



SHIELD OF FAITH

"Take Up the Shield of Faith" - Paul

Wednesday June 19, 2019

Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. — Joshua 1:8

Book of the Law

I'm not a theologian. I have an undergraduate degree in philosophy. My life experience is in applying evangelical Christian ideas related mostly to human sexuality to politics in Maine. I think of myself now as a Christian minister/activist. Someone emailed me yesterday about my column. They observed that the scripture I commented on yesterday applied only to the Old Testament people of Israel. I am hearing that idea expressed more often. I'm not certain of where it comes from. I am, however, used to thinking of the Old Covenant as having been fulfilled by the New Covenant ... not replaced. I will consider the above verse in that light. There is something in there for us today, especially as we consider it through the lens of the New Testament. **My takeaway this morning is that there is a benefit to us today from keeping the Book of the Law always on our lips. Our character will be strengthened by meditating on it day and night. Prosperity and success follow such thought and action.** There is much in the Book of the Law that Joshua references that has been absorbed into Christianity and then ends up being refracted into the civil laws of western nations. Over the centuries Church theologians have meditated on the Book of the Law day and night. They have interpreted and applied it to the times in which they lived, thought, spoke and wrote. Christian theologians have accomplished this task by first viewing the Book of the Law through the lens of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. One cannot properly appreciate His life and sacrifice without meditating on the Law of the Old Covenant. In fact His work makes no sense without understanding Old Testament Israel. **When one thinks about sexuality in Old Testament Israel one quickly concludes that God was patient.** He creates humanity as man and woman in a garden. Lawless sexuality emerges all the time after that. **Even the man after God's own heart commits adultery and then has the husband murdered to cover up his evil. King David repents and God punishes him.** I am so thankful for the Christian practice of monogamous marriage. It has enriched my life with Paulie in immeasurable ways. It ruled America until 2015 when a five man cabal on the Supreme Court destroyed the institution of civil marriage all across the land. That inheritance from the European Christian Church is still with us in America. We take it for granted, but it is there. **We've hypermaterialized the ceremony, mixed in the prenup and adopted the government's practice of no fault divorce.** And now we're on the cusp of equalizing Islamic polygamy with Christian marriage under our laws. We also can't get enough of eastern ideas related to sexual pleasure. **There's no doubt that there's a lot of demonic influence in all of this.** The fall from the ideal established by God in the garden of Eden can end in only one way ... hell on earth. The delusion's consequences are going off like lawless nuclear bombs all around us.

Call me if I can help. 1-207-956-0819.

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