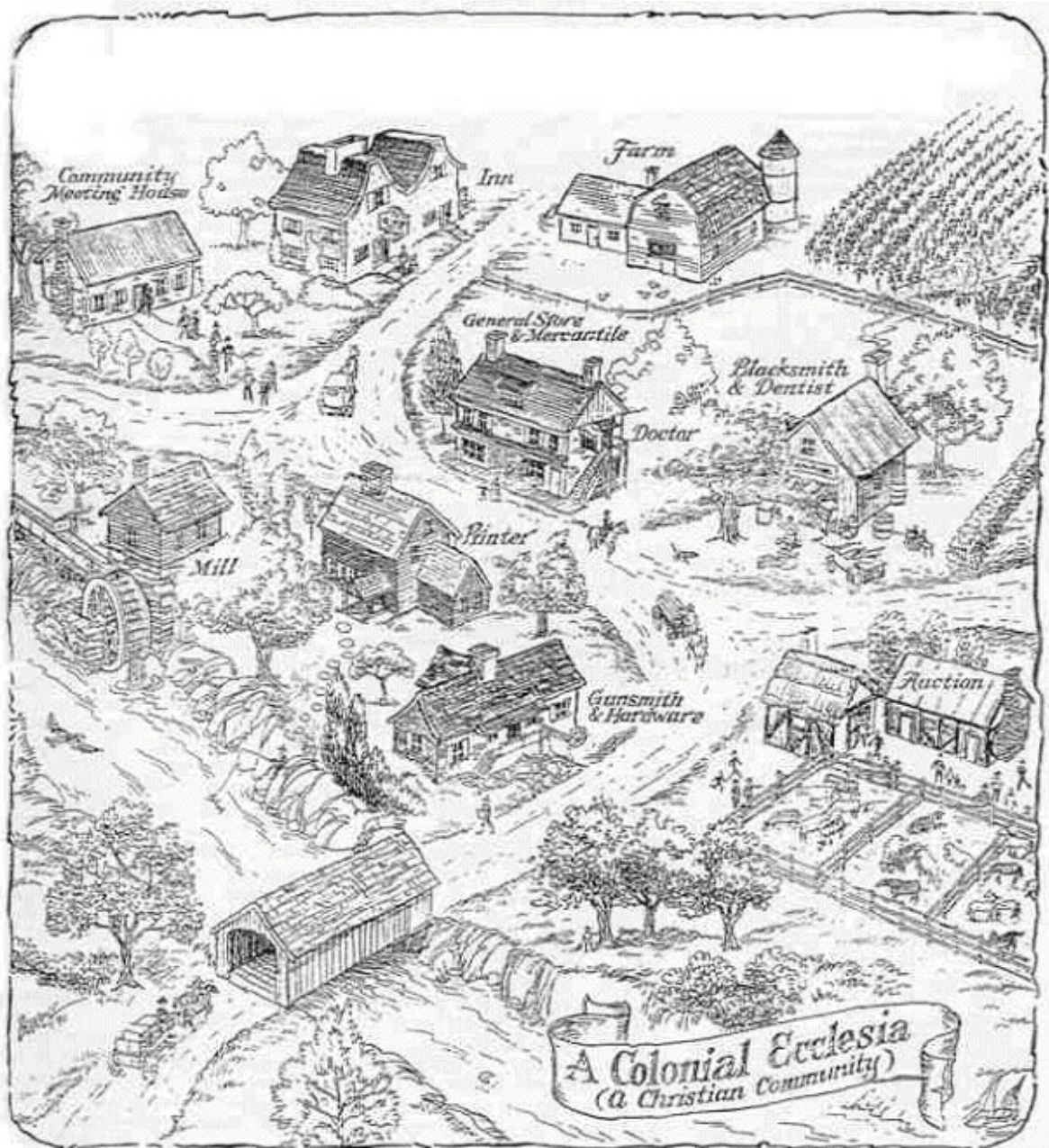


What is The Ecclesia? By Ben Williams



What is The Ecclesia?

**By
Ben Williams**

Preface

"Ecclesia" is an entirely different word with an entirely different meaning than "kuriakos" ("church")

Eventually, through the manipulation of organized religion, "church" came to replace "ecclesia" by popular acceptance. Indeed, churches have achieved their goal-- to neutralize Christians!

Churches are proving grounds for religious tricksters, con artists and politicians. Churches facilitate greed and superstition. They prey upon the gullible. CHURCH IS THE GREAT AMERICAN IDOL, AND CHURCHGOERS ARE IDOLATERS.

The Greek "ecclesia" was "a civil body politic." This is strong proof that the Christian "ecclesia" we read about in the New Testament was an INDEPENDENT CIVIL BODY OF CHRISTIANS -- independent from rulers and man's government. Their objective was to be free to serve King Jesus. This phenomenon had nothing to do with building and attending churches! Churches are NOT ecclesias!

- **Part One: What Is The Ecclesia?**
- **Part Two: Is It A Church? Is It A Cult? Is It Important?**
- **Part Three: Life On The Plantation**

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Part One of Three

What is The Ecclesia?

Is It A Church? Is It A Cult? Is It Important?

I am writing these things to you, hoping to come to you quickly: but in case I am delayed, you will know how you should conduct yourself in the house (domain) of God, which is the ecclesia of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth. (1 Timothy 3:14-15)

The ecclesia of the living God IS the pillar and ground of the truth! That makes it pretty important. If we can define "ecclesia," we will have identified "the pillar and ground of the truth." Few endeavours are as important and rewarding as this.

But, defining words is the crucial factor that many people never consider. Some purposely ignore it. Because of this, millions of people have missed the true meaning of the "ecclesia." And, because they have missed this meaning, they now find themselves unwittingly in support of an institution the early Christians despised.

WORD MEANINGS SHOULD NOT FLUCTUATE

One of the things that I enjoy, as most of my readers can attest, is chasing down the true meaning of a word. Learning the origins and correct meanings of words provides answers for many things. A word study will sometimes force me to change my use of a word after discovering that I've been using it wrongly. Finding past errors, however, is nothing to be ashamed of -- unless we refuse to correct those errors. This quest, of course, never ends. There is more to learn than one lifetime allows. But, we can, and should, develop adequate vocabularies.

After studying a few words, we begin to realize that knowing the popular usage of a word may mean very little. Dictionaries often give the popular (common) usage of a word as its definition. They simply parrot the fads of the masses whose popular (common) vocabulary is an abomination. The masses misuse many of the words in their limited vocabulary ... and you, no doubt, are misusing some of these same words -- right along with the masses. To read and understand historical writings, like the Bible, you must know the original meaning of its words. This requires that you have an etymological dictionary at your disposal.

It can be embarrassing when you find you've been using a word wrongly. However, learning truth should be rewarding to everyone except the crude, the uncaring, or the insecure who cannot concede to having been wrong.

When I discover a word that I've been using wrongly, I always wonder how much I've contributed to today's confusion by my misuse of the language. There have been some vital words which I've misused in the past. And, I've found that a word can cause quite a change in my life. How we use words has a great effect on us.

Words allow us to communicate on a higher level of intelligence than the animals. Words are tools. However, for two people to share these tools, both people must have a common understanding of word meanings. Communication between intelligent beings requires a standard meaning of words. Otherwise, my words will mean something different to others than they do to me. For instance, "day" means a 24-hour period including one instalment of daylight and one instalment of darkness. However, in old Hebrew, and Greek, "day" meant ONLY the period of daylight.

Thus, words must be defined in order to understand the writers' intentions. Otherwise, when I say "freedom (a right)," you may think I mean "license (a privilege granted to do something that

is otherwise unlawful)." When I say "government (i.e. self-disciplined)," you may think "Washington D.C. (central rulers)." When I say "ecclesia (Christian community)," you may think "church (i.e., a religious organization)." If your definition of a word is different than mine, we probably will not communicate accurately. And, when a society uses words wrongly, it gets confused and debilitated. Progress stops.

So, the pursuit of correct word usage is a noble endeavour -- one which has a direct bearing on man's intelligence and progress. The typical American, today, suffers from mental dysfunction -- partly due to his crippled vocabulary.

Intelligence and vocabulary go hand-in-hand. Not only does intelligence produce better vocabularies, but living in an environment where words are used properly actually facilitates the development of intelligence in people. By the same token, an environment where word meanings are twisted or neglected produces illiteracy -- the kind we see rampant in American schools today.

Nowadays, most conversations between young folks consists of little more than colloquialisms, idiomatic expressions and body language (facial expressions, hand waving, head bobbing, twitching, jivin', etc.). But, having a conversation of this sort does not constitute intelligent communication.

People have adapted by learning to read emotion, body language and vocal tone rather than depending upon word meanings. Words have become less important, and gut feelings have become the mode of communication. This, of course, makes learning beyond an elementary level quite impossible. Confusion and inability to communicate frustrates us and destroys initiative. A statement expressed the same way will mean one thing to one person, and something different to another person. This strange anomaly is a feature of American (mixed) culture. The meanings of the individual words become irrelevant to the intended message. Instead of using the rich resource of words available to them, people are reduced to faddish expressions and phrases. And, ...*"like, if you can dig it"* then, *"like, everything's cool, dude"* ... if you know what I mean.

The typical American continues to verbally demean himself to the level of the illiterate native who grunts in different tones to convey a message. This is the result of public school, church, TV, low-class music, and lack of attention from parents. Thus, we have produced a generation with a withered vocabulary.

Faddish expressions, like the ones above, are the norm. Only a few "insiders" (those who have adapted to grunt-talk) can make sense of it. You can witness it in any public school or shopping mall. There, you'll hear phrases that have no definitive meaning. And it doesn't even sound like a foreign language. It's English, and yet it doesn't work for most people. It's a poor form of communication -- a primitive form.

STANDARD MEANINGS

In a free and progressive society, words must be standardized. Standard definitions make it possible to use words efficiently. Just as gold and silver must be standardized to trade accurately, all things used in common need a standard description. There must be a common measure set upon things we use: by weight, by volume, by length, etc. This is especially true of words. They must be standard in their meanings. Otherwise, they don't work. The dollar, for instance, should be the same today as it was 200 years ago. However, that has not been the case here in America. If it were, things would be much better for us. Unfortunately, we've lost our standard measurements for most of the important things in our lives today -- including money.

Words are building blocks for Intelligent thought. Even our inner thoughts are formed around words. They find expression in our brains by the use of words. Without words, we would have

a completely different thought process -- possibly like an animal, or an infant who knows no words.

We think words. We speak words. Since words form thought and facilitate communication, our words should have standard meanings. Words should mean the same thing a month from today, and hopefully a hundred years from today, as they mean today. Historians recognize this. To understand a history record, one must define the words in that record the same as the writer did hundreds of years earlier. This can be quite a challenge.

A society with fluctuating word meanings is unstable, just as one with a fluctuating dollar. This is especially important when considering the Bible since it is a very old historical document. Its words have been subjected to all kinds of changes and evolution over the centuries. There have been mistranslations, re-interpretations, and changes of popular definitions. Thus, Bible words must be examined carefully. A Bible word may have meant something altogether different at the time it was written compared to what it means today. Therefore, to get the originally intended message from our Bibles, we must know what the words meant to the writers.

This brings us to the word "ecclesia" [ek-le-see-a] -- one of the tragic victims of modern-day language confusion. This word is misused and mistranslated in nearly every English Bible version since the King James Version was produced in 1611. This Greek word was carried over into Latin, and then English. But, during the last 500 years, in English-speaking societies, it has been popularly replaced with the English word "church."

The word is, correctly, "ecclesia." It should not have been replaced or changed. And, although it is hard to break old habits we should stop using the wrong word. The term "church" does not appear in the text of the New Testament. Not even once!

When people use this term, it is almost always in error. But, when we attempt to correct the problem we find that we are hampered by the popular Bible versions which consistently use "church" -- the wrong word. That tends to set the error in concrete and stifle our efforts.

One option is to do what I've resorted to doing with my Bible. Everywhere the word "church" appears, I take my pencil and draw a line through it, then I write in the word "ecclesia." That's the best I can do in lieu of an accurate Bible. And, until a correctly translated Bible is found, we may have to do that. Of course, this could be corrected by teaching people to read the Scriptures in their original languages. Realistically, however, this is not a solution that can be hoped for in the near future. This generation can hardly read English -- much less Greek and Hebrew.

The word "church" was an extremely bad choice for rendering "ecclesia." And, although English Bibles uniformly use "church," it is wrong in every instance.

THE CORRECT MEANING OF "CHURCH"

Let's start by defining the word. "Church" comes from the Old English and German word pronounced "kirché." In Scotland, it was "kirk."

The following entries are from the Oxford Universal English Dictionary:

Church [Old English *cirice*, *circe*; Middle English *chereche*, *chiriche*, *chirche*; whence *churche*, *cherche*, etc.: --Greek kuriakón...]

Kirk The Northern English and Scottish form of CHURCH, in all its senses.

In the earlier Greek it was pronounced "ku-ri-á-kos" or "ku-ri-á-kon." As you can see, this word doesn't even resemble the Greek word "ecclesia" whose place it has usurped.

The meaning of "ku-ri-á-kos" is understood by its root: "kú-ri-os," which means "lord." Thus, "kuriakos" (i.e., "church") means "pertaining to the lord." It refers to something that pertains to, or belongs to, a lord.

The Greek "kuriakos" eventually came to be used in Old English form as "cirice" (*kee-ree-ké*), then "churche" (*kerké*), and eventually "church" in its traditional pronunciation. A church, then, is correctly something that "pertains to, or belongs to, a lord."

Now, as you can see, there is a major problem here. The translators broke the rules in a big way. When they inserted the word "church" in the English versions, they were not translating the Greek word "kuriakos," as one might expect. Rather, they were substituting an entirely different Greek word. This was not honest!

The word "church" would have been an acceptable translation for the Greek word "kuriakos." However, not by the wildest imagination of the most liberal translator can it ever be an acceptable translation for the Greek word "ecclesia."

Are you following this? Consider it carefully. This truth will answer many questions you've had about "churches," "the kingdom," and government.

"Ecclesia" is an entirely different word with an entirely different meaning than "kuriakos." In fact, the Greek word "kuriakos" appears in the New Testament only twice. It is found once in I Corinthians 11:20 where it refers to "the Lord's supper," and once again in Revelation 1:10 where it refers to "the Lord's day." In both of those cases, it is translated "the Lord's" -- not "church." This word does not appear again in the New Testament. Nonetheless, this is the unlikely and strange history of the word "church" as it came to the English language. Eventually, through the manipulation of organized religion, "church" came to replace "ecclesia" by popular acceptance. Again, I must emphasize the importance of knowing word meanings in order to know the intent of those who wrote the Scriptures.

THE CORRECT MEANING OF "ECCLESIA"

Now, let's look at the word, "ecclesia." This Greek word appears in the New Testament approximately 115 times. That's just in this one grammatical form. It appears also in other forms. And in every instance, except three, it is wrongly translated "church" in the King James Version. Those three exceptions are found in Acts 19:32, 39, 41. Here, the translators rendered it "assembly" instead of "church." But, the Greek word is exactly the same as the other 112 entries where it was changed to "church" -- wrongly.

In Acts 19, "ecclesia" is a town council: a civil body in Ephesus. Thus, the translators were forced to abandon their false translation in these three instances. Nonetheless, 112 times they changed it to "church." This fact has been covered-up under centuries of misuse and ignorance. The Greek word "ecclesia" is correctly defined: "the called-out (ones)" [ECC = *out*; KALEO = *call*]. Thus, you can see how this word was used to indicate a civil body of select (called, elected) people.

According to the Encyclopaedia Britannica:

In the New Testament, "ecclesia" (signifying convocation) is the only single word used for church. It (ecclesia) was the name given to the governmental assembly of the city of Athens, duly convoked (called out) by proper officers and possessing all political power including even juridical functions.

Obviously, in Greece this had no resemblance to a church. An "ecclesia" was a civil assembly in Athens even before the writing of the New Testament.

In the Oxford Universal English Dictionary (considered the standard for the English language) the word "ecclesia" is listed in its English form as used by our English forefathers. (Nowadays, only forms of the word appear -- like, "ecclesiastical").

Quoting from the Oxford Universal English Dictionary on the word "ecclesia":

Ecclesia [medæval Latin, and Greek *EKKΛHNOA** from *EKKΛHTOÇ**: SUMMONED] -- A regularly convoked assembly, especially the general assembly of Athenians. Later, the regular word for church. (*Editor's note: This was as close as I could come to approximating the correct characters in HTML)

Thus, two of the most prestigious word resources in the English language confirm the fact that an "ecclesia" was originally a select civil body.

What, then, did the writers of the New Testament mean when they used the word "ecclesia" to describe a Christian body of people? Obviously, they meant the same thing: a body of Christians called out of the Roman and Judean system to come together into a separate civil community. It meant a politically autonomous body of Christians under no king but Jesus. No man ruled them! Only Christ. And, that was the reason these same Christians ran into trouble with kings and rulers; got in trouble with Caesar; were arrested, crucified and martyred. They dropped Caesar and took up Christ.

The ecclesias were diametrically opposed to the Caesars of the world. This is the well-hidden secret about the ecclesia! And, this is why we read in Acts 17, starting in verse one:

1. Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Appolonia, they came to Thessalonica, where was a synagogue of the Judeans:
2. And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures,
3. Opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ.
4. And some of them believed, and consorted with Paul and Silas; and of the devout Greeks a great multitude, and of the chief women not a few.
5. But the Jews (or the Judeans) which believed not, moved with envy, took unto them certain lewd fellows of the baser sort, and gathered a company, and set all the city on an uproar, and assaulted the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people.

Paul and Silas were spreading the gospel of the kingdom. What effect did it have? It caused an immediate, violent reaction from the synagogues (i.e., the churches). They set a riot afoot and sought to arrest Paul and Silas and take them out into the street.

Verse 6:

6. And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city crying, These that have turned the world (system) upside down are come hither also;

Paul and Silas had a reputation that preceded them. They were "turning the world (system) upside down."

What was their inflaming message? Were they telling the people to find a minister and support him; go to church every weekend; be nice to their neighbours? Could this have been the message that set the city fathers against them? Or maybe they were asking people to send their tithes to them so they could build a nice church building and develop a "united missions board" so they could save souls all over in Africa.

No?

What then? What were these guys doing that was "turning the world system upside down?"

Verse seven:

7. Whom Jason hath received (into his house): and these all do contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying that this is another king, one Jesus.

Now is that clear? Do you see what they were doing? They were announcing ANOTHER KING! Not Caesar! This was a king who was bigger than Caesar. They were forming civil bodies that no longer looked to Caesar as their king. They were forming civil outposts for Christ's conquering army! They were at war!

3. For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:

4. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds.

5. Casting down concepts, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

6. And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, then your obedience is fulfilled. (2 Corinthians 10:3-6)

12. For we fight, not against flesh and blood, but against the governments, against the authorities, against the world rulers of this darkness, against spiritual wickedness in high (offices). (Ephesians 6:12)

Paul and Silas weren't "church builders" and "soul winners" like preachers today claim. They weren't proselytising people from one church or synagogue to another. They were kingdom builders! They were dethroning rulers in the minds of the people and alienating them from the mental hold Caesar had upon them through heathen (central) government. They were teaching the principles of Christian government.

The Oxford Universal Dictionary also defines the word "church." The first entry gives the common definition:

A building for Christian worship.

But then it continues:

As used as a translation of the Latin and Greek 'ecclesia,' in its pre-Christian sense, it means congregations and, later, of retrospective application of the Christian sense, to the Israelites and the Old Testament saints.

In other words, the word "church" had to be perceived from a different angle in order to become a replacement, and cover-up. Now, that's interesting. What were they pulling on us by replacing the original word? When referring to the Old Testament saints, they began using "church." But why didn't they use the right word? What was it about "ecclesia" they didn't like?

CHURCH AND STATE DESTROY LIBERTY

The Oxford Dictionary also has an interesting entry under "congregation":

...used by Tyndale* as a translation of "ecclesia" in the New Testament, and by the sixteenth century reformers instead of "church." (*William Tyndale was the fifteenth century reformer and translator -- murdered by the church)

Tyndale was willing to die for God's word and truth. He didn't like the word "church." Instead, he used "congregation." Now, that tells us something!

I have a Geneva Bible (Calvin's Bible) in my office. It, too, comes from the sixteenth century. But, unfortunately, Calvin wanted the word "church" in his Geneva version. Nonetheless, godly Tyndale, and other sixteenth-century reformers who were more reputable than Calvin, did not like the word "church." They used other words like "congregation," "governmental assembly," etc.

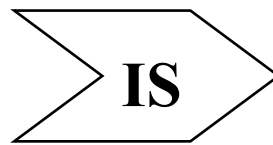
Following that thought, we remember that in early America, the so-called "churches" were divided, politically, into two types. There was the central hierarchy type (like the Presbyterians & Episcopalians), and the independent autonomous type (like the Congregationalists). One was corporate in form with branches united under one governing body. The other was independent with each unit having its own independent governing body in each location.

WHO CHANGED THE WORDS?

GREEK
"KURIAKOS"

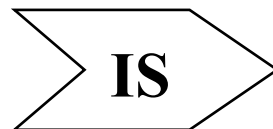
ORIGINAL MEANING

ENGLISH
"CHURCH"



GREEK
"ECCLESSIA"

ENGLISH
"COMMUNITY"



MODERN HOAX

GREEK
"ECCLESSIA"

ENGLISH
"CHURCH"



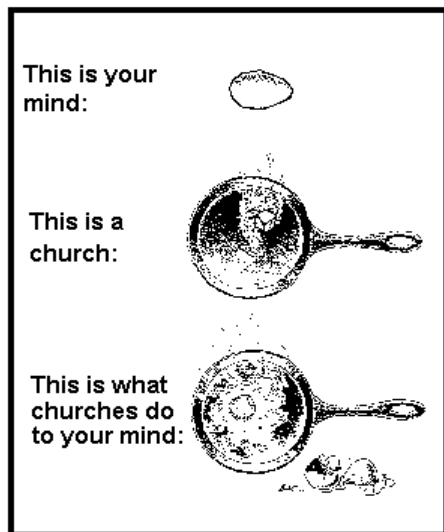
By name, the independent Congregationalist type brings us back again to an obvious tie-in to the word "congregation" -- the same word Tyndale chose to translate "ecclesia": an autonomous community of Christians.

It is interesting how the word "congregation" ties back in. Again, it gets us back to a concept that is so important to American history. That concept is "**independence.**"

When you consider the fact that "ecclesia" was "a civil body politic," this is strong proof that the Christian ecclesia we read about in the New Testament was an independent civil body of Christians -- independent from human kings and governors. They wanted freedom to serve King Jesus. They weren't building and attending churches! Please understand. These weren't churches -- these were ecclesias!

It's important that you stop using the wrong word -- and the wrong meaning. Quit saying "church" when you mean "ecclesia"! It's an important step in retrieving your brain from the trap of religious confusion.

THE CORRECT MEANING OF "SYNAGOGUE"



Synagogue is a word which appears often in the Greek New Testament. It is not a Hebrew word, a Yiddish word, nor a Jewish word. It is a Greek word. It is #4864 in Strong's Greek Concordance -- pronounced syn-a-go-gay. It simply means "an assembly" or "a place of assembly."

Now, please notice that the modern use of this word has evolved into a Jewish religious term. It has become a Jewish assembly -- exclusively. However, during the writing of the Greek New Testament, it was just an assembly -- any assembly. At that time, "synagogue" could have referred to a Jewish assembly, or any other kind of assembly -- religious or otherwise.

**JESUS CHRIST WANTS YOU OUT OF THE
MIND-SCRAMBLING CHURCHES.
READ THE BIBLE YOURSELF!
THINK FOR YOURSELF!
HELP BREAK MIND CONTROL IN AMERICA**

Synagogues, today, have turned religious. They are the Jewish prototypes of the churches. The modern churches are spin-offs of the Jewish synagogues.

The point is this: the first-century "kuriakos" organizations were called "synagogues." The disciples of Christ abandoned the synagogues (i.e., the Jewish churches) ... leaving them to the Jews.

But, by the 4th century, apostate religionists were starting to form a new organization patterned after the old synagogue. However, they could not call it "synagogue" because that name had been retained by the Jewish religious establishments. And the word "ecclesia" wouldn't work for them because that referred to Christ's kingdom and had nothing to do with religious houses and organizations. So, instead, they called them "kuriakos" (churches). These were designed to usurp the place of the ecclesias (Christian civil bodies) which had been growing since Christ's ascension to the throne.

With the help of the synagogues and the churches (sister organizations), the state (i.e., the beast) began waging battle against the ecclesias (outposts of Christ's kingdom on earth).

13. And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman (New Jerusalem) which brought forth the man child (ecclesia).

17. And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ. (Revelation 12: 13 & 17)

Now, you understand, the tie-in between the "synagogue" and the "church." Organizationally, they are based on the same serpent principles of ignorance, superstition and slavery.

Christians left the synagogues (later also called churches). The disciples of Christ found that the synagogues/churches were not Christian in nature. It was not their mission to build churches and synagogues. The New Testament Christians escaped from the heathen religion concept of church organization. They went out into the world and they established "ecclesias" (Christian communities of Christ's reign).

The churches (synagogues) never were on the right track. They still aren't today. They have the same bureaucratic structure as central government. Central government structure promotes conformity and blind obedience to the rulers, whether they be priests or bureaucrats. For this reason, the first-century Christians left the synagogues/churches.

CHRISTIAN CIVIL BODY

Independent self-government under Christ! That is what the ecclesia represents -- not a religious organization for meeting on weekends. The Bible does not indicate that churches would eventually take the place of ecclesias. The change of words was not sanctioned by the Scripture. There is NO Scriptural authority for Christians to build churches, attend churches, or support churches! Churches are ungodly organizations designed for and by the heathen.

We should be forming and defending ecclesias instead of the disgusting churches with their con games, entertainment, cultic mystery, childishness, and heathen nonsense. They are as Jewish as the synagogues!

We (ACM) once used the word "church" in our title, but no more -- thank God. We're doing our best to break that image. It's a slow process, and old habits die slowly, but we're putting the old church ways behind us.

So, we must do the same thing the apostles did. We must form self-governing, independent, family-oriented, patriarchal-type communities. In other words, ecclesias.

DON'T DRAW THE WRONG CONCLUSION

Those who give only a cursory glance at this study of "the ecclesia" might wrongly conclude that I am advocating that people live in communes -- like the hippies back in the sixties. But, Christian ecclesias are NOT communes!

Inhabitants of communes usually follow their own lusts rather than Bible law. They also usually develop the old familiar central government structure when they come under the control of a charismatic leader -- thus, becoming a cult. But, that is not the way of the Christian ecclesia!

An ecclesia, constructed on Christian principles, would be based upon the principle of independence through law (God's law). It would preclude central government or monopolies by any entity. It would insist upon free trade, private ownership, and the common law. It would use God's law as its constitution, and abstain from creating any more laws. Man would not rule man, but every man would be responsible for any crimes he might commit -- and answerable to his victim(s) according to God's law. The law would be enforced by every free male that is of age.

Shallow ideas can be assimilated. Ideas that require people to reorganize their picture of the world provoke hostility. "I know that most men, including those at ease with problems of the greatest complexity, can seldom accept even the simplest and most obvious truth if it be such as would oblige them to admit the falsity of conclusions which they have delighted in explaining to colleagues, which they proudly taught to others, and which they have woven, thread by thread, into the fabric of their lives." --Tolstoy

Concerning each man's part in the community, Peter wrote:

8. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.
9. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.
10. Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the eonian kingdom (the reign) of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. --II Peter 1:8-11

Remember, "ecclesia" means "the called out (elected ones)," meaning those who are called out from the Babylonian religious/political system. The word "election" has the same root as the word "ecclesia." "The election," "the ecclesia," "the called-out ones" -- all come from the same root. The Bible says that we, as members of our ecclesia communities, are to make our "calling" and our "election" sure.

But, this is just the tip of the iceberg. I have more to share with you on this subject. The scriptures are clear on this subject. It is the key that opens up the New Testament.

It is time that we begin to live as ecclesians and rise above our past entanglements with churches and their Jewish doctrines and polity. Christianity is designed to be a way of life -- not a religious ritual. Christ's Body is manifest in the community with all its civil members -- NOT a church organization! We need open light and liberty -- not hierarchical mystery and darkness!

Part Two of Three

What is The Ecclesia?

Is It A Church? Is It A Cult? Is It Important?

"...the house (i.e. domain) of God, which is the **ecclesia** of the Living God, the pillar and ground of the truth." (I Timothy 3:15)

Churches are proving grounds for religious tricksters, con artists and politicians. Churches thrive on greed and superstition. They prey upon the gullible. **CHURCH IS THE GREAT AMERICAN IDOL, AND CHURCHGOERS ARE IDOLATERS.**

Some of us have suspected, for a long time, that something was terribly wrong with the church system. Now I understand why I felt uneasy about it.

The answer has to do with the word "church" itself. "Church" is the English word used (by the churches) to replace the Greek word "**ECCLESIA**," in the English Bible versions. But "ecclesia" means something altogether different from "church." Somewhere, somehow, the wrong word was inserted and the right word was discarded -- hid under the rug.

Why was this done? How long has this error been with us? The answer is a study in logic and history.

THE PERVERSION BECAME THE NORM

The error has been with us long enough to spawn an entire culture. Modern Churchdom (not Christendom) is the product of this perversion.

Churches are natural outgrowths of a perverted society. They answer the needs of perverted people. On one hand, they facilitate superstitious, childish people... and on the other hand, they facilitate con men who want to exploit the market.

The typical preacher is nothing more than a salesman taking advantage of weak-minded people. Preachers are usually motivated by their own self-entered greed. Churches serve the preachers by providing a forum for their childish ambitions. I've personally been associated with many preachers. I understand them better than most. With few exceptions, they are religious con men, working angles to gain recognition and money.

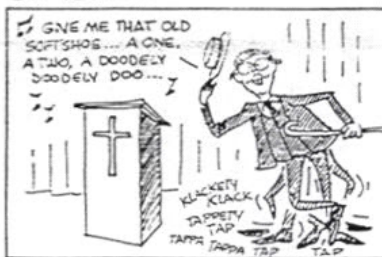
Preachers are actors. The Charismatic Movement has helped to produce a flood of them. Churchgoers have come to expect nothing more than emotion and stage performance from churches. They are satisfied by entertainment, excitement, or scandal. They do NOT expect to be taught! They only want to sit and observe.

Churches have produced nothing practical. Churchgoers expect nothing practical from churches. Indeed, churches have achieved their goal -- to neutralize Christians!



CHURCHES HAVE SERVED AS SUBTERFUGE

SOFTSHOE :



A "church" is NOT an "ecclesia" -- as the English versions of the Bible attempt to say. The churches won't admit it, however. They prefer to just ignore the two words and avoid bringing any attention to them. Churchgoers get caught up in playing the game of church which dissipates and neutralizes them through useless rituals and countless activities like the ones illustrated on our cover [Editor's note: I think the drawing "Play the Game of Churches," shown later, was the original cover for this segment.]. Every week they repeat the ritual, feeling holy, never questioning anything, never discovering any more than they are programmed to know. The game captures and holds them in its sticky web of unity, herd pressure (pressure to conform), and superstition (fear of the unknown). They become slavish addicts who don't dare step out of line for fear of getting kicked out of the church herd (excommunication).

DRAMA :



Ecclesias are different in important ways. Understanding these differences causes a profound change in your understanding of the Bible and your grasp of the gospel of the kingdom.

MONOLOGUE :



Getting a grasp of this important word may not be easy. Some commentaries prove to be little or no help because they condescend to the churches in equating "ecclesia" with "church." Obvious differences are glossed over.

In part one of this study, we defined "ecclesia." It is a Greek New Testament word meaning THE CALLED-OUT (ONES); THE CHOSEN; THE ELECT -- [EK = out; from; KALEO = call].

The word "church," as it appears in the English versions of The New Testament, is wrong. It gives a wrong impression. Nonetheless, "church" was used by the King James translators to replace "ecclesia." In every single case in the New Testament, "church" is the wrong word.

Some of the earliest English translators chose not to use the word "church" to translate "ecclesia" into English. Rather, they kept "ecclesia," or else they used the English word "congregation." The word "church," was later used to replace "ecclesia" for the purpose of justifying a different institution.

By 1611 (when the King James Version was published) the translators, and their public, had obviously become comfortable with the other institution -- and the other word: "church."

The "church" is a distinct religious system created to propagate religion and superstition under the guidance of the State. It does not fit the description of an ECCLESIA. An ecclesia is a political body of Christians, under Christ. It is free, self-governing, and is made up of families and communities working together under the Reign of Christ -- otherwise called "the Kingdom of Heaven."

The 1st-century Christians quickly learned that they had to get away from the churches (also called synagogues) because they stifled truth and freedom. They left the churches/synagogues to the Judaizers, and began forming ecclesias (wrongly called "churches" by the KJV translators). All that exciting activity in the New Testament was "ecclesia activity" -- not "church activity." Its purpose and impact was quite different from the false scenario painted by the churches. The excitement was not over a new church, but a new government.

The apostles and disciples were "called out" of the Roman/Jewish synagogue/church systems and brought back to the real world. In this process, ECCLESIAS (i.e., independent Christian communities) were formed. This was also called "coming out of Babylon."

RELIGION? ... OR GOVERNMENT?

The key to beginning to understand the difference between "a church" and "an ecclesia" is this: one has to do with religion, and the other has to do with government. Christ didn't set up a new religion! He set up a kingdom government! Thus, Christ's government system was immediately at war with the government systems of the world (i.e., the dragon of Revelation).

Jesus called his followers to withdraw themselves from the Roman/Jewish political systems (i.e., the beast system). He called them to form their own independent political systems based upon God's law and the patriarchal, family-type system which is God's true plan for civil government among men.

Does this ecclesia system of government relate to us today? Well, as Solomon said, "There is nothing new under the sun." The problems have not changed all that much. Man's tendency toward slavery is still a fact. Central governments are still basically the same in our day as they were in the first century. Central government is the proverbial Babylonian beast system, and we are still being "called out" of Babylon. We are still commanded to withdraw ourselves from the beast system.

But, the process is not easy, nor is it as quick as we would like. It requires a change in the public perspective. It requires that people lose their love of Babylon. As we begin to develop bona fide ECCLESIAS around the country, we will cause people to become more and more withdrawn and independent from the central government system of Babylon (Bush's New World Order). We will become less and less enslaved to it. But the first, and perhaps most important (and difficult), step is to convince people that they do not need "Big Brother."

The old brainwash of, "the Constitution is good, but the politicians are bad," **MUST BE ABANDONED!** The Constitution is what empowers the politicians to do what they do. The Constitution created a bad government. It's time the true patriots admit it, and stop their tacit support of the beast that they otherwise profess to hate. As Christ said, **YOU CANNOT SERVE TWO MASTERS!** And as Paul said, **YOU CANNOT SIT AT THE TABLE OF DEVILS AND**

THE TABLE OF GOD AT THE SAME TIME. So, following Gideon's example, we must throw down our idols (i.e., our worship of central government) and reform ourselves and our families, -- and thus, our communities, into free civil bodies. These individual, independent communities of free Christians are what the Greek Scriptures call "ECCLESIAS."

CHURCH

Anyone by be excused for being a bit confused about the meaning of the word "church"; we use the word in so many ways. It means a particular building (e.g., "the church on fourth street"), a denomination or organized faith (e.g., the Reformed Church in America), and even a Sunday meeting (e.g., "Did you go to church today?"). None of these users is particularly biblical. The ~~church~~ (*ecclesia*) is a basic NT theme, and we need to understand this meaning-filled word in its biblical sense.

In Greek culture, an *ekklesia* was a political assembly. By the fifth century B.C. *ekklesia* had come to mean an official gathering of the full citizens of a Greek city-state (*polis*) who were called together to make political and judicial decisions. The Greeks never used *ekklesia* to refer to religious fellowships.

Expository Dictionary Of Bible Words, by Lawrence O. Richards, Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, MI)

The obvious truth of it is compelling. You cannot avoid it. The serpent forms of government -- designed by man; controlled by man (like the present government of the United States) -- are all failures and are destined to incur our just hatred and wrath.

2. ...Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen...
4. ..Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.
6. Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double. (Revelation 18:2-6)

Centralized (collectivist) governments are evil, corrupt, and destructive. They are designed only to enslave the masses under myriads of edicts, ordinances, codes, licenses, fees, and taxes -- all dreamed up by grasping, greedy men.

So, those of you who still cling to a hope that central government can save you -- guess again. You will eventually be forced to abandon that false hope and turn and look to Jesus for your leadership. This

change of vision -- from believing in man, to believing in Christ -- is the change that gives us the capability to "see the Kingdom of God." In John 3:3, Jesus says, "*Except a man be born from above, he cannot see the kingdom of God.*"

Once we see that Christ is our reigning king, we can no longer support the lawless systems of man which operate upon the principle of "milk the public for all it's worth, and destroy all opposition."

TEAR DOWN AND DON'T REBUILD

The concept of Christ's reign, and the ecclesia system, is not easily grasped by people who have lived most of their lives brainwashed to follow the churches' propaganda. It's not that truth is elusive. Rather, people just have a hard time letting go of the delusion. But, they must let go!

The process of changing one's mind about central government usually precipitates many questions. HOW DOES AN ECCLESIA WORK? WHAT IS ITS STRUCTURE? HOW, EXACTLY, IS IT DIFFERENT FROM CENTRALIZED GOVERNMENT?

First, an admission. I am an iconoclast by definition. An iconoclast is a person who tears down icons. Icons are relics of worship; sacred cows, as it were, held in reverence by religion and religious people. An icon can be any sort of idol: a statue, a picture, a stained glass window in a church, a doctrine, an organization, a preacher, a government -- or anything that is idolized and worshipped.

People love icons. I tear them down. And, in doing so, I make people mad at me. I incur the wrath of those who love their icons (idols). But this is what I am called to do. This is what I do best. CHURCH is an icon. So is CENTRAL GOVERNMENT. I'm tearing these icons down in the minds of Christians. I'm causing Christians to lose their loyalty to them. As central government, and the church system, is dethroned in your mind, you find yourself thinking like a free man. Next you start acting like a free man. You suddenly realize that, up till now, you had never really understood the meaning of freedom. The feeling is wonderful! As the Psalmist said, "Truly the light is sweet!" BUT, the first steps can be bitter. People tend to get upset with me for belittling their cherished icons.

Church is an icon that must be thrown down. However, it is only a diversionary tool designed to keep slaves from discovering the true nature of central government. Central government is the thing that has usurped the ecclesia of God. "Church" is only subterfuge. The direct problem is central government. Central government needs the church system to help keep it camouflaged. "Church" is a secondary problem, but one which must be addressed. It must fall! It is a necessary step to the final objective of dethroning central government.

Slavery minded people are quick to object to this. It takes time for their slavery mentality to wear down. We must not get discouraged by objections from new-comers. One of the objections I often hear from new-comers is: "*Well, you can't just tear down our present government without replacing it with something. It is easy to tear down, but what do you propose to build in its place?*"

Have you heard that one? It almost sounds sensible. But, the fact is, it simply doesn't apply to the subject of central government. When Babylon (central government) falls, should we replace it? I say no! Our ancestors failed to escape Babylon because as one central government fell, they replaced it with another, and another, and another. And, I submit that they replaced one failure with another failure -- over and over and over.

The menace was not removed in the past because, as one demon was cast out, another greater demon was being ushered in to take its place. It is like a person saying "*We need to get rid of the prisons in our land.*" and another person replying, "*Well, we can't just tear down the prisons without replacing them with something!*" Do you see the point? A prison is a prison -- and prisons are bad. There are no good prisons. Why replace a prison system with another prison system when prisons are condemned by God?

When you cut out cancer, you don't replace it with something similar -- as if the cancer had been filling a needed position. It is easy to see that prisons are evil and, therefore, when we tear them down we don't need to replace them. Rather, we need to tear them down and abandon the whole concept.

The same is true with central government. We not only have the wrong form of government ... we have about one million times too much of it. Our present government is not only evil, it is overgrown, abusive and top-heavy. It invades, and pervades, every nook and cranny in every business and home. It must be torn down and NOT replaced! It must be eliminated! We need some breathing room!

Understand that an ecclesia is NOT a replacement for central government. Rather, it is an alternative. I am NOT proposing that we REPLACE central government with ecclesiastical government. I'm proposing that we switch from slavery to freedom. I'm saying that we don't need a hoard of bureaucrats to control our lives for us. We don't need corporate national government to control the states. We don't need corporate state government to control the counties. We don't need corporate county government to control the cities. We don't need corporate city government to control businesses and citizens. We don't need corporate federal and state banks to control our money. We don't need corporate state schools to train our children. We don't need corporate central government on every level. We don't need the gigantic leviathan beast plundering us. We don't need the beast in every station of our lives. We don't need the beast that appears (claims to be) gentle like a lamb but speaks (rules) like the old dragon.

11. And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.
12. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.
13. And he doeth great wonders...
14. And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth...
15. And he had power...
16. And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:
17. And that no man might buy or sell save he that had the mark... (Revelation 13:11-17)
8. Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil (central government), as a roaring lion walketh about seeking whom he may devour;
9. Whom resist steadfast in the faith... (1 Peter 5:8-9)
15. As a roaring lion, and a ranging bear; so is a wicked ruler over the poor people. Proverbs 28:15)
24. Thou art the land that is not cleansed, nor rained upon in the day of indignation.
25. There is a conspiracy of her prophets in the midst thereof, like a roaring lion ravening the prey; they have devoured souls; they have taken the treasure and precious things; they have made her many widows in the midst thereof.
26. Her princes in the midst thereof are like wolves ravening the prey, to shed blood, and to destroy souls, to get dishonest gain.
27. And her prophets have daubed them with untempered mortar, seeing vanity, and divining lies unto them, saying, Thus saith the Lord God, when the Lord hath not spoken.
28. The people of the land have used oppression, and exercised robbery, and have vexed the poor and needy: yea, they have oppressed the stranger wrongfully.
29. And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.
30. Therefore have I poured out mine indignation upon them; I have consumed them with the fire of my wrath: their own way have I recompensed upon their heads, saith the Lord God. (Ezekiel 22:24-31)

Thus, Scripture describes the plunder and destruction caused by central government in a land. By the same token, it also warns us of the added judgment from God that falls upon our land if we tolerate criminal government.

I am proposing that we drop central government -- cut it off at the roots and let it die on the vine. It is parasitic and cannot survive on its own, without a host. All we have to do is stop volunteering to be its host. Stop donating our blood to feed it. We must stop underwriting the destroyers. We must start developing independent Christian families and communities.

Public dependence upon the beast in Washington D.C. has been a grave error. Central government sucks our blood and tells us it is good for us. We outgrew our supposed dependence on leeches in medicine -- why can't we outgrow them in government? Why have we been so gullible? Must we, like lemmings, never question the worn path which leads us over the cliffs? Must we, like ignorant, indulgent parents raising a spoiled child, support a government whose purpose is to harvest us like a crop of wheat, or milk us like a herd of cattle? Let it suck its own blood, instead of ours, and see how long it survives. Let the bloodsuckers get a real job, or die of starvation! And, if they refuse, let them know that we will not willingly and blindly support them ever again!

We will NOT replace that which must be destroyed. Central government is our greatest enemy. Anyone who says we must replace it is either a fool or an enemy.

WHY FREEDOM SURVIVES IN ECCLESIAS

Ecclesias are the natural, healthy form of community for man. It is not just another form of control. It is not a church. It is freedom and independence at the local level.

CHURCH

The English word "church" is derived from the Gk. adjective *kyriakos* as used in some such phrase as *kyriakon doma* or *kyriake oikia*, meaning "the Lord's house," i.e., a Christian place of worship. "Church" in the N.T., however, comes from Gk. *ekklesia*... Although we often speak of these congregations collectively as "the N.T. church" or "the early church," no N.T. writer uses *ekklesia* in this collective way. An *ekklesia* was a meeting or assembly. Its most common use was for the public assembly of citizens duly summoned, which was a feature of all the cities outside Judæa where the gospel was planted (e.g. Acts 19:39); *ekklesia* was also used among the Jews (LXX) for the "congregation" of Israel which was constituted at Sinai and assembled before the Lord at the annual feasts in the persons of its representative males (Acts 7:38)

(New Bible Dictionary, second edition, Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Wheaton, IL)

But, someone may say, "Ecclesiastical government is defined in the law dictionaries as a type of centralized government for churches." And, that is true. Law dictionaries define "ecclesiastical" from the viewpoint of the churches. Churches have used the term wrongly and the courts have upheld the lie for obvious reasons.

A Christian ecclesia is built upon the principle of INDEPENDENT SELF-GOVERNMENT UNDER CHRIST (independent from men -- not independent from Christ). As a family unit works (independently and with the husband as its head) so an ecclesia works on a larger scale (with Christ as its head). This well-known form of government was more common in the past. It was called a PATRIARCHAL SOCIETY. This civil association (co-op) is the type we find in the book of Judges when God was king in Israel, and there were no human kings ruling over them. Each individual, and each family, were free, and personally responsible, to do what they believed to be right (Judges 21:25). Their leadership was from the patriarch and judges. God was the only Lawgiver as well as the ultimate Judge. There was no central government to tell them what to do, and there was no church system to block their thinking ability.

A patriarch is the leader of a large family -- by extension, a clan or tribe. A clan, or tribe, may be large enough to occupy a whole community.

When Joshua took the children of Israel into the promised land it was divided into 12 large parcels and apportioned among the 12 clans (the families of the 12 sons of Jacob). Each clan (tribe) was its own community, and it was apportioned land for inheritance. Each tribe, with its land parcel, was led by its own recognized patriarchs and judges. The patriarchs and judges were also the ones who periodically met, in Jerusalem, with the patriarchs and judges of the other tribes. There, they worked out plans of cooperation with regard to national affairs. The clans were bound by common need and goodwill -- NOT by enforcement from a central government with a central army of mercenary thugs (central police, central intelligence agencies, central taxing agencies, etc.).

The following quote illustrates the implied method of law enforcement in an ecclesia:

The term "church" was of later usage and not known in the early days. "*Eta*" in Aramaic means "group, or congregation, composed of elders and town counsellors who generally arbitrate disputes and settle quarrels, and pass judgment on legal matters."

Nomads, as well as inhabitants in small country places, are governed by a group of elders selected from among themselves. These elders are also members of the chief's cabinet who advise on tribal matters. They sit in judgment and pronounce sentences of punishment.

When peaceful means fail to bring settlement between the parties involved, the case is brought before one or two of the Elders, and when the guilty is discovered, he is admonished and chastised or punished.

In the wilderness, Moses selected a group of elders to act as judges, but important cases were submitted to him as chief justice (Exodus 19:25; Deuteronomy 22:18). This custom still prevails in many Eastern countries where the Patriarch acts as chief justice, and the bishops and ministers are the judges. Smaller cases are arbitrated by lay members.

Gospel Light -- from Aramaic on The Teachings of Jesus, by George Lamsa

The patriarchs and judges were NOT RULERS! They were businessmen and statesmen. They were farmers and fathers. They were community leaders. They were not RULERS! The people were free, and they gave their support freely -- as it was deserved. By the same token, they freely withdrew their support when a particular leader proved untrustworthy. No central enforcement agency came to their doors with weapons to force them to pay taxes and register their spears and their children.

Tithes were given freely. They were not TAXED! Central governments tax! Free societies TITHE to support their leaders. There is a great difference. A tax is mandatory; a tithe is voluntary. Malachi refers to the voluntary-tithe form of government:

8. "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? in tithes and offerings.
9. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation.
10. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.
11. And I will rebuke the devourer (central government) for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground: neither shall you vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of hosts.
12. And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the Lord of hosts." (Malachi 3:8-12)

As this scripture plainly shows, the tithe is for the land; the nation. It is certainly NOT talking about sending money to a church organization! But preachers use this scripture to threaten and shame you into giving them your money. Here, again, the churches have misconstrued and misused scripture. This tithe is not for churches; not for temples; not for evangelists; not for TV ministries and saving souls from hell. It is for upholding the individual's rights under the law of God and for upholding the sacredness of the family unit, the clans, the lands and the nations -- and to insure that we have righteous leaders who are interested in the well-being of the land, and not just in plundering the people. This is the patriarchal form of government.

In the New Testament scriptures, this form of society is called "the ecclesia." It simply means THE FAMILIES OF CALLED-OUT CHRISTIANS. It works the same as the Israelite tribes, or clans, worked in old Israel. They were called out of Egypt to form free families and communities within a free land. The 1st-century Christians, by the same token, were called out of the Roman system. We, today, are still being called out of the One-World beast system to form our own ecclesias (politically-independent, patriarchal-type communities under the reign of Christ).

CLEARING THE SUBTERFUGE

If this is true, and the ecclesia is actually a form of civil government rather than a church, then it would explain some things. For instance:

a. It would explain why national rulers put so much emphasis upon SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE. The powers of the state must remain superior over the church, and the Bible (God's law) must be kept a safe distance from government.

b. It would explain why the rulers of the first century hated Jesus and his disciples. Jesus preached liberty, which was tantamount to a declaration of war against central government. He declared war on legalized slavery. Jesus stated His mission publicly, and one of His goals was to "SET THE CAPTIVES FREE"! Not just the captives in the jails of the central governments, but also (and especially) those held mentally captive by the brainwashing from central government and churches.

c. It would explain why central-government rulers murdered Jesus and His apostles. They were only doing what central-government rulers must do: GET CONTROL, HOLD ON TO IT AT ALL COSTS, AND GET RID OF ANYONE WHO POSES A THREAT TO THAT CONTROL. CENTRAL GOVERNMENTS ARE CONCERNED WITH ONE THING ONLY: THEIR OWN SELF-PRESERVATION!

d. And, it would explain the strange beast of Revelation 12 & 13. This dragon hated the "manchild," that was about to be born. He fully intended to destroy the child.

This MANCHILD symbolized government by God, as manifested through Christ (i.e. the ecclesia). The DRAGON symbolized central government by man.

In chapter 12, verse 5, we are told that the ecclesia (MANCHILD) was to "SHEPHERD the nations with a staff of iron." Christ's kingdom government (the ecclesia) presented a great threat to dragon government. So, the dragon, being a beast of prey, simply tried to do what it had to do to survive: he tried to destroy the competition -- i.e., the ecclesia. But, the last part of verse 5 tells us that the ecclesia (Christ and his system of government) was "caught away unto God's throne." In other words, Christ's government became invulnerable!

Even so, this beast system wasn't just any ordinary dragon government. It was portrayed as a CORPORATE beast -- with several heads. In Revelation 17:18, this corporate beast is shown also to have one supreme ruler over all the heads. It says that "THE WOMAN" (Babylon) rules over the kings of the earth (i.e., she rules over the heads of the dragon). Back in chapter 13, we

are warned that this beast was disguised to appear as a lamb. But, it spoke with the voice of the old dragon. In other words, this new form of government was not really new after all. It was only disguised to appear as if it were new. It was simply the old dragon government with a new twist. The symbolism portrayed by this infamous beast perfectly fits the central government of the United States. It holds itself out to be a lamb, but its actions are those of a dragon. It appears to be good, but its actions betray it. It speaks of liberty, but it enslaves. It speaks of justice, but it is wholly unjust. It speaks of rights, but only offers privileges. It claims to represent "we the people," but in truth only watches out for itself.

WHAT CAN WE DO?

The answer is clear. We must remove ourselves as far as possible from the beast. How far can we remove ourselves from it? Well, it depends upon our individual circumstances and how things develop. At the very least we can withdraw our loyalties. We can certainly remove any and all feelings of dependency upon the beast. In most cases, we can also extract ourselves out of debt to the beast's usury-banking system by simply stopping our practice of borrowing from them at usury. This would include throwing away our credit cards and monthly credit accounts, and start dealing in cash only. If we refrain from spending that which we do not yet have, we will keep ourselves out of debt, and that will eventually show us the way out of slavery altogether.

Next, we should begin interpreting the political events in our nation, and in the world, as they really are -- instead of accepting them as the media and politicians portray them. We should begin to recognize the criminal motives of central government. It is nothing more than organized crime. It certainly is NOT a benevolent institution for the good of the people. We should educate our families to see the truth of the political events near us and around the world. And, if our children will do the same in each succeeding generation, truth and freedom will grow exponentially. Thus, the numbers of people who can SEE THE KINGDOM will grow with each succeeding generation. And, each generation will reach millions of others who will come to see the light. Eventually, the beast will starve and die!

This we will do by starting right now with our own families! Our families will grow into communities. And our communities will populate the land.

How, you may ask, will we prevent central government from encroaching again upon our communities? The answer is rather simple once you grasp it. We simply apply the law of Yahweh which commands us to prohibit the establishment of other gods (i.e. law systems) in our land. "Other gods" is a Bible term meaning "other governments." To prevent central government in our land, all we need to do is obey God's law which forcibly [Editor's note: "Forcibly" is incorrectly used here, even in making the Author's own point. God gives us free agency. If His law forcibly prevented these things, we would not now have them. Following His law is the key.] prevents any form of monopolization, centralization, state corporation, state licensing, standing armies (i.e., policemen) and any other tool of central control. Central government is a sin! It is organized crime! It is plunder. God's law forbids it. To guard against it, we only have to remember God's law and refuse to accept any form of central rulership among men.

EKKLESIA (ÉΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ), from *ek*, out of, and *klesis*, a calling (*kaleo* to call), was used among the Greeks of a body of citizens gathered to discuss the affairs of State (Acts 19:39). In the Septuagint it was used to designate the gathering of Israel, summoned for any definite purpose, or a gathering regarded as representative of the whole nation.

(Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words, W.E. Vine, Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, MI)

The ultimate answer for establishing godly government is not to agree to support a system, but rather to agree to stand against any and all systems which attempt to centralize and amass power.

Yes, the truth is that we've had it all backwards in the past. We were brainwashed into thinking that freedom depended upon us all supporting a system. But, the truth is, freedom depends upon us standing against a system. That means that each individual needs to defend his own liberty. He can't hire mercenaries to do it for him. Mercenaries, in the end, take over the land. We must do it ourselves -- individually!

How will we punish crime, you may ask? Who will enforce the law? Again, the answer is so simple we generally overlook it. Many prefer to overlook the answer because they refuse to become responsible adults. True freedom scares them. But the answer is obvious.

Crime (i.e., sin) among men is the act of harming someone. Crime is committed against INDIVIDUALS. Crime cannot be committed against "a state" or "a nation" unless it harms at least one individual within that "state." Courts, today, claim to prosecute people for "crimes against the nation," or "the state." However, most prosecutions are for victimless crimes where the state cannot produce an individual victim of the alleged crime. The question we've been asking for a long time is simply this: how can "the state" receive damage without a single individual being damaged? That would be like accusing someone of damaging your body without injuring any of the cells.

Thus, in trials where the state is the plaintiff, the defendant is denied the right to face his victim -- because there is none. No one was damaged! The court system is 100% heathen and unjust. It is tyranny, pure and simple.

In order for a real crime to have happened, it must be traced to at least one real victim. The accusation itself must be made by the damaged victim himself. It is the victim's right to accuse his attacker. It is not the duty of the state to do it for him -- as the courts claim today!

The individual, himself, must defend himself from harm with all means available to him. And, when a crime has been committed, and an individual has been damaged, he must prove it in a court of law. Then he, himself, must enforce the punishment upon the defendant. The court will verify that he has the authority to enforce the punishment -- but the court can't enforce it for him. "BUT THAT WOULD BE TAKING THE LAW INTO YOUR OWN HANDS!" you say. That is absolutely correct! Gods laws are designed for the individual. In fact, the individual is truly the ONLY one that can protect himself from damage. Police, even if they wanted to, cannot prevent crime -- any more than a fireman can prevent fires. However, a sawed-off shotgun, or a 45 calibre pistol in the hand of a would-be victim, stops crime very effectively. It works without fail. Crime is committed by bullies and thieves. Bullies and thieves succeed only when their victims are unable to protect themselves or their property. However, even a 90-pound grandma can squeeze the trigger of a gun that can stop a bully. It has been said that "God created all men, but Samuel Colt made them equal."

Freedom requires the ability to defend yourself against those who would take freedom from you. For that reason, in a free land, there can be no monopolies on law enforcement. Each person must enforce the law. Godly courts (judges) can interpret the law, but only individuals should enforce it.

When people defend themselves, police and central government lose business. This they do not like! For that reason, a gigantic campaign has been underway for several decades to teach us to NOT TAKE THE LAW INTO OUR OWN HANDS! After all, the bureaucrats need something to do. They want you to call the police and beg them to protect you. Then they want you to send a few reams of typewritten paper through their offices begging the courts for justice -- something they know nothing of. This gives them the appearance of doing something useful. This illusion is necessary if they are to keep collecting taxes for their plush salaries and retirements, and funding with which they hire lawyers and judges to entrap and prosecute you, and hire police thugs to beat you up.

The New Testament provides the following list of titles for leaders in ecclesias. Remember these are NOT offices on a church board. Jesus' kingdom is concerned with freedom in government and not with playing the useless game of church!

1. ELDER -- [Gk. *presbuteros*] older man; someone with experience and wisdom (possibly a patriarch).

1. Rebuke not an **elder**, but entreat him as a father; and the younger men as brethren. (1 Timothy 5:1)

("presbytery" = body of elders -- 1 Tim. 4:14)

5. For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and establish **elders** in each body politic (Gk "polis" = "body politic" [i.e., the civil body; an ecclesia]). (Titus 1:5)

23. And when they had appointed them **elders** in each ecclesia, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed. (Acts 14:23)

2. OVERSEER -- [BISHOP; Gk. *episkopos*] -- *EPI* (over) + *SKOPOS* (sight) = overseer; administrator; (**a judge**).

23. ..If a man desires the **oversheership**, he desires a good work. An overseer then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, diligent, sober, of good behaviour, ... (1 Timothy 3:1-7)

7. For an **overseer** must be blameless, as the steward of God; not self-pleasing, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre; ... (Titus 1:7)

[Overseers (judges) were picked from among the elders (patriarchs) of each ecclesia. Paul charges the overseers to protect the people against the "devil" of central government.]

8. The **elders** which are among you I exhort, who am also an **elder**, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:

9. Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;

10. Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock. (1 Peter 5:1-3)

3. MINISTER -- [GK. *DIAKONOS*] one who runs errands, a minister; a servant [erroneously transliterated "deacon," by churches, as an office of the church]. Ministers should serve essentially the same function as the ancient Levites.

8. Ministers (deacons) must likewise be serious, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of wrongful gain.

9. Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience.

10. And let these also first be proved; then let them serve, being unaccusable.

12. Let the ministers be husbands of one wife, with upstanding children in their own houses as well.

13. For they that minister well acquire good to themselves and much testimony in faith which is in Christ Jesus. (1 Timothy 3:8-13)

Timothy confirms that this lesson in government is about the ecclesia:

14. These things I am writing to you, hoping to come to you quickly.

15. But, in the event that I am slow, (I write this) in order that you may know how to conduct yourself in the house (i.e., kingdom) of god, which is the ecclesia of the living god, and pillar and ground of truth. (1 Timothy 3:14-15)

I have likened Christ's ecclesia form of government to the patriarchal-type government we read about in the Old Scriptures. Each tribe (clan) was independent. This idea shouldn't be so foreign to us. Our Scottish cousins and family ancestors have carried on the tradition of patriarchs and clans in Scotland up to the present day -- albeit, since Britain annexed Scotland into the United Kingdom, much of the Scottish heritage has been lost -- along with their ecclesia clans.

But let me show you an example of an ecclesia at work. This example is actually a patriarchal clan:

EC-CLE-SI-A, n.; [L. *ecclesia*; Gr. *ekklesia*, an assembly of the people, from *ekkletos*, summoned; *ekkaleom*, to summon, call out.]

1. The political assembly in the ancient Greek states, at which all free citizens could vote.

2. The early Greek and Latin name for the church; a congregation (This secondary definition reflects its subsequent incorrect adaptation to the churches).

(Webster's New Twentieth Century Dictionary Standard Ref. Works Pub. Co., Inc. NY, 1957)

11. And they (an invading army under four kings: Chedorlaomer, Tidal, Amraphel, and Arioch) took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their victuals, and went their way.

12. And they took Lot, Abram's brother's son, who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed.

13. And there came one that had escaped, and told Abram the Hebrew; for he dwelt in the plain of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol, and rother of Aner; and these were confederate (had agreed to cooperate) with Abram.

14. And when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his trained servants, born in his own house, three hundred and eighteen, and pursued them unto Dan.

15. And he divided himself against them, he and his servants, by night, and smote them, and pursued them unto Hobah, which is on the left hand of Damascus.

16. And he brought back all the goods, and also brought again his brother Lot, and his goods, and the women also, and the people (Genesis 14:11-16)

Abram's clan didn't ask for government authorization, or a permit, before taking care of the problem. Abram didn't expect the local police to enforce the law for him. He didn't ask permission to defend his family. He just did it! He and his own family enforced the law and defended themselves. Abram, the patriarch, took the law into his own hands and did what was right. This is the ecclesian way.

ADULTS PLAY VERSIONS OF CALVIN BALL TOO... IN THE COURTS, LEGISLATURES, AND CHURCHES. PLAYGROUNDS: TRAINING FOR SLAVERY

CALVIN AND HOBBS



In forming ecclesias in our land, our biggest task will NOT be in organizing and institutionalising. Rather, it will be in DE-ORGANIZING and DE-INSTITUTIONALISING! Americans are programmed, organized, institutionalised, and herded around, from one game to another, until they don't know what's happening. They wouldn't know how to act if they didn't have a ruler herding them around like a bunch of steers.

Men and governments remind me of children on a playground at public school (Those of you who went to public schools should be able to relate to this.). When recess comes, the children run out to the playground, anxious to play... but someone has to decide which game to play.

One kid gets his way, and the others go along with him. If another kid manages to finagle his way into control, then everyone does what he says for a while. Thus, they change leaders again and again. There can be any number of games with different game rules. Each leader's set of rules represents a temporary government. Each leader represents a temporary ruler. This is the way of kids (and politicians).

Playgrounds are training arenas for slave children! It teaches them to follow other children, and adopt other kids' ideas as their own for the sake of unity -- so they can continue playing games. The greatest fear in the mind of the child is that the playing might stop. They don't want to stop playing. They will compromise anything, and even allow themselves to be cheated by another kid, if necessary, in order for the playing to continue.

This playground training infects the child's mind so deeply that he will never completely overcome it. A child who has gone to public school will have permanent damage to his mental faculties. It destroys individuality, self-government and self-confidence. It turns kids into "joiners," and sets them up for being obedient, conforming slaves of central government, and churches, when they grow up. It also provides early practical training for future politicians and church builders who will use the playground training to help them organize their own profit-making games when they are grownups playing "government" and "church."

Politics is a game -- the big-league playground. A society which accepts central government is like kids addicted to game-playing. UNITY must be maintained for the sake of the games.

The politicians wait in the wings for their chance to advance to a more powerful position -- like the children on the playground just waiting their chance to dictate their own rules to fit their own ambitions and prejudices, and to benefit themselves. The object is to make everyone else do what YOU want to do, and the rules are changeable at any time.

The priests, also, do their job of keeping the people exercised and in shape by inundating them with church programs. Also, there are other games like Rotary Club, Masonic Orders, etc. Such games are herd drills -- good practice for the big-league.

The point is that we need to grow up and quit playing kid games. Americans have had central government games so long they don't know any other way to play. They wouldn't know what to do if the game stopped.

CONCLUSION

We must stop repeating the old habits of our ancestors. Remember how the Children of Israel were delivered, through Moses, from the institutions and political games of Egypt? Do you remember what they said once they were free? They looked around and realized that the games had ceased. They were dumbfounded! They hadn't been free but a few days before they began to complain about the lack of government games. Moses hadn't organized, institutionalised, and developed welfare games to take the place of the programs to which they had become addicted back in Egypt. They didn't know how to function off the playground. They wanted Moses to build another Egypt for them -- only with "kinder, gentler" slave masters.

American society is still running in the same circles today! If we are to ever escape that vicious circle, we must stop thinking like kids on the playground. We are called to leave Babylon. We are not called to build another Babylon to replace the old one!

We should opt for the ecclesia, with its patriarchal-type, free government system. And, as we work toward that, God will reveal more insight into its fulfilment.

In Fredrick Bastiat's classic book, THE LAW, the following quote describes the correct Christian attitude toward central government:

"Away with the whims of governmental administrators, their socialized projects, their centralization, their tariffs, their government schools, their state religions, their free credit, their bank monopolies, their regulations, their restrictions, their equalization by taxation, and their pious moralizations!

And now that the legislators and do-gooders have so futilely inflicted so many systems upon society, may they finally end where they should have begun: MAY THEY REJECT ALL SYSTEMS, and try liberty; for liberty is an acknowledgment of faith in God and His works."
(THE LAW, Fredrick Bastiat)

Fredrick Bastiat, a century and a half ago, described for us the basic tenets of the ecclesia! He simply called it "liberty." And he correctly labels all who cannot kick the habit of central government as "faithless," in that they refuse to acknowledge God's system of government.

The Kingdom of Jesus has been planting seeds of freedom and independence all over the world in every land where Israel was scattered. These seeds have been growing steadily for centuries. They have been there growing, in spite of oppression from central governments. With all the scheming of the enemies, Christ's kingdom survives in thousands of locations.

7. Of the increase of this government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David. (Isaiah 9:7)

Our greatest, and most urgent, mission today is to wake people up to the message of the Kingdom of Christ: to get them thinking about the government of God and how it applies to us right now! To do this, the people who have been sidetracked by the churches must be enlightened. They must be shaken out of their stupor. If we must offend them, then so be it. Whatever it takes to break their hypnosis, we must do it.

As people begin to look out across the fields of wheat and tares, and as their eyes are opened to the Kingdom, they will begin to SEE the difference between ecclesias and churches. And, as the people see the difference, the charlatans and church builders will be exposed, and Christ and His Kingdom will take on new meaning to them.

But, I repeat -- our biggest task will NOT be organizing and supporting a system. Rather, it will be DE-ORGANIZING AND STOPPING OUR SUPPORT OF A SYSTEM!

This is the hope for freedom for our people. We need faith, a sincere spirit, and open eyes if we are to see the Kingdom of Heaven: that city of God -- the ecclesia.

Part 3 of 3

Life on the Plantation

Church-and-State Versus the Ecclesia System

"...the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force." (Matthew 11:12) The two previous issues of *The American Christian* asked (and answered) the question, "What is the Ecclesia." In those issues, I showed the meaning of "ecclesia." I also showed the meaning of the word "church" -- which most English-speaking churches wrongly use to replace the word "ecclesia." Churches have led people to drop the word "ecclesia" and replace it with the word "church." The reason for this becomes obvious after you realize the mission of the churches and their master, the state. Thus, the people have lost the original concept of the ecclesia.

This subject is crucial! The more you learn about the Gospel of the Kingdom, the more you realize the importance of re-discovering the meaning and purpose of Christ's ecclesia system. There is yet much to be uncovered -- much to understand and put into action concerning the ecclesia system of God. There is much yet to do and to teach. The Bible refers to the ecclesia system of God, i.e., the Reign of Christ, many times in definite terms. But, church people have been blind to it in the past due to mistranslation, malediction and brainwashing.

For instance, in the New Testament writings, where you read the phrase translated in the K J V: "...before the foundation of the world...", you are actually reading about the "ecclesia system." In Greek, it comes across more clearly, as: "...before the founding of the system...", -- meaning Christ's ecclesia system. This verse is not referring to the time before the earth was created, but

to a time before the kingdom system was established in Christ (i.e., the New Covenant age with its ecclesia system). It simply means, before Christ was raised from the dead and given the throne over Israel.

This example is just the tip of a huge iceberg. There is much more to uncover and teach on this subject.

The ecclesia system is the system of Christian freedom given to us in Scripture, established by Christ and his apostles, and still viable today to anyone who understands it.

NO "RIGHT" CHURCHES

The church system is the great counterfeit system. It has been shoved-off on us to keep us blind to the loss of freedom we've suffered from losing sight of Christ's ecclesia system. The churches have obscured this simple truth with their lies and religious flim-flam. The Church-State establishment has staged a coup, giving the appearance of having overthrown the ecclesia system -- replacing it with the Church-State duo.

The wine of religion and politics has done its work on the minds and hearts of the people. The spiritually drunken condition of church people usually prevents them from discerning the subtle, but immense, changes. Church people simply cannot generally understand and appreciate the monstrous changes that have occurred -- changes which have swallowed them up, and of which they are now a part.

If you are a church person reading this, you likely think of yourself, and your church, as "a different sort." You may read my comments and summarily agree with me, thinking I am referring to THOSE OTHER churches, and not to your church. This mentality is common, and I understand it -- having gone through it myself. It is very easy for a church person to view it this way. You may even subscribe to the theory that yours is "the only true church," and it alone has God's approval.

But, reader, please understand -- the difference of one, or a few, doctrines is not the criteria by which churches are unacceptable. Churches must be rejected for their very nature. They are not what they purport to be! Any organization which supports and/or subscribes to the common concept of "church" in general -- whether it calls itself a church, a synagogue, a fraternity, or any other name -- is unacceptable regardless of its particular name or doctrinal peculiarities. Churches, like synagogues and psychiatrists, must be avoided! They confuse, pervert, and dissipate.

GET OUT OF THE CHURCHES! They are NOT of God! They are NOT of the ecclesia system of Christ! They may incorporate the name "Christ" in their title, but without his authority it means nothing. Christ didn't institute churches! He doesn't want churches! He instituted a civil system of independence and liberty, called "The Christian Ecclesia System."

CHURCH FATHERS

Juxtaposed to Christ's ecclesia was the church system -- as represented by Simon Magus.

9. But there was a certain man, called Simon (Magus), which beforetime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one:

10. To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God.

11. And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries.

12. But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

13. Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done.
 18. And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the holy spirit was given, he offered them money,
 19. Saying, Give me also this authority that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the holy spirit.
 20. But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money.
 21. Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God.
 22. Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.
 23. For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity.
 Acts 8:9-13, 18-23

Another noted church father was Elymas the sorcerer.



6. And when they had gone through the isle unto Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew, whose name was Barjesus (son of Jesus):

7. Which was with the deputy of the country, Sergius Paulus, an intelligent man: who called for Barnabas and Saul, and desired to hear the word of God.

8. But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith.

9. Then Saul, (who also is called Paul), filled with the holy spirit, set his eyes

on him.

10. And said, O full of all subtlety and all mischief, thou son of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?
 Acts 13:6-10

The sorcery described in the above verses is the basis and mode of the church system. People entrenched in the church system generally cannot see this -- but churches, by their very nature, are products of Babylon. They stifle intelligence, independence and liberty.

Therefore, we have dedicated ourselves to learn more about the ecclesia system, expose the church system for the harlot that she is, and hopefully encourage people to develop a sincere dislike for churches and church functions.

We shall fan the fire of contempt against central government and churches, and encourage everyone to read the Bible for themselves -- as a manual for life, rather than a formula for sorcery and superstition. People must, sooner or later, realize that the commandment to "come out of her my people," refers also to the churches.

THE VINEYARD? OR THE PLANTATION?

7. For the vineyard of Yahweh of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah his pleasant plant: and he looked for judgment, but behold oppression; for righteousness, but behold a cry.

8. Woe unto them that join house to house, that lay field to field, till there be no place that they may be placed alone in the midst of the earth! Isaiah 5:7-8

Christians who have suffered under years of brainwashing from the churches will find the ecclesia concept a little hard to grasp. So, as an illustration to help get the idea across, we'll use the plantation analogy -- an example familiar to most people. This should help clear up some points.

For the purposes of this illustration, think of The United States as The Big Plantation. Think of Washington D.C. as the plantation manor, and Congress as the master ("massah"). And, remember, the International Bankers are the mortgage-holders and true behind-the-scenes owners and controllers of the Plantation. Lastly, you are the slaves (regulated residents) on the Plantation.

Now we have all the elements for a plantation system:

1. Slaves,
2. Land,
3. Master,
4. Financiers.

This illustration fits according to Isaiah 5 (quoted above) where a nation is called "a vineyard." A plantation, then, is a vineyard with a central government.

Vineyards grow well and flourish in God's natural environment -- as long as central government doesn't take over and abuse the land. The ecclesia system can be likened to a system of husbandry and preservation of the vineyard of Yahweh. Caring for the vineyard includes being on guard against any kind of central government taking root and spreading throughout the garden -- a purpose forgotten by most of our race, thanks to the brainwash of the churches.

ECONOMIC & POLITICAL MONOPOLY

As Isaiah said, it is wrong to "join houses and fields" together until one person, or one corporation, has control of large areas of land. The largest corporate monopoly in America is the U.S. Government. It owns and controls the whole nation. No private ownership has existed in the U.S.A. since the Constitution was ratified over 200 years ago. U.S. citizens are tenants on government land. We can use the land for a fee (taxes), but we cannot own it.

The Bible gives clear warnings against the sin of monopolies of property and power. For instance, Micah tells the people that their acceptance of central monopolies has brought them slavery:

1. Woe to them that devise iniquity, and work evil upon their beds! when the morning is light, they practise it, because it is in the power of their hand.
2. And they covet fields, and take them by violence; and houses, and take them away; so they oppress a man and his house, even a man and his heritage.
3. Therefore thus saith Yahweh; Behold, against this family do I devise an evil, from which ye shall not remove your necks; neither shall ye go haughtily: for this time is evil.
4. In that day shall one take up a parable against you, and lament with a doleful lamentation, and say, We be utterly spoiled: he hath changed the portion of my

people: how hath he removed it from me! turning away he hath divided our fields.
Micah 2:1-4

Again, Micah explains that corrupt government and religion have brought poverty in the land:

9. Hear this, I pray you, ye heads of the house of Jacob, and princes of the house of Israel; that abhor judgment, and pervert all equity.

10. They build up Zion with blood, and Jerusalem with iniquity.

11. The heads thereof judge for reward, and the priests thereof teach for hire, and the prophets thereof divine for money: yet will they lean upon Yahweh, and say, Is not Yahweh among us? none evil can come upon us.

12. Therefore shall Zion for your sake be ploughed as a field, and Jerusalem shall become heaps, and the mountain of the house as the high places of the forest.

Micah 3:9-12

Habakkuk warns that a nation which builds with blood and oppression will be overthrown:

8. Because thou hast spoiled many nations, all the remnant of the people shall spoil thee; because of men's blood, and for the violence of the land, of the city, and of all that dwell therein.

9. Woe to him that coveteth an evil covetousness to his house, that he may set his nest on high, that he may be delivered from the power of evil!

10. Thou hast consulted shame to thy house by cutting off many people, and hast sinned against thy soul.

11. Woe to him that buildeth a town with blood, and stablisheth a city by iniquity!

Habakkuk 2:8-12

One cannot read these scriptures without thinking of the evil central government in America. The only difference between the beast powers of the Old Testament times, and the central beast of America, is that today's beast is many times larger and more powerful.

Looking at a map of the Big Plantation (The United States), you can see little lines here and there marking the state boundaries. Just think of those lines as fences. As any good farmer or rancher knows, it is important to maintain good fences on the plantation to properly manage the cattle and keep them in their proper areas. The plantation master (Congress) must keep close track of the cattle, which includes branding them for identification and keeping records on them.

Or, perhaps more correctly, you could think of the state borders as marking off smaller sections of the Plantation -- each section containing its own group of slaves. The boundaries between each section of slaves are there to help each section manage its slaves and keep them from getting mixed up with the slaves of other sections. Dividing the land into smaller sections is for the purpose of keeping better local records, keeping the slaves working and producing, and avoiding rebellion. This is called "political science."

Of course, there have been other Big Plantations. In the Bible, we read about the Garden of Eden -- a godly vineyard to start with, but eventually spoiled by the serpent system of central government. All it took was a slick politician (the serpent) showing man how he could "become wise," and "be as a god," creating his own laws. Thus, the first central government is recorded in the Bible.

Of course, the well-known epitome of central government was Babylon with its central tower.

We also read of the ancient kingdoms of Egypt, Assyria, Persia, Greece and Rome. These were Big Plantations with forced slavery. They built their plantations on the blood of the common people the same as the United States has done.

IMPROVED METHODS

There is nothing new under the sun. Slavery continues today under the guise of central government. But, today's slavers understand the business better than the old plantation masters did. They've always known that incentive was needed to keep the slaves on their plantations "where they belong." The slaves need to know that they'll get regular meals and clothes as long as they behave themselves... and, that they'll be severely punished if they break the rules or try to escape. But, political engineers discovered long ago that this kind of incentive alone is not enough. The threat of beatings and the loss of regular meals has never been enough to keep healthy slaves from rebelling. The need to be free was still there... burning in their hearts... bursting forth at times in the form of rebellion, even though it cost them dearly. The urge is just uncontrollable.

The masters knew they needed more control. They needed something that would break the spirit of freedom so that it could not surface. In other words, slaves must have reason to WANT to stay put, and shut up, and do their work for the big messiah. They must be made to peacefully ACCEPT their circumstances. The only thing that could accomplish this was a system of brainwashing that would actually convince the slaves that they did not WANT to escape. They needed a system of control that would actually inoculate the minds of the slaves against rebellious thoughts. This would eliminate the potential of rebellion -- nipping it in the bud, so to speak.

THE CHURCH SYSTEM

The Plantation masters needed a propaganda mill that would brainwash the people and make them docile and dull of mind, like cattle. That propaganda mill -- that stupefier and pacifier -- was THE CHURCH SYSTEM. It is truly "the opium of the people." Christ brought liberty, but the churches counterattacked with ignorance, confusion, religion and slavery. The masses accepted the churches. But, the true followers of Christ cannot accept them once they see the truth.

Thus, a brilliant plan was conceived and implemented. In their scheme to keep on top, to stifle the ecclesia system of Christ, the Plantation masters set up the propaganda and brainwash mill called "church," and declared it a full partner of the "State." The institution was accepted by the people because they were told that it was instituted by Christ, and that it had approval of the central government.

The church system was put into place by the masters in Washington D.C. more than 200 years ago. Over the years, the people came to accept the "church system," and the church system killed their spirit of freedom. All this was accomplished in the name of religion.

Thus, the true ecclesias were forgotten -- along with freedom. Central government enjoys sovereignty over the people. The churches re-defined freedom and stupefied the people.

But, the thing we must keep in mind is that **the "church," as we know it, has absolutely no scriptural authority.** The "church" is not the "ecclesia." The ecclesia is an entirely different concept from a church. The "church," as we know it, is NOT in the Bible. The closest thing to it is the Jewish synagogue.

Furthermore, the word "church" is like the word "Jew." It is a misnomer used only to confuse and neutralize Christians. As the word "Jew" has been used wrongly to replace the word "Israelite," so also the word "church" has been used wrongly to replace the word "ecclesia" -- all for a pre-determined purpose. And, just as the Israeli state is rightly called an illegitimate entity, so also is the institution of "church." Church, combined with State, has been usurping the Christian Community System ("the ecclesia") all these years.

THE ALTERNATIVE

Jesus gave us His system as a political alternative to Babylonian "states" and "churches." In the book of Acts, the ecclesias were in the process of undermining the church-state complex (i.e., "The Beast"). The efficiency and workability was undeniable. The success was unstoppable. Indeed, prophecy indicates that eventually it will completely destroy the Beast System!

When Christ told Peter that His ecclesia would be built upon the rock, and that the gates of hell would not prevail against it, He was talking about His kingdom as it was to be expressed in Christian civil communities -- NOT churches! Independent communities (ecclesias) were the mortal enemies of the centralized church-state complex. Central governments cannot allow independent, autonomous communities to exist. It would break their power to tax, plunder, and control the people.

Jesus set up His kingdom, and dispersed it in the ecclesias. The apostles carried this vital message: "the good news of the reign of Christ." As they travelled, they set up independent civil ecclesias (communities) here and there, based upon Christ's reign. Man could make no law. Only God could make law.

THE STRUGGLE



Christ's ecclesias met immediate hatred and violence from the plantation masters and their local officials of that day. They knew that the ecclesias would destroy them if allowed to continue. All central-government systems were at risk if the ecclesia system survived. The ecclesia system was designed by Christ to make centralized government obsolete, and remove the "messiahs" from power.

In Revelation 12, John describes the great struggle between the beast and the man child (i.e., between the central-government system and the ecclesia system):

1. And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars (12-tribed Israel):

2. And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered.

3. And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon (central government), having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads (kingdoms under his central control).

4. ...and the dragon (central government) stood before the woman (Israel) which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child (the ecclesia system) as soon as it was born.

5. And she brought forth a man child (Christ's reign manifested in the ecclesia system) who was to shepherd nations with a staff of iron: and her child (the ecclesia) was caught up unto God, and to his throne. ("Upon this rock I will build my ecclesia, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven." Mtt 16:18)

7. And there was war in heaven (struggle for control at the government level): Michael and his angels (the ecclesia and its people) fought against the dragon (central government); and the dragon fought and his angels.

8. And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven (Christ became the undisputed king of Israel, and the ecclesia system replaced the central government system in the hearts and minds of informed Christians).

13. And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman (the Israel people scattered throughout the world) which brought forth the man child (ecclesia system).

15. And the serpent (central gov't) cast out of his mouth water as a flood (propaganda; brainwashing via the churches) after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood (confuse and conquer the rest of the Israel people located in the various nations by preventing them from understanding the ecclesia system and the gospel of Christ's reign). Revelation 12

EMANCIPATION

What our people need today, more than anything else, is to rediscover the real meaning of freedom. Freedom is the purpose and hope of Christ's kingdom -- i.e., the ecclesia system.

But, here we are today -- on the big Plantation. Americans are conquered slaves, and most of us are so brainwashed that we actually imagine that we are somehow free. If we are ever to get off the Plantation, or if the Plantation is ever going to be forced to relinquish its control, there is only one path we can take. We must learn how God would have us live in freedom with one another! We must re-learn the simple truths about the ecclesia system of Christ.

This will require that we, first of all, stop affiliating with, listening to, supporting, and most of all DEPENDING UPON, churches! We must stop our church idolatry!

When we begin to view church, and state, with equal contempt -- then we will be ready to progress into the free ecclesia system under Christ.

29. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. Matthew 11:29

"Yoke" was an expression for taxation and other burdens which an overlord levied on his subjects. Just as the neck of an ox bends under the weight of a heavy yoke, so a man felt crushed under heavy duties and taxes.

In some cases, when very heavy taxes were exacted, men revolted because they felt they could no longer carry the yoke of their lord. One could hear people say to one another, "our yoke has become unbearable."

When a new leader ascended the throne, the first thing he did, if he was kindly and merciful, was reduce the taxes and lighten the burdens accrued from the former government.

At the time Christ spoke this, the people were heavily burdened with taxes. There were imperial, state and temple levies. The people maintained the state and its officials, as well as the temple and its extravagant priests. Both temporal and spiritual rulers lived in luxurious palaces at the expense of the poor.

However, Jesus (the new King) had no palaces, temples and sacred shrines. The God He preached was a loving father, not a slave master. He could be approached with a simple prayer. His demands were honesty, a contrite heart, and rejection of other gods. Thus, in taking on Christ's light yoke (i.e., accepting His reign), men were freed from their heavy yokes of tyranny, and allowed to keep and enjoy the produce of their own hands.

ANARCHY OR FREEDOM?

What is often called "anarchy," the Bible calls "the Kingdom of Heaven." Independence, liberty, and self-government are usually called "anarchy" by those in government. They cannot agree to anything that might remove them from their coveted positions of power over the people. However, what few of them fail to realize is that, when the Beast falls, they are going to fall with it. Their worst fear (freedom for the people) will be realized. They try to label it "anarchy," but it is liberty. To the central politicians, "anarchy" means "any situation where central government is not in control."

But, Scripture describes central government in less than friendly terms, and promises retribution and an ignominious end to the corrupt system.

4. And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.
5. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.
6. Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled, fill to her double.
7. How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give her: for she saith in her heart, "I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow."
8. Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is Yahweh God who judgeth her.
15. The merchants of these things, which were made rich by her, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing.
16. And saying, "Alas, alas, that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls!
17. For in one hour so great riches is come to nought." And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off,
18. And cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, "What city is like unto this great city!"
19. And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, "Alas, alas that great city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! for in one hour is she made desolate."
20. Rejoice over her, thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets; for God hath avenged you on her. Revelation 18:4-8, 15-20

Thus far, I've described the United States as a huge plantation -- with us as the slaves, and Congress as our masters. The bankers (i.e., the money merchants), of course, hold mortgage on all the land. They control the Congress. Thus, they are the true owners of the plantation.

I've touched upon the Bible laws forbidding rulers -- and any form of monopoly. I've done my best to convince you that you should hate this evil government system of enslavement (called "Mystery Babylon" in the Bible) -- just as I hate it.

I will probably manage to convince a few. And, I know that there are a good number of you who already despise this central-government system and hired church system which serves as the propaganda tool for keeping the slaves pacified.

So, for those of us who are ready to forsake Babylon and are only waiting for Jesus to reveal to us a way to do it... we'll go on to look at some of the features of a free Christian society where no central government exists, or where it is too small to force its will upon those who don't want it.

AMERICAN EXODUS



A century ago America was experiencing a mass migration westward. Families, by the thousands, were leaving the eastern states and moving west. What prompted this mass migration? The answer is simple. It was caused by central government!

Washington D.C. was on the east coast. The old establishment, with its oppressive corporate network, was on the east coast. A century ago the Eastern Establishment was synonymous with "central government." Families who yearned for freedom fled the east to settle in the wild, but free, western territories.

They preferred the risk of hostile elements, the lack of conveniences, and the hard work of survival in the wilds, to the oppression of the Eastern Establishment and its central government. Fortunately, most of the Indians were friendly and quite helpful -- except when the "messiahs" of the Eastern Establishment began doing to them what was already being done to our own race in the eastern states. Some of the Indians eventually realized that the Eastern Establishment meant to conquer them, steal their land, and put them on God-forsaken reservations... and they fought the new plantation owners. Would-to-God that our own race would have done the same! But, instead, we allowed the Eastern Establishment to move in, rout the Indians, and continue enslaving us.

The alternative to Babylonian (central) government is the Christian ecclesia system -- the system that Christ and His apostles began setting up immediately after Christ announced His reign. It was that system that Paul and Barnabas were setting up in their travels to Asia Minor and Europe. **They were not building churches!** They were sharing the good news of Christ's reign, and showing how to live free within an ecclesia community system -- independent from central, state rulership.

It was this same ecclesia system of Christ's reign that the apostles took to their scattered kinsmen in the nations of the world. That message was called "the gospel of the kingdom." And, it was this message which caused the disciples to be beaten, imprisoned, persecuted, and murdered by the central governments of those nations. The disciples were spreading "sedition" in those lands because they were declaring a different king and a different government.

The new king was Jesus -- and that government was the ecclesia system Jesus told Peter about in Matthew 16:18:



"Upon this rock I will build my ecclesia (i.e., my kingdom via communities all over the world), and the gates of hell (i.e., destruction) will not prevail against it."

Obviously, churches are not ecclesias. The churches pander pacifism among the slaves, worship the U.S. Constitution (which put the central rulers in place) and preach conformity to the collectivist policies. Churches do not support freedom. There is no similarity between churches and ecclesias.

Central government needs the churches! It even gives them preferred tax status over other institutions. The ecclesia system, on the other hand, is hated by central government!

The church system pacifies people through mythology, brainwashing, hypnosis, priestcraft, social events, emotion catharsis, parties, committees, organizing, and more organizing. But, the

ecclesia system avoids all that, deals in the real world of honest work and accomplishments, allowing Christians to live natural, wholesome, self-governed lives.

People who have been "properly church-ed" become apathetically dissipated. They have no energy left, nor any desire, to face the real problems of their day. They only think about the unreal mythologies of the church world. In fact, they lose the ability to even see the real problems. They cannot rise above the weekly routines, the religious rituals and the endless organized activities of the church. If they have any potential for concern it gets wasted on nonsensical rituals and church programs.

STOP DEFENDING CHURCH AND STATE

There are a growing number of us who do not like plantation life. So, for those who are ready to progress away from central government, and its harlot churches on every street corner, we shall go on to discuss the features of life WITHOUT the plantation beast on our backs.

Contemplating life without church and central government brings questions to mind. And, that is good! Questions cause more thinking. Thinking provides more solutions. We need solutions! We need good minds thinking on this subject.

Liberty is yet a mystery to most people. How could society function if people were left to make their own decisions, handle their own affairs, and provide for their own safety and welfare? Even those who claim to be free cannot contemplate such drastic measures. Like the Israelites of old, who thought they wanted liberty (until they experienced it firsthand in the Egyptian wilderness), church people of today have little, if any, understanding of real liberty. They don't really dislike central government. They don't really mind living as a slave.

Central government is considered a necessary feature of society by most church people. Here are three arguments I often hear from them when I say we don't need central government:

1. "But, don't we need some form of central government over such a large country? How could we coordinate and run this nation, and its commerce, without central government to keep things in order?"
2. "How could we defend against foreign invasion without central government to raise an army?"
3. "But the Constitution is God-inspired, and our government is the best in the world." (My advice, when you hear these words: prepare for a short conversation and a quick exit. The man is out of touch with reality.)

First, I'll show you the weakness of these arguments. Then, I'll show the strength of real Christian liberty and the ecclesia system.

1. No! We do not need a central government over us. 200 years of central government here in America has done nothing to help us -- and everything to hurt us. In controlling commerce, the central government has proven itself to be the greatest enemy of free trade and honest labour. It certainly has not protected and helped us in this area.
2. In terms of military protection against foreign invasion, the central government has done absolutely nothing to help us. In fact, it has done just the opposite. It has...
 - a. turned brother against brother in the Civil War [War between the States].
 - b. started and/or gotten us involved in nearly every war you can name, forcing us to pay higher taxes, and forcing our young men (and now women, too) to waste their lives fighting bankers' wars on foreign soil for reasons the soldiers don't even understand.

3. The Constitution could not have been God-inspired! This can be proven in easy steps:

- a. "Where the spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty" (2 Corinthians 3:17). Therefore freedom and Christ are inseparable.
- b. The Constitution created a central government. This government is still in place. It has ruled, centrally, since 1787.
- c. The central government has enslaved people, ruined the economy, murdered our sons, aborted our babies, demoralized our youth, brain-washed the whole population, and destroyed the heritage of our race. In short, the U.S. Government has destroyed freedom.
- d. Therefore, since the Constitution created a government which destroys liberty, it could NOT have been inspired by God. And, contrary to the common claim that "our government may not be perfect, but it is the best in the world," the fact is, the U.S. Government may very well be the worst in the world. It certainly has caused more misery than any other in the world.

The point is this: there is no benefit whatsoever in central government EXCEPT to those who are in the government, and to the bankers to profit from government.

International wars are nothing more than bankers squabbling over investments and property disputes. Central governments are tools of bankers to keep watch over their investments and loans. Anyone who wants a central government is either an enemy or a fool!

LIFE IN THE ECCLESIA

Now, lets talk briefly about commerce and law enforcement in a free society -- without central government. What does the Bible say? [TLP Editor's note: An excellent source of information on this is contained in a book called Victims Rights, by Dr. Gary North. It is available free online, at freebooks.com.]

Law for Commerce

A. Theft

15. "Thou shalt not steal." Exodus 20:15

B. Monopolies

9. "Woe to them that join house to house, that lay field to field, till there be no place, that they may be placed alone in the midst of the earth!" (No monopolies on land and commerce.) Isaiah 5:8

C. Land Investment

5. "Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the land is mine (God's)." Exodus 19:5

10. And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof: it shall be a jubilee unto you; and ye shall return every man unto his possession, and ye shall return every man unto his family.

23. "The land shall not be sold for ever: for the land is mine; for ye are strangers and sojourners with me.

24. And in all the land of your possession ye shall grant a redemption for the land." (Land granted to family for 50 years; cannot be sold for profit) Leviticus 25:10 & 23-24

Law Against Violence
A. Murder

13. "Thou shalt not murder." Exodus 20:13
6. "Whosoever sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man." (Murderers must pay with their own blood.) Genesis 9:6

Law for Punishment & Enforcement
A. Principle

23. "And if any mischief follow, then thou shalt give life for life,
24. Eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.
25. Burning for burning, wound for wound, stripe for stripe." Exodus 21:23-25

THE RIGHTS OF MAN

Tyrants! Know that the rights of man are inherent and inalienable, and therefore not to be forfeited by the failure of any form of government, however democratic.

Let the American Union perish; let these allied States be torn with faction, or drenched in blood; let this republic realize the fate of Rome and Carthage, or Babylon and Tyre; still those rights would remain undiminished in strength, unsullied in purity, unaffected in value, and sacred as their Divine Author.

If nations perish it is not because of their devotion to liberty, but for their disregard of its requirements. Man is superior to all political compacts, all governmental arrangements, all religious institutions. As means to an end, these may sometimes be useful, though never indispensable; but that end must always be the freedom and happiness of man -- INDIVIDUAL MAN.

The time for the overthrow of any government, the abandonment of any alliance, the subversion of any institution, is whenever it justifies the sacrifice of the individual to secure the general welfare; for the welfare of the many cannot be hostile to the safety of the few.

In all agreements, in all measures, in all political or religious enterprises, in all attempts to redeem the human race, man, as an individual, is to be held paramount. The doctrine, that the end sanctifies the means, is a maxim of profligates and impostors, of usurpers and tyrants.

--Selections from THE WRITINGS AND SPEECHES OF WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON, 1852

B. Witnesses

15. "One witness shall not rise up against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin, in any sin that he sinneth: at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall the matter be established.
16. If a false witness rise up against any man to testify against him that which is wrong;
17. Then both the men, between whom the controversy is, shall stand before Yahweh (in a godly court) before the priests and the judges, which shall be in those days;
18. And the judges shall make diligent inquisition: and behold, if the witness be a false witness, and hath testified falsely against his brother;
19. Then shall ye do unto him, as he had thought to have done unto his brother: so shalt thou put the evil away from among you.

20. And those which remain shall hear, and fear, and shall henceforth commit no more any such evil among you.

21. And thine eye shall not pity; but life shall go for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot." Deuteronomy 19:15-21

C. **Judgment/Trial**

13. "Take you wise men, and understanding, and known among your tribes, and I will make them your chiefs.

15. So I took the chief of your tribes, wise men, and known, and made them heads over you, captains over hundreds, and captains over fifties, and captains over tens, and officers among your tribes.

16. And I charged your judges at that time, saying, Hear the causes between your brethren and judge righteously between every man and his brother, and the stranger that is with him.

17. Ye shall not respect persons in judgment; but ye shall hear the small as well as the great; ye shall not be afraid of the face of man; for the judgment is God's: and the cause that is too hard for you, bring it unto me (Moses), and I will hear it." (Judges are to judge matters, but not enforce them.) Deuteronomy 1:13-17

D. **Enforcement**

5. "Then shalt thou bring forth that man or that woman, which have committed that wicked thing, unto thy gates, even that man or that woman, and shalt stone them with stones, till they die.

6. At the mouth of two witnesses, or three witnesses, shall he that is worthy of death be put to death; but at the mouth of one witness he shall not be put to death.

7. The hands of the witnesses shall be first upon him to put him to death, and afterward the hands of all the people (private enforcement of judgment; no police force). So thou shalt put the evil away from among you.

12. And the man that will do presumptuously, and will not hearken unto the priest that standeth to minister there before the LORD thy God, or unto the judge, even that man shall die: and thou shalt put away the evil from Israel.

13. And all the people shall hear, and fear, and do no more presumptuously." Deuteronomy 17:5-13

E. **Cities of Refuge**

9. "And Yahweh spake unto Moses, saying,

10. Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When you be come over Jordan into the land of Canaan;

11. Then ye shall appoint you cities to the cities of refuge for you (holding areas for slayers awaiting trial); that the slayer may flee thither, which killeth any person by accident." Numbers 35:9-11

F. **Revenger of Blood**

12. "And they shall be unto you cities for refuge from **the avenger** (the next-of-kin whose responsibility it is to punish the murderer); that the manslayer die not, until he stand before the congregation (the judges) in judgment.

15. These six cities shall be a refuge, both for the children of Israel, and for the stranger, and for the sojourner among them: that every one that killeth any person accidentally may flee there.
16. And if he smite him with an instrument of iron, so that he die...
17. ...with throwing a stone, wherewith he may die...
18. ...an hand weapon of wood, wherewith he may die, and he die, he is a murderer: the murderer shall surely be put to death.
19. The **revenger** of blood himself shall slay the murderer: when he meeteth him, he shall slay him.
21. **the revenger** of blood shall slay the murderer, when he meeteth him."
Numbers 35:12-21

G. Accidental Death

22. "But if he (the killer) thrust him (the victim) suddenly without enmity, or have cast upon any thing without laying of wait (i.e., without premeditation; strictly by accident),
23. Or with any stone, wherewith a man may die, seeing him not, and cast it upon him, that he die, and was not his enemy, neither sought his harm:
24. Then the congregation shall judge between the slayer and the revenger of blood according to these judgments:
25. And the congregation shall deliver the slayer out of the hand of the revenger of blood, and the congregation shall restore him to the city of his refuge, whither he was fled, and he shall abide in it unto the death of the high priest, which was anointed with the holy oil.
29. So these things shall be for a statute of judgment unto you throughout your generations in all your dwellings.
30. Whoso killeth any person, the murderer shall be put to death by the mouth of witnesses: but one witness shall not testify against any person to cause him to die."
Numbers 35:22-30

H. Murderers

31. "Moreover, ye shall take no bribe (no fine) for the life of a murderer, which is guilty of death; but he shall be surely put to death.
32. And ye shall take no bribe for him that is fled to the city of his refuge, that he should come again to dwell in the land: and the land cannot be cleansed of the blood that is shed therein, but by the blood of him that shed it.
34. Defile not therefore the land which ye shall inhabit, wherein I dwell: for I Yahweh dwell among the children of Israel." Numbers 35:31-34

Offences should be settled between the parties involved. Remedies for crimes must be sought by the victims, or their next-of-kin. The power of law enforcement cannot be forfeited into the hands of central mercenaries ("police") and greedy politicians. To do so is to open the door to tyranny. The judges are to judge matters and declare what is right -- no more -- no less. Enforcement of that judgment depends upon the people. There is no police force in the Kingdom of God!

Without a central law maker, and without a police force, there would be no laws deterring wholesome business, creativity and enterprise. Coordination between people and communities would happen naturally. Cooperation and planning would take the place of central bureaus, and men would not conspire to monopolize, control, and defraud.

The same is true with regard to a defence system. Banding together for the purpose of helping and defending each other is a fruition of the ecclesia system. However, Christians must remember that there is a big difference between "cooperation," and "corporation." A co-op is comprised of independent persons or entities who take part voluntarily. However, a corporation is comprised of persons and/or entities who have sacrificed their independence to become a part of the corporate body. Their performance is no longer voluntary, but under control and demand of the corporation... which becomes an actual entity itself.

THE GOLDEN RULE

In a free Christian society, with voluntary cooperation, the common law would be based on one principle: Man is free to do anything he desires as long as he,

- a. **Does no harm to his fellow man.**
- b. **Does not rebel against God. (Matthew 22:37-40)**

The great enemy of these principles of freedom is the church-state beast system called "Babylon" in scripture.

The great friend of these principles of freedom is the Christian Ecclesia System (independent, autonomous, cooperative Christian communities).

THE IDOLATRY MUST STOP

If you profess to follow Christ, then it's time you quit voluntarily feeding the anti-Christ beast. Men that want liberty must wean themselves from central government and churches. It is the height of absurdity for a Christian to attend and support the very institutions which are destroying his freedom and sanity. Those who voluntarily support a central government, or a church, by believing and teaching that it is good in any way, or that it helps us, or that we need it, are still living in a dream world.



In terms of central government, the old axiom is still true: "The best government is the least government." In fact, we'd like to see it abolished.

The ecclesia system, with its self-government and responsibility, is capable of freeing us from the bondage of the church-state Plantation. Liberty cannot be found outside of Christ. Christ's system is the Ecclesia System.

Freedom awaits all those who will stop idolizing the churches and central government, and will start pursuing Christian independence.

**THE NEW CHRISTIAN CRUSADE
CHURCH**

CALLING THE PEOPLE OF BRITAIN

At last the bible makes sense!

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**"For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the
Word of the Lord from Jerusalem"
(Isaiah 2:3)."**

