

Notes: January 26, 2013

Start: 10 AM

**Order of service:**

1. Meet and Greet
2. Introduction (if new people)
3. Ma Tovv
4. Open in Prayer for service
5. Liturgy – Sh'ma +
6. Announcements
7. Praise and Worship Songs
8. Message
9. Aaronic Blessing
10. Kiddush
11. Oneg

Children's Blessing:

Transliteration: *Ye'simcha Elohim ke-Ephraim ve hee-Menashe*

English: *May God make you like Ephraim and Menashe*

Transliteration: *Ye'simech Elohim ke-Sarah, Rivka, Rachel ve-Leah.*

English: *May God make you like Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah.*

Introduction: When Kingdom Authority Clashes with Society

What happens when the foundation of Kingdom authority clashes with society?

When a well established precept in scripture is legislated in a manner that is contrary.

In Romans 12, Sha'ul discusses relationships between believers.

How we treat other like minded people should be easy for us, but unfortunately, it isn't.

**Rom 12:9** Don't let love be a mere outward show. Recoil from what is evil, and cling to what is good.

**Rom 12:10** Love each other devotedly and with brotherly love; and set examples for each other in showing respect.

**Rom 12:11** Don't be lazy when hard work is needed, but serve the Lord with spiritual fervor.

**Rom 12:12** Rejoice in your hope, be patient in your troubles, and continue steadfastly in prayer.

**Rom 12:13** Share what you have with God's people, and practice hospitality.

**Rom 12:14** Bless those who persecute you — bless them, don't curse them!

**Rom 12:15** Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.

**Rom 12:16** Be sensitive to each other's needs — don't think yourselves better than others, but make humble people your friends. Don't be conceited.

**Rom 12:17** Repay no one evil for evil, but try to do what everyone regards as good.

**Rom 12:18** If possible, and to the extent that it depends on you, live in peace with all people.

**Rom 12:19** Never seek revenge, my friends; instead, leave that to God's anger; for in the Tanakh it is written, "Adonai says, 'Vengeance is my responsibility; I will repay.'" (Deuteronomy 32:41)

**Rom 12:20** On the contrary, "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. For by doing this, you will heap fiery coals [*of shame*] on his head."

**Rom 12:21** Do not be conquered by evil, but conquer evil with good.

**Do not be conquered by evil**-retaliation means you have been conquered both by your enemy, whom you have allowed to take the initiative and provoke you to give tit for tat, and by your own old nature's evil impulses, which you ought to be suppressing.

"The world is upheld by three things-*Torah*, temple worship and acts of mercy." (Avot 1:2)

There is no reason to expect New Covenant ethics to differ from *Tanakh* ethics, since God does not change. All the advice found in these verses is implicit in the *Torah* and the Prophets, and frequently explicit as well.

Romans 13 is his next progression, our relationship with those who govern over us...

**Rom 13:1** Everyone is to obey the governing authorities. For there is no authority that is not from God, and the existing authorities have been placed where they are by God.

We see this aspect of one's placed in authority are placed there by Adonai...

**Joh 19:10** So Pilate said to him, "You refuse to speak to me? Don't you understand that it is in my power either to set you free or to have you executed on the stake?"

**Joh 19:11** Yeshua answered, "You would have no power over me if it hadn't been given to you from above; this is why the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin."

What about today when our government is clearly legislating against what scripture says? Given today's distinct polarity of issues...

Just as then, today is no different regarding the disconnect between Kingdom authority and government.

Within the Rabbi's forum, a discussion pertaining to the current issue relating to guns in the wake of our nations most recent tragedy, what the government is intending to do to legislate and how we are to respond has been discussed.

Ultimately what is being discussed is gun control...a polarizing issue that evokes passion from both sides of the debate.

On one hand you have those who invoke the second amendment of the constitution as a right. On the other hand you have those who support gun control.

There were various questions regarding how do we respond should certain legislation be enacted.

How do we respond to our congregation about this matter when they ask questions.

I was born and lived in Canada for 19 years and been in the US for 27 years. I just don't get the passion that accompanies this issue.

From 1995 through 2012, were required to be registered. Because of registration in 2003, the homicide rate as a result of firearms was 1 person for every 200,000, down from 2.3 per 200,000 in 1977

As a nation, we have other issues that have already become national laws or are on their way to becoming national laws.

**Rom 13:2** Therefore, whoever resists the authorities is resisting what God has instituted; and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.

**Rom 13:3** For rulers are no terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you like to be unafraid of the person in authority? Then simply do what is good, and you will win his approval;

**Rom 13:4** for he is God's servant, there for your benefit. But if you do what is wrong, be afraid! Because it is not for nothing that he holds the power of the sword; for he is God's servant, there as an avenger to punish wrongdoers.

**Rom 13:5** Another reason to obey, besides fear of punishment, is for the sake of conscience.

**Rom 13:6** This is also why you pay taxes; for the authorities are God's public officials, constantly attending to these duties.

**Rom 13:7** Pay everyone what he is owed: if you owe the tax-collector, pay your taxes; if you owe the revenue-collector, pay revenue; if you owe someone respect, pay him respect; if you owe someone honor, pay him honor.

Does this mean that believers should obey the wicked laws of an evil government-the Nazis, the Communists, other totalitarian regimes? No, because this rule does not stand by itself in Scripture; it must be set against [Act 5:29](#) ("We must obey God, not men") when the will of the state and the will of God conflict

The early believers refused to offer incense to statues of the Roman emperor because such idolatry would have been disobedience to God; they paid with their lives. Jews too have been martyred *'al kiddush haShem* ("for the sake of sanctifying the Name" of God.

**Act 5:27** They conducted them to the Sanhedrin, where the cohen hagadol demanded of them,

**Act 5:28** "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name! Look here! you have filled Yerushalayim with your teaching; moreover, you are determined to make us responsible for this man's death!"

**Act 5:29** Kefa and the other emissaries answered, "We must obey God, not men.

**Act 5:30** The God of our fathers raised up Yeshua, whereas you men killed him by having him hanged on a stake.

**Act 5:31** God has exalted this man at his right hand as Ruler and Savior, in order to enable Isra'el to do t'shuvah and have her sins forgiven.

**Act 5:32** We are witnesses to these things; so is the Ruach HaKodesh, whom God has given to those who obey him."

Regarding legislative matters, what does the Word of Adonai say?

If it is silent on the matter, we should do as Sha'ul writes.

If it isn't silent on the matter, we should do what Kefa says, keeping in mind that we may suffer for what we believe.

Sha'ul and Silas were put in jail for preaching the Good News of Messiah. They refused to follow the ways of the Romans.

We need to be in prayer for those who govern, with the mindset that their direction be that according to that of Kingdom authority, for it is He who has placed them in their position.

In listening to Jonathan Cahn's message during the inauguration prayer breakfast, he made one observation that I found to be striking -

With one hand, President Obama will place his right hand on the Bible and take the oath of President, while with his other hand he will sign in legislation that will be contrary to the Bible in which he took his oath.