (An old friend of mine called them your "want to's") God can change your want to's; but the scriptures also talk about our desires driving us to sin, and about how a pig goes back to the mire. So, ultimately the choice rests with us.

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Insider's View



Laws can only do so much; you cannot legislate character and integrity. The action of each individual will always be important, but now unity has become critical. There must be a recognition that each of us has a responsibility to each other not to react out of fear or selfishness, but to act in mercy, grace, and faith. We do have relationships with total strangers, and those might be the most important of all. The law is not enough, and we never want to get to the point where it is all we value.



**Father's Heart
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So, where is this train of thoughts going? Back to the Word, the place where every answer is right and the instructions for life are clear.

Your ticket is prepaid and the exchange rate is out of this world; give God your junk and He gives you His blessings. No worries about being perfect, just be willing to be perfected and pursue the Kingdom in all ways. Colossians 3:1 says "Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. "For you died..." yup, when we're born again we put off the old man (spiritually speaking) and put on the new. Even though sealed by God as belonging to Christ, the physical man still has to work out the salvation of his soul by the renewing of his mind.

Lean into God's Word and apply it to all of your life, not just where others can see it or approve of it. Rest in God's goodness and know that He is faithful even when we aren't. Keep your heart tender toward the things of the Lord. He's coming back, soon. Let Truth be your stronghold!

**Rearview Mirror
continued**

What can we learn from the rearview mirror? What drove us off the road in the first place?

When we look back, we can see a lot more clearly the choices we made, and the results of those choices, the destruction to our lives, and the lives of our loved ones. If we refuse to look at our rearview then we are admitting that we really don't care to change and the damage done doesn't matter. Show me a man that doesn't learn from his past and I will show you a man condemned to repeat it. Triggers, needs, issues, thinking errors and all the other things that make us who we are will be in control of our lives until we admit that we are allowing them to control us. Once acknowledged, we can move forward to addressing the decisions we made based off of them. We can no longer just fix our eyes forward and say: "the past is the past and I can't change it!" We cannot change it, but we can use it as a guide to success in our future. How can you truly know who I am if I forget where I've been? If I don't know who I really am then how do I know who I really want to be?

These are the questions I have been forced to ask myself in this past month. In the next few newsletters I will attempt to teach you on the things that I am learning in this brand new, fast passed, ever-changing free world. Adjust your rearview mirror. We've travelled a lot of miles through a lot of trials that will repeat themselves up ahead of us!