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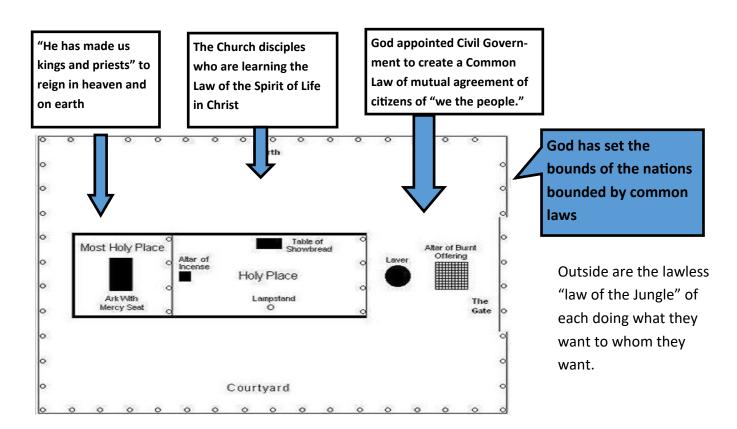
Week of 16 March 2024

Part 6: The Process and Template for Discipling Nations

There is incredible disinformation and fear mongering about "Dominionism" from Dispensational preachers. Here is a good template from scripture on the process for discipling a nation and the strategy we will employ to produce "sheep nations" in Southern Africa.

We are all familiar with the Old Testament Tabernacle of Moses as a pattern and path of personal discipleship. We move from outside the Tabernacle of God as lost sinners and we come to the altar of sacrifice and laver of water that signify to us death to self, crucified with Christ and the water laver water baptism whereby we are buried and rise again in newness of life. Now we proceed into the Holy Place which signified the covering of church and elders who now disciple us from the Word and the Spirit signified by the shewbread and candlesticks and then we move to the altar of incense that signifies a life of praise and worship opening the Holy of Holies where we can be seated with Christ in heavenly places as kings and priests.

Now let me use the same Tabernacle template for a similar journey but this time use it as God's template for discipling lawless mobs of people into nations and from there into God's "sheep nations". I am working on the assumption that God is sovereign over all nations and peoples, the earth is the Lord's and all that are in it (Psalm 24:1-2) and that He has plans for the earth and nations and peoples as sovereign creator.



There is much to unpack here and I will not be able to exhaust all the interesting details in this blog but let me make a start with a good road map and see if it finds agreement in your spirit.

I have a map of the Tabernacle discipleship of 4 steps.

Each step has to do with law and relationships.

Step 1: Bring people out of lawless chaos into Civil Government characterized by the rule of law.

That is what civil government is. And God says draw a line around an area and those are your borders and within those borders there will be a 'Common law" also known as a Constitution and only one authority has the power to use force to keep law within those borders. The civil government.

This means that relationships among people within those boundaries are defined by agreed upon laws. This brings order and prosperity as people learn to work together. Our object here is for 1 Tim. 2:1-2...

"Pray for rulers and those in authority that we may lead quiet and peaceable lives in all godliness and honesty."

Step 2: Transform people from citizens of state or nationality to Citizens of Heaven

Step one allows us to have families and homes and work and by example and witness allows us now to take the national discipleship step up the ladder This is the challenge of Hebrews 10:16...

"For this is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord. I will put my laws into their hearts and in their minds will I write them."

Sinners and citizens of the civil state operate under the sword of the civil law: Do this or else. This was the Old Testament Covenant system of government. That is ok for the broad nation. God told Israel that you will have one law for you and the stranger in the land. That is what we have now with "common law".

But now the Lord asks us to bring people into new law relationship. He wants to write His laws on their hearts. They are tougher laws. Sinners and citizens on the state cannot live by them. Its not just don't kill, its don't hate. Its not don't commit adultery, its don't even think about it. It's not don't hurt your neighbour, it's love your neighbor.

Impossible laws unless you have a changed heart. This is stuff that can't be written in the books of law and enforced in courts of law. This requires someone to die to self and be born again.

That is the altar of sacrifice and the laver of water in the midst of the national state. God's people going out to the world around them and invite them to "come and die, rake up the cross and follow Jesus"

After repentance and baptism we bring them into the family of God and teach them what family law is all about. It starts with "Our Father...." Here is my controversial thought on the second great commandment you shall love your neighbor as yourself. Impossible for me in the world I live in. But very possible in my family. There is not anything I won't do for my wife, children, grandchildren, brother, sisters. I love them as myself.

Primary goal in this new level of church relationship is to so get the Word and Spirit discipled into our hearts that we haver true family bonds of love and care for one another in the family of God. Think how easy and pleasant it would be to create family networks in business, schools, social activities, finance, technology when our relationships are based on love and trust and building each other up rather than the outside world relationships of competition, dominion, subjection, winners and losers.

Step 3: Disciple the Family of God into Kings and Priests—Overcomers in earth and heaven.

We enter from the Holy Place into the heavenly throne room reality of God's glory through praise and worship.

Not just in blessed service in our church, but a life lived as a praise and worship to God!

Now if you read at both the beginning and end of Revelation "he has made us priests and kings unto God" and it is these priests and kings of Rev. 21 & 22 who go out to heal the nations. And that is how we heal the land, with overcomers who know how to operate Kingdom law in heaven and on earth.

Now let me make some comments about Step 1 and national government.

In my previous blogs I have made mention of our lack as a nation and a church to hear what God actually says in 2 Chron. 7:14....."if my people.....I will heal their land". Yes we have humbled our selves, yes we have confessed our sins and prayed. But have we "turned from our wicked ways?" And here is the missed point. If we have confessed our personal sins and repented that is good. But if we are talking about as this scripture says "healing out land" then we need to get God's input about "His ways" and "our ways" with regard to national government

Where do we find out about the "ways of the Lord" with regard to national government? Try Psalm 103:7... "He made known his ways unto Moses and his acts unto the children of Israel."

Now if you go and see what ways the Lord made known to Moses you will find a lot of scripture on the ways to do sacrifices and how to build the Tabernacle and the ways of priests and services to the Lord. We know now that Jesus is the fulfillment of all those sacrificial and priestly ways of the Lord.

What we miss however or ignore is the ways of the Lord as to how He wanted a national government formed and how to do economy and prosperity and many other things relating to live by. And if you put that into the context of its times and remind yourself we are talking about an agricultural economy but if you then make the effort to see the principles of what the Lord wanted you will see a radical political and economic program that successful nations are only now learning to copy.

Here is what I am saying. When you look at the steps that I outlined on national discipling I will only have agreement from most churches and Christian leaders on Step 2 and Step 3....lets get people saved and lets get people moving into spiritual warfare, intercession and praise.

The consensus of opinion is keep out of Step 1. That is for politics and government. We can pray for them but that is not the terrain of the church. Until the nation is falling apart and we plead Lord please heal our land!

My problem with the church in general and the dispensationalists in particular is that we need to recognize God's sovereignty in all affairs of men and nations and be participants in those affairs to direct them according to God's plans and purposes. But to do that you must actually believe there are plans of God for nations as to how they are to be guided and operated. And as you go deeper from there then you realize that God has plans not just for how we operate the Church and family but He actually has guidelines for things like the economy, the structures of government, the principles of law, the treatment of labour and workers, the stability of money, the fairness of trade and so on.

Are there "ways of the Lord" with regard to government structure and service. Meaning do we have policy guidelines from "the ways of the Lord ass revealed to Moses"?

Allow me to give you a silly example about the ways of the Lord revealed to Moses. The Lord told Moses the Israelites must remove sewage out of their camp and dispose of it safely outside the camp. Did you know that God wants proper municipal sewage works that work? (Deut. 23:12-13)

Do you understand why I get angry with this "you Dominionists" just want to rule over people and God has not called the Church to do that!

Here is my short answer to those accusers and those accusations:

The Word of God as revealed to Moses about His ways for government and economy.....

God said you are not to have strong kings rule over you because they will steal and rob you. You are to be "ruled by law" This was God's answer to Samuel when the people asked for a king. In modern terminilogy this is called a "republican form of government" The rule of law!

You are to dilute power to the various tribes of Israel. No strong central government. We call that today a "federal government".

In you are to have judges in all the land and cities to ensure the rule of law is maintained and as pertaining to government looting and corruption (and corporate corruption) I refer you to Judges 2; 16....

"Then the Lord raised up judges who delivered them out of the hands of those who plundered them".

You are to have the right to private property and to the security of your property to be inherited by your children and grandchildren.

You must allow for limited liability and stop endless debt slavery.

You must have a sound currency and fair trade.

You must have policies that will help the poor, the widow, the orphan and the disabled.

You must devote a certain portion of the economy for the poor to have jobs

Oh yes and get your municipalities in order because God wants sewage systems in operation.

In modern terms God made the absolutely revolutionary command to Moses about the kind of government and economy He wants for His people on earth....

We call it a federal republic of limited government and the ruled of law through peoples elected representatives guided by a national constitution that is one common law for all who live in the land, with an economy governed by sound monetary policy, fair trade, consumer protection, support for the poor

This is dominionism. God by sovereign right has a right to demand His ways in all His creation. And it is our job as His people to teach the nation and the people the ways of the Lord. In our municipalities, in our provinces and in our national government. And if we don't like the laws....we change the laws through changing the hearts and minds of the people from the world of the Lord. That is national discipleship training.

And just a question for our Dispensationalist family of God. Do you support the ongoing slaughter of Palestinians by Israel? Are you "standing with Israel"? Is this the Israel you think that will be a praise in all the earth by which nations will flock to them to say "teach us your ways" (Micah 4)? And you want the Church raptured out of here so that this Israel can bring in the Kingdom of God on earth because the Church is unable to do it? And they can because they and a triumphant Messiah can kill more Muslims?

Here is how we "Dominionists" kill Palestinians and Jews....we baptize them in water into the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, crucify the Palestinian and Jews and raise up a new born again child of God to become a true seed of Abraham and the new family of God and together we possess the new Promised land which Paul describes in Romans 4;13 and the whole earth. That is how we disciple old nations into new "sheep nations" to inherit the earth, not just a patch of dry ground in the Middle East.