

November 13, 2011

*"The Holy Spirit's Role in Government"*

*Numbers 11:11-17; 25-26; 1 Samuel 16:1-14*

*One of the most amazing, yet neglected teachings in Scripture is God's teaching about the role of God's Holy Spirit in the Government of men! The NEED of God's Holy Spirit in government is so great that I believe it is impossible for any government to provide its people true protection, peace and prosperity without Him! As in the case of Saul, when the Holy Spirit leaves a man, or a nation, an evil spirit will take over! Are not Demons just as hungry for power as are evil men? Ephesians 6:11-12 ... There is SO MUCH to say on this topic I pray the Holy Spirit's help as I seek to say it!*

*I. We need the Holy Spirit's help in self-government –*

*Galatians 6:16-26 - In every Christian's heart / life there is a war between the flesh and God's Holy Spirit –*

**I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.<sup>17</sup> For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. (Galatians 5:16-17 NKJ)**

- 1. We need to be "led" Galatians 5:18 (or governed) by God's Spirit, this leading is like the leading of an animal, perhaps a sheep?*

**But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. (Galatians 5:18 NKJ) /**

**All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. (Isaiah 53:6 KJV)**

- 2. Without the leading or government of God's Spirit we tend toward every evil thing –*

<sup>19</sup> **Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness,<sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies,<sup>21</sup> envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. (Galatians 5:19-21 NKJ)**

*3. God's Spirit makes us different –*

**But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,<sup>23</sup> gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. (Galatians 5:22-23 NKJ)**

*Speaking to Saul, Samuel says –<sup>6</sup> "Then the Spirit of the LORD will come upon you, and you will prophesy with them and be turned into another man. (1Sa 10:6 NKJ)*

*4. One of the fruits of the Spirit is "self-control" / self-government*

*– "Who has a harder fight than he who is striving to overcome himself."*

*Thomas A Kempis*

*5. Self-Government is prerequisite to success in governing others –*  
**"Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. (Acts 20:28 NKJ)**

*II. We need the Holy Spirit's help in family-government –*

*1. Without God's Spirit the family is CURSED –*

<sup>16</sup> **To the woman He said: "I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; Your desire shall be for your husband, And he shall rule over you." (Gen 3:16 NKJ)**

- A. "Desire" referred to in Genesis 3:16 is a wicked "desire" to control and manipulate sinfully*
- B. "rule over" refers to a slamming down HARD!*

*2. Godly-male leadership is commanded by Scripture –*

*Note that the instruction regarding families in Ephesians 5 is prefaced by the COMMAND to be filled with the Spirit –*

**And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, (Ephesians 5:18 NKJ)**

*It is after this we read –*

**Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. (Ephesians 5:22 NKJ) and Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, (Ephesians 5:25 NKJ)**

*III. We need the Holy Spirit's help in church-government -*

**"Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. (Acts 20:28 NKJ)**

- 1. Note, it is the Holy Spirit who makes men elders / overseers*

2. *God expects us to govern differently than the “Gentiles”– Mark 10:35-45*

...<sup>42</sup> **But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them.<sup>43</sup> "Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant.<sup>44</sup> "And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all.<sup>45</sup> "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."** (Mark 10:35-45 NKJ)

#### *IV. We need the Holy Spirit's help in civil-government*

1. *Such government is RARE and unappreciated in our world –*

A. *Three times Jesus refers to Satan as the ruler of this world:*

**"Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out. (John 12:31 NKJ)**

**"I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me. (John 14:30 NKJ)**

**"of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. (John 16:11 NKJ)**

B. *Paul refers to Satan as the “god of this age” –*

**whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. (2 Corinthians 4:4 NKJ)**

2. *Yet, the Holy Spirit helped Moses and Moses' helpers -*

**"<sup>14</sup> "I am not able to bear all these people alone, because the burden is too heavy for me. ..."<sup>16</sup> So the LORD said to Moses: "Gather to Me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tabernacle of meeting, that they may stand there with you.<sup>17</sup> "Then I will come down and talk with you there. I will take of the Spirit that is upon you and will put the same upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with you, that you may not bear it yourself alone. (Numbers 11:1-17 NKJ)**  
See also verses :25-26

3. *Considered Old Testament Judges were empowered to rule and defend God's people by the Holy Spirit –*

**The Spirit of the LORD came upon him (Othniel) and he judged Israel ... (Judges 3:10 NKJ)**

**But the Spirit of the LORD came upon Gideon; then he blew the trumpet, and the Abiezrites gathered behind him. (Judges 6:34 NKJ)**

**Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jephthah ... (Judges 11:29 NKJ)**

**Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon him (Sampson) mightily ... (Judges 14:19; 15:14 NKJ)**

*An important aspect of “government” is defending the people you govern, as you see, God's Spirit enabled judges to do this –*

**WSC 26 How doth Christ execute the office of a king? A. Christ executes the office of a king, in subduing us to himself, in ruling and defending us, and in restraining and conquering all his and our enemies. (WSC 1:26 WCS)**

4. *We see God's Spirit given to and taken from King Saul and given to David as He was anointed King –*

**Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel arose and went to Ramah. <sup>14</sup> But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and a distressing spirit from the LORD troubled him. (1 Samuel 16:13-14 NKJ)**

A. *We see David's valiant action in defeating Goliath is after the Spirit of the LORD comes upon him and is similar to Saul's action when the Spirit had fallen on him -1 Samuel 11 Yet how corrupt, cowardly and weak does Saul become with the Spirit's departure?*

B. *After God takes away Israel's kings due to their great disobedience, God encourages His people even under the rule of Persia they could be blessed by the leadership of their governor Zerubbabel –*

**"<sup>6</sup> So he answered and said to me: "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit," Says the LORD of hosts. (Zechariah 4:4-6 NKJ)**

C. *Our own country was originally founded and led by Spirit-filled men –*

**<sup>22</sup> (For the LORD is our Judge, The LORD is our Lawgiver, The LORD is our King; He will save us); (Isa 33:22 NKJ)**

- Our form of Government is based on this verse
- Terms of service are short because we recognized the temptations of power and the inherent sinfulness of even the best men (David)
- We have no earthly king because we recognized Christ as KING!
- We need to humble ourselves and pray fervently for revival – 2 Chronicles 7:14; Luke 11:9-13